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LA Animal Services Announces Grand Opening of Low Cost Spay Neuter Clinic at Harbor Animal Care Center

Los Angeles – On Thursday June 18th, 2009, at 9:30am, LA Animal Services will hold a "*Ribbon Cutting Ceremony*" to formally open the doors of its 3rd spay/neuter clinic in the Los Angeles metro area. The new clinic is located at the Harbor Animal Care Center at 957 N. Gaffey Street, San Pedro, CA 90731. LA Animal Services will provide high quality, low cost services through a partnership with Clinico (<u>www.clinico.org</u>). The new clinic will provide an important new option for Los Angeles residents who want to sterilize their pets.

"LA Animal Services and Clinico's shared mission is to provide high quality spay/neuter services at reasonable prices to low income pet owners" said Ed Boks, general manager for LA Animal Services. "By ensuring that pet owners have access to affordable sterilization services we aim to reduce shelter intake and euthanasia in the Los Angeles area." The opening of this clinic is especially important at this time of year, when shelter intake is at its highest due to puppy and kitten season. Avoiding accidental litters is a key strategy for reducing shelter intake and euthanasia. The situation was compounded over the last year by the economic downturn which has tragically resulted in a 20% increase in the number of people relinquishing their pets.

"Clinico is thrilled to open our first location in the city of Los Angeles and to partner with Los Angeles Animal Services to provide high quality, low cost spay/neuter services to pet owners" says Wendy Asman, new Executive Director of Clinico.

Clinico employs only top Veterinary staff, utilizing state of the art equipment and offering the highest quality services available. In addition to spay/neuter, other services provided at additional cost and only at the time of surgery include: pain medication, vaccinations, flea/tick treatment, ear mite treatment, FeIV FIV testing for cats and micro-chipping services.

At a time when the economy may cause some residents to overlook sterilizing their pets, **Clinico** offers low cost spay/neuter to all Los Angeles area pet owners. Thanks to a generous grant from **PetSmart Charities**, even lower subsidized pricing is available to anyone with an annual income below \$40,000. **Clinico** also accepts vouchers and coupons from a variety of organizations, including **Los Angeles Animal Services**, which can bring costs down even further.

Additionally, thanks to a generous grant from **Found Animals**, there is a limited time promotion available to low income owners of *cats and pitbulls/pit mixes in Wilmington (90744), San Pedro (90731), and Harbor City (90710)* - *\$10 surgeries for cats and \$25 surgeries for pitbulls and pit mixes – for a limited time*. Appointments are required and pet owners should call **Clinico** at **1-888-WE-SPAY-LA** or **310-241-0768** to make an appointment. More information is available at <u>www.clinico.org</u>

In addition to *"Thursday's Ribbon Cutting Ceremony,"* Clinico's opening and the Harbor Animal Care Center's 1 year anniversary will be celebrated with a special *Adoption Event* taking place on *Saturday June 20th, 2009, from 11am – 4pm.*