

Inter-Agency Collaboration to Improve Animal and Community Welfare



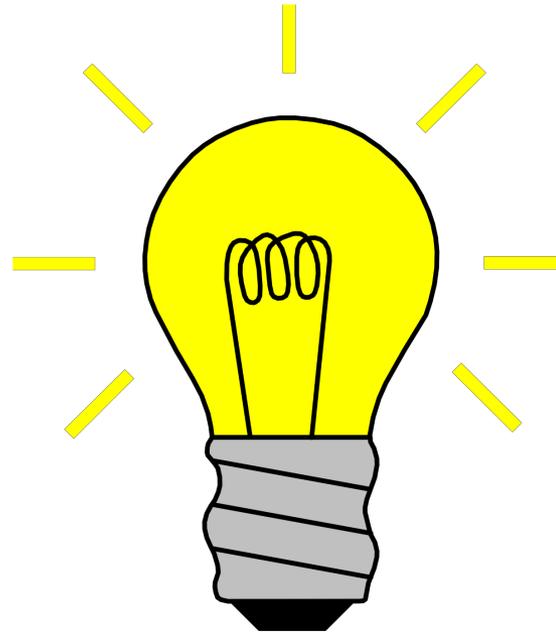
Dr. Robert Reisman, Forensic Sciences
Ellen Vancelette, Forensic Sciences
Colleen Doherty, Community Engagement



Spectrum of Needs



Preventive
Services



Everything
else



Animal
Cruelty

A Collaborative Approach



A Collaborative Approach

**NYC
Veterinary
Community**

Victims of cruelty cared for at partner hospitals (2014-2018):
471

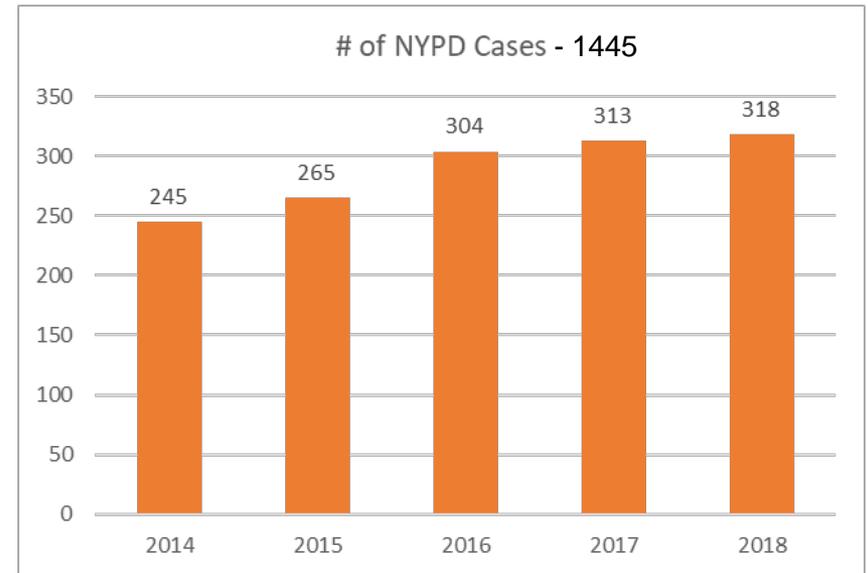
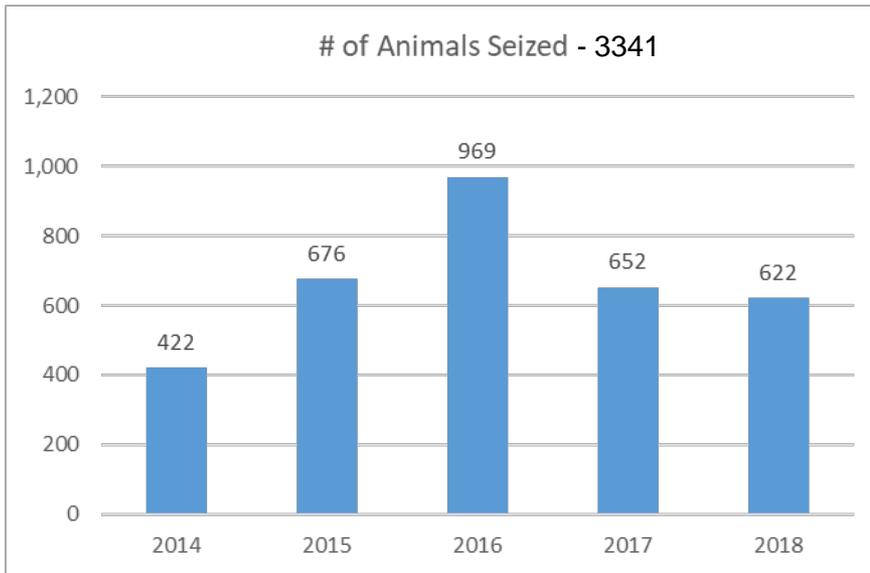
Cruelty Cases Initiated by Partner Hospitals

