



NEWS RELEASE



City of Los Angeles □ Department of Animal Services

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LA Animal Services Impounds 18 Neglected Ponies

Los Angeles – On a ranch in Sylmar, 18 small ponies, some of which once carried happy kids on memorable pony rides, languished in agony with hooves curled up sufficient enough to bear a perverse resemblance to elves shoes. Animal Control Officers spent several hours carefully corralling the skittish ponies and transporting them temporarily to *an animal services center* for evaluation *and examination* by an equine veterinarian.

Animal Control Officers took possession of the ponies after the owner failed to obtain sufficient care for them as ordered by the officers. One three-year-old pony's legs were deformed so badly from the untrimmed hooves that she had to be humanely euthanized. The remaining 17 have since been transported to a rescue facility suitable to render extensive rehabilitation to the ponies in the hopes of eventual adoption.

"The lack of care for these ponies is tragic and criminal", stated Interim General Manager Kathy Davis. "There is never an excuse for neglecting the basic needs of an animal. Never."

The ponies will need extensive care for their hooves as well as de-worming, vaccinations, and grooming. These small ponies, will also need training, socialization, and affection as many of them had never been handled and they were fearful of human contact.

The Department is consulting with the City Attorney regarding filing animal cruelty charges, which carries a fine of up to \$20,000 and a jail sentence of up to 6 months for each count.

Don't forget – Spay/Neuter your pet! ~ IT'S THE LAW!

Need low cost/no cost options? Visit our website at
www.laanimalservices.com and click on the badge!

For more information or assistance call LA Animal Services at 1-888-452LA-PET1/1-888-452-7381
(TTY Hearing impaired: 877-875-8205) or visit the website at www.LAAnimalServices.com