#### THE LINK TO OTHER VIOLENT CRIME



For more than 30 years, researchers and professionals in a variety of human services and animal welfare disciplines have established significant correlations between animal abuse, child abuse and neglect, domestic violence, elder abuse and other forms of violence. According to the Humane Society of the United States, a study determined that in families under supervision for physical abuse of their children, animal abuse also existed within the home 88% of the time.

The mistreatment of animals is no longer seen as an isolated incident that can be ignored: it is often an indicator or predictor crime and a "red flag" warning sign that other family members in the household may not be safe.

For example, in one study 71% of domestic violence victims reported that their abuser also targeted pets.

#### **Emergencies**: Call 911 Non-Emergency Elk Grove Animal Care: Call 311 or 8901 Elk Grove Florin Rd (916) 687-3023 Elk Grove, CA 95624 Folsom Animal Care: (916) 461-6040 or 50 Natoma Street (916) 355-7200 Folsom, CA 95630 Front Street Animal Shelter: (916) 808-7387 915 Street Sacramento, CA 95814 Galt Animal Care: (209) 745-6302 774 Rachel Drive Galt. CA 95632 Rancho Cordova (916) 851-8852 Animal Care: 2729 Prospect Park Drive Rancho Cordova, CA 95670 Sacramento City Call 311 or Animal Care: (916) 264-5011 2127 Front Street TDD: (916) 08-8563 Sacramento, CA 95818 Sacramento County (916) 368-7387 Bradshaw Animal Shelter: 3839 Bradshaw Rd. Sacramento, CA 95827 Sacramento SPCA (916) 383-7387 6201 Florin Perkins Rd. Sacramento, CA 95828

901 G Street - Sacramento, CA 95814 916.874.6218 CA Relay Service 800.735.2929 TDD or 711

#### @SacCountyDA

## **ANIMAL CRUELTY**



"With an increased prevalence of animal cruelty and the link between violent crimes against people, it's important we address animal abuse throughout the county. The formation of the regional Sacramento Animal Cruelty Task Force and our Animal Cruelty Unit will result in consistent and skilled vertical prosecution of these offenders."

- District Attorney Anne Marie Schubert



District Attorney **Anne Marie Schubert** Sacramento County District Attorney's Office sacda.org

#### RESOURCES

Owning animals is a responsibility. Animal cruelty laws and ordinances require humane care, i.e., proper ventilation, protection from the elements and dangerous conditions, reasonable medical care, and appropriate food and water.



#### WHAT IS ANIMAL CRUELTY?

In California animal cruelty is an act or omission, or neglect, whereby unnecessary or unjustifiable pain or suffering is caused or permitted. This includes:

Killing	Beating	Not Providing Care
Stabbing	Poisoning	Neglect/Omissions
Shooting	Burning	Mutilating
Torturing	Drowning	Hoarding

## ANIMALS IN HOT CARS

A common problem in the Sacramento Valley is finding animals in hot, locked cars.

Did you know if it is 85 degrees outside, it takes just 10 minutes for the interior temperature to reach 102 degrees? Within 30 minutes, the temperature will

reach 120 degrees. These high temperatures cause irreparable damage and death to animals.



#### MARIJUANA EXPOSURE

With the legalization of marijuana, there is a significant rise of intoxicated pets. Exposure to edibles and cannabis concentrates is common and have higher levels of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the main psychoactive ingredient in marijuana. Many of these products contain chocolate, which is also toxic to dogs.

Common sign of pets ingesting marijuana are "drunkenness" (uncoordinated, dazed, sedated), depression or urinary incontinence. About 25% of pets become stimulated (agitated, vocal and high heart rate). Animals that ingest edibles can be more affected, developing low blood pressure, heart rates and body temperatures or become comatose. Some dogs have died after eating cookies or brownies made with marijuana butter.

## SACRAMENTO ANIMAL CRUELTY TASK FORCE

This regional team works to educate, prevent, investigate and successfully prosecute acts of animal abuse and cruelty.

Members include law enforcement, animal control agencies, veterinarians, and nonprofit organizations engaged in the prevention of animal cruelty.

# DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S ANIMAL CRUELTY PROSECUTION UNIT

This new unit vertically prosecutes felony and misdemeanor animal abuse cases. These cases are investigated and submitted by local animal control and law enforcement officers.

Most investigations begin with citizen complaints of suspected animal abuse.

#### **REPORTING ANIMAL CRUELTY**

- Call 911 in an emergency (such as to rescue a dog in a hot, locked car).
- Call animal control or law enforcement for non-emergency animal abuse and neglect, which needs to be reported quickly.
- Take a photo or video if it is safe to do so. DO NOT enter onto the perpetrator's property.
- Provide as many details as possible--who, what, where, why, when and how.
- Provide the name and address of other persons who may have also witnessed the abuse.
- Do not share the story or photos on social media, it could hinder the investigation or prosecution.

#### CONSEQUENCES OF ANIMAL CRUELTY

Animal abuse is a crime and can be charged as a felony or misdemeanor. Convictions result in local jail or state prison commitments.

Additionally, convicted persons incur various fines and fees, and are prohibited from owning, possessing, maintaining, residing with, or caring for animals from 5 to 10 years.