2014	7
2015	4
2016	16
2017	27
2018	28



Combating Animal Cruelty in NYC

2014-2018



- A case can have one, a few, or many animals
- Large scale cases impact animal numbers disproportionately

Combating Animal Cruelty in NYC

2014-2018

NYPD Activity	
Arrests	699
Summonses	299
Search Warrants	63
Complaints	1,569
311 calls	47,944

Legal Activity	
Indictments	56
Guilty Pleas	280
Guilty at Trial	15



Over 3,300 animals helped

Combating Animal Cruelty in NYC

NYPD

- Respond to 311/911 calls
- Enforcement of Animal Cruelty Laws
- Animal Cruelty Investigation Squad (ACIS)

POLICE DEPARTMENT CITY OF NEW YORK | DETECTIVE BUREAU Wanted Flyer # 33571405 | POLICE DEPARTMENT CITY OF NEW YORK

WANTED FOR ANIMAL CRUELTY
PERPETRATOR - PROBABLE CAUSE TO ARREST



MIGUEL RIVERA / MALE / WHITE HISPANIC / 37 YEARS OF AGE DOB: 03/28/1980
NYSID # 00748788Y HEIGHT 5' 8", WEIGHT 145 lbs., HAIR BLACK, EYES BROWN
LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: 1141 EAST 229 STREET BRONX NY

On March 28, 2017 at approximately 1500 hours the pictured individual did strike his girlfriend's cat with a bat, causing permanent injuries, while inside of her residence in the confines of the 47 Pct.

Investigator: Det. DENNIS STEELE
Command Assigned: 216-SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION
Case# 2017-36 Complaint Report# 2017-047-03263

POLICE DEPARTMENT CITY OF NEW YORK | DETECTIVE BUREAU Wanted Flyer # 30130647 | POLICE DEPARTMENT CITY OF NEW YORK

WANTED FOR ANIMAL CRUELTY
PERPETRATOR - PROBABLE CAUSE TO ARREST



BRYAN LEPE / MALE / WHITE / 22 YEARS OF AGE DOB: 02/18/1994
HEIGHT 5' 5", WEIGHT 110 lbs., HAIR BLACK, EYES BLACK

On Wednesday October 19, 2016, at approximately 2045 Hrs. The Subject Bryan Lepe is seen leaving 645 Water Street Apartment 5B with a suitcase. At 2225 Hrs on October 19, 2016 the suitcase was recovered with a male pit bull inside of it in a dumpster located at 7 Gouverneur Slip East. Anyone with any information regarding the Bryan Lepe is asked to contact Detective John Glynn of the Animal Cruelty Investigation Squad.

Anyone with information regarding the above subject, please notify Det. JOHN GLYNN at 646-610-7272 OR Detective Borough Manhattan South at 212-477-7447

Investigator: Det. JOHN GLYNN
Command Assigned: 277-SPECIAL VICTIMS DIVISION
Case# 2016-190 Complaint Report# 2016-007-04548

POLICE DEPARTMENT CITY OF NEW YORK | DETECTIVE BUREAU Wanted Flyer # 30118160 | POLICE DEPARTMENT CITY OF NEW YORK

WANTED FOR ROBBERY
PERPETRATOR - PROBABLE CAUSE TO ARREST



HASSAN MAHRACH / MALE / ASIAN/PAC.ISL / 59 YEARS OF AGE DOB: 08/04/1957
HEIGHT 5' 10", WEIGHT 230 lbs., HAIR BLACK, EYES BROWN
LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: 2000 SUMMIT AVENUE UNION CITY NJ

1. On October 19, 2016 at approximately 1415 hours the above pictured male forcibly removed a purse and a dog-carrier containing a Chihuahua from a female known to him. The male did then intentionally slam the carrier containing the dog into the sidewalk causing internal injuries to the dog.

Anyone with information regarding the above subject, please notify Det. LISA BERGEN at 646-610-7272 OR Detective Borough Manhattan South at 212-477-7447

Investigator: Det. LISA BERGEN
Command Assigned: 277-SPECIAL VICTIMS DIVISION
Case# 2016-188 Complaint Report# 2016-019-06982

Combating Animal Cruelty in NYC

ASPCA

Animal Work

- Forensic
- Medical
- Sheltering
- Behavior
- Placement

NYPD Liaisons

- 5 former NYPD Executives

Legal Liaisons & Support

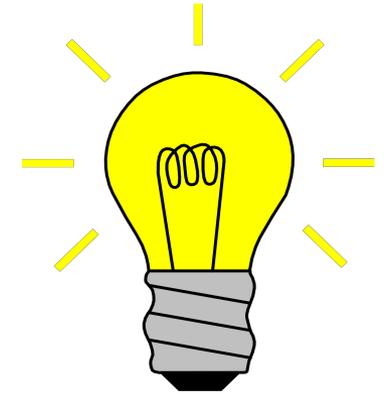
- 2 former NYC prosecutors

Trainings

Community Engagement



Community Engagement



- Keep pets in homes whenever possible & appropriate
- Give people and pets what they need
- Collaborate with law enforcement, human services and community members



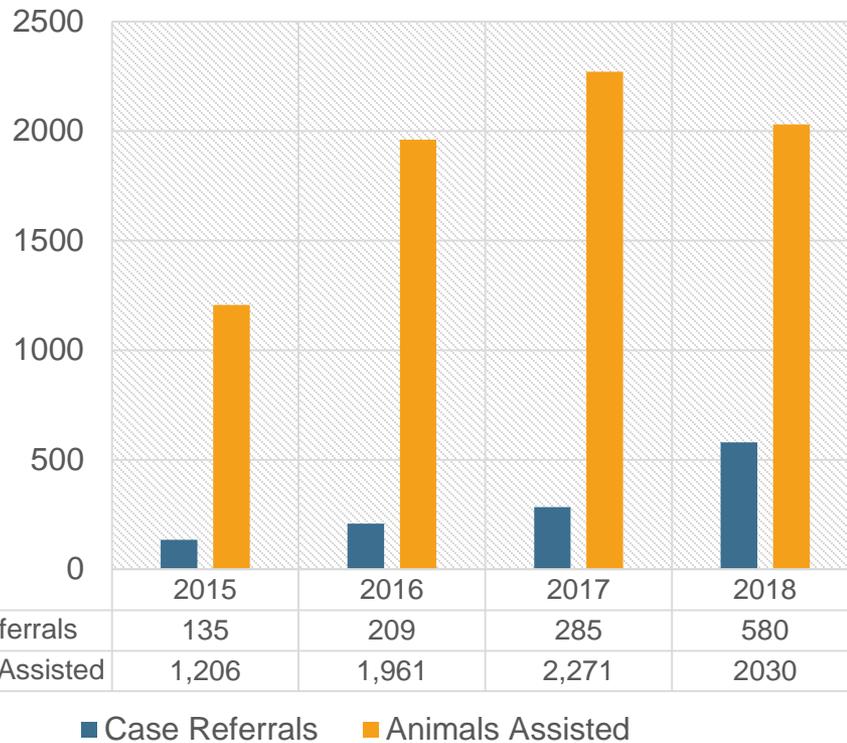
Community Engagement

What we do:



Community Engagement

Case Referrals and Animals Assisted



2019 (Jan-May)

Case Referrals: 285

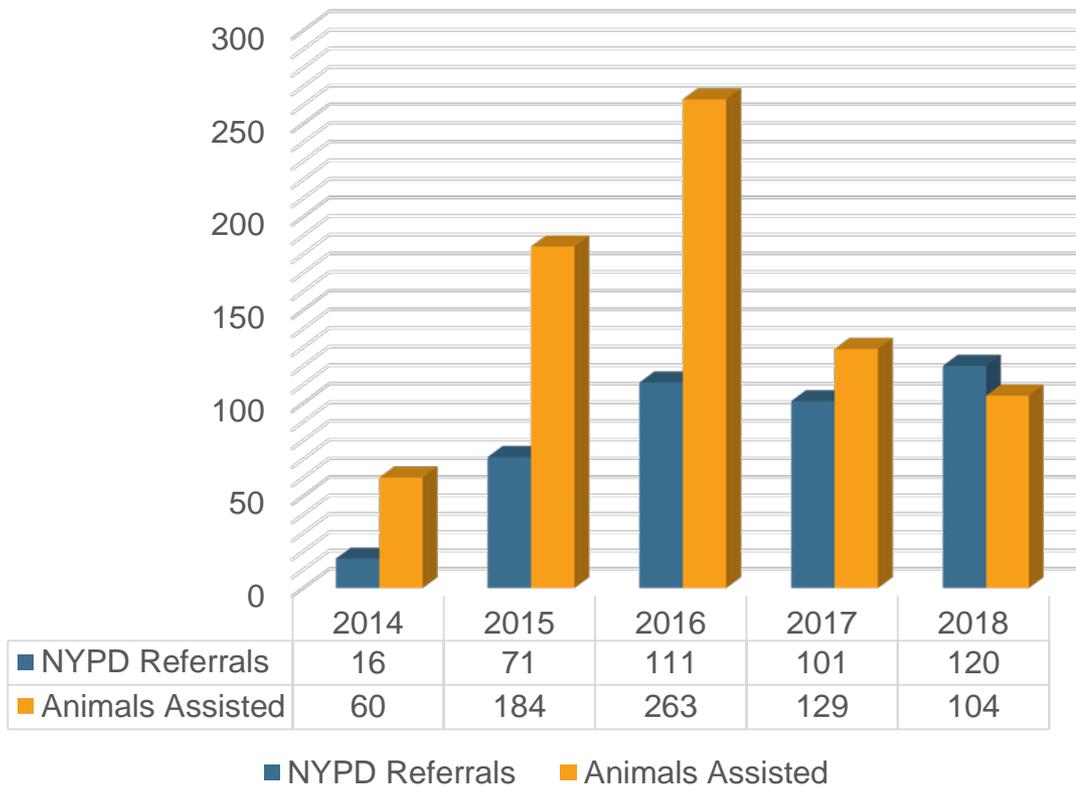
Animals Assisted: 1,293

Average # of
Open Cases:
50-80

30% are
Bronx-based

Community Engagement and NYPD

NYPD Referrals and Animal Assisted



Other Referral Sources

- ASPCA Programs
- Human Service Orgs.
- Individual (neighbor, family, friend)

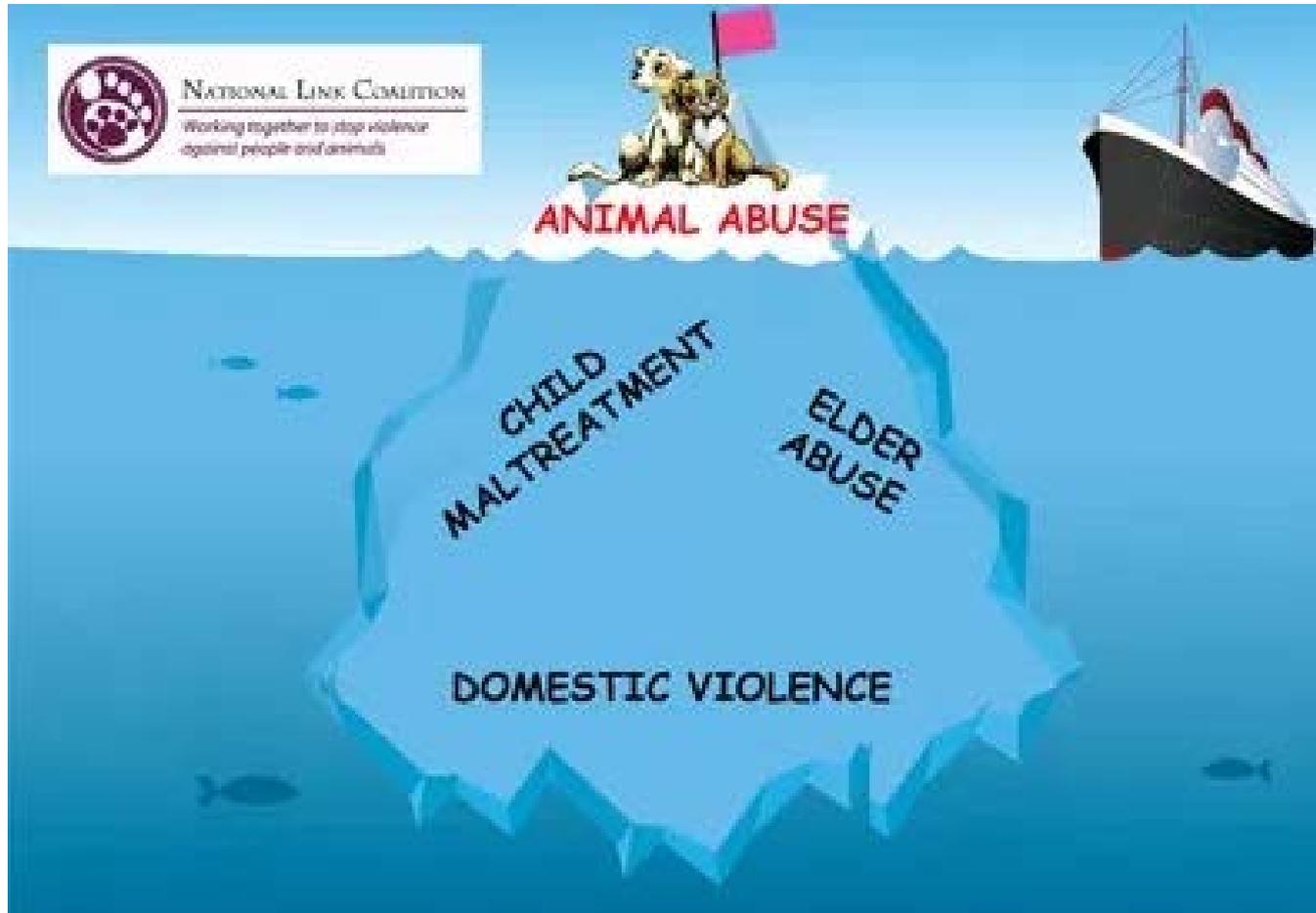
NYC Forensic Team



What we do:

- Forensic Exams of Live and Deceased Animals
- Veterinary Statements
- Expert Witness Testimony
- Crime Scene Investigation
- Teaching & Training
- Research & Publications

Co-occurring Cases of Animal Cruelty and Domestic Violence



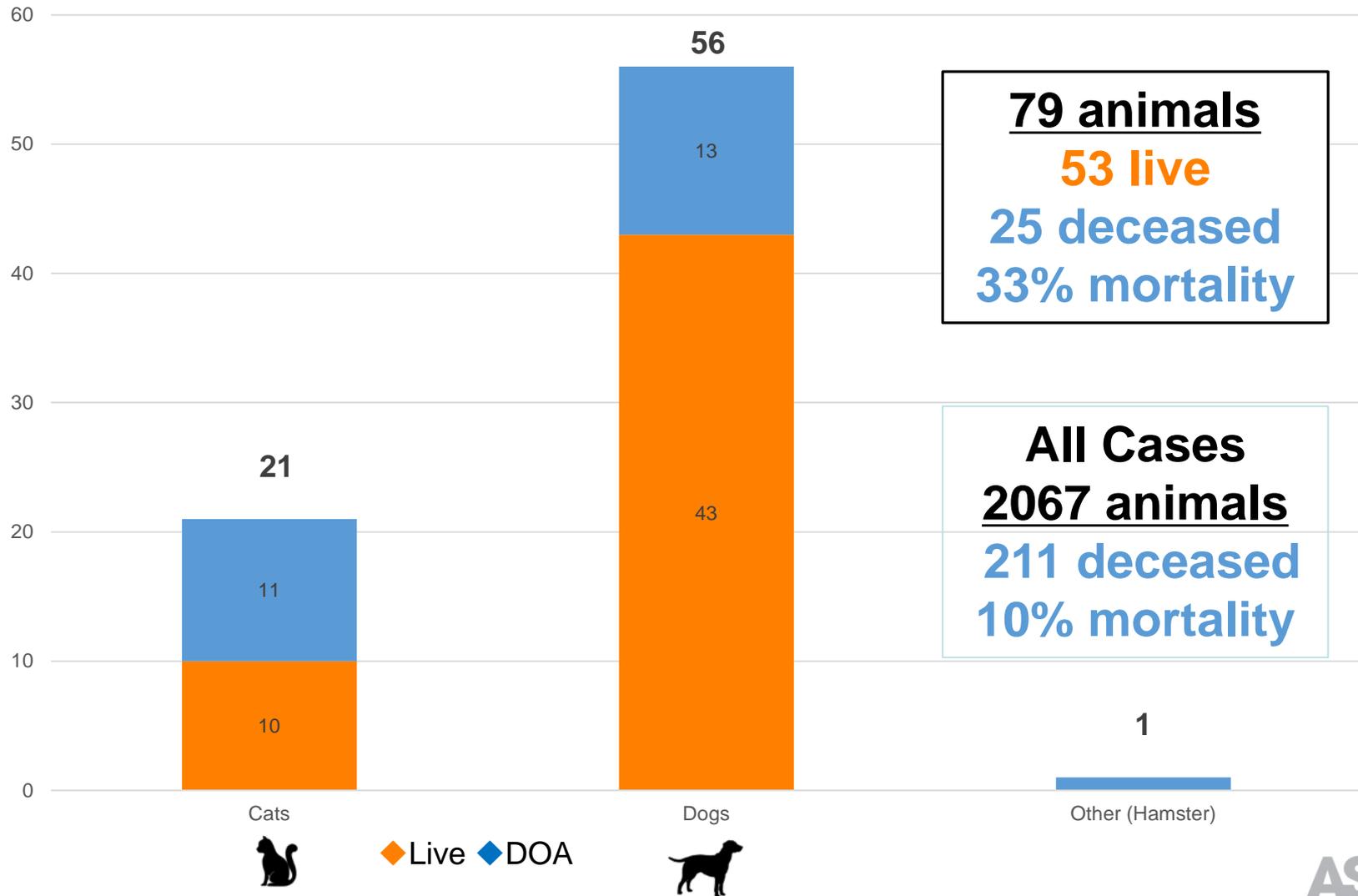
<http://nationallinkcoalition.org/>

Animal Cruelty & Domestic Incidents

- 2014-2016: 66 Cases of co-occurring animal abuse and human interpersonal violence
- ~8% of all New York City Animal Cruelty Cases

	2014	2015	2016	Totals
Number of Animal Cruelty Cases	245	265	304	814
Domestic Incident Cases	19	22	25	66
Domestic Incident as per cent of total NYC animal cruelty cases	7.8	8.3	8.2	8%

Animal Presentation



Animal Cruelty & Domestic Incidents

2014-2016: 79 Animals

	2014	2015	2016	Totals
Total number of cats	5	5	11	21
Live cats	3	1	6	10
Deceased cats	2	4	5	11
Mortality rate cats				52%
Total number of dogs	17	24	16	57
Live dogs	11	20	11	42
Deceased dogs	6	4	5	15
Mortality rate dogs				28.8%

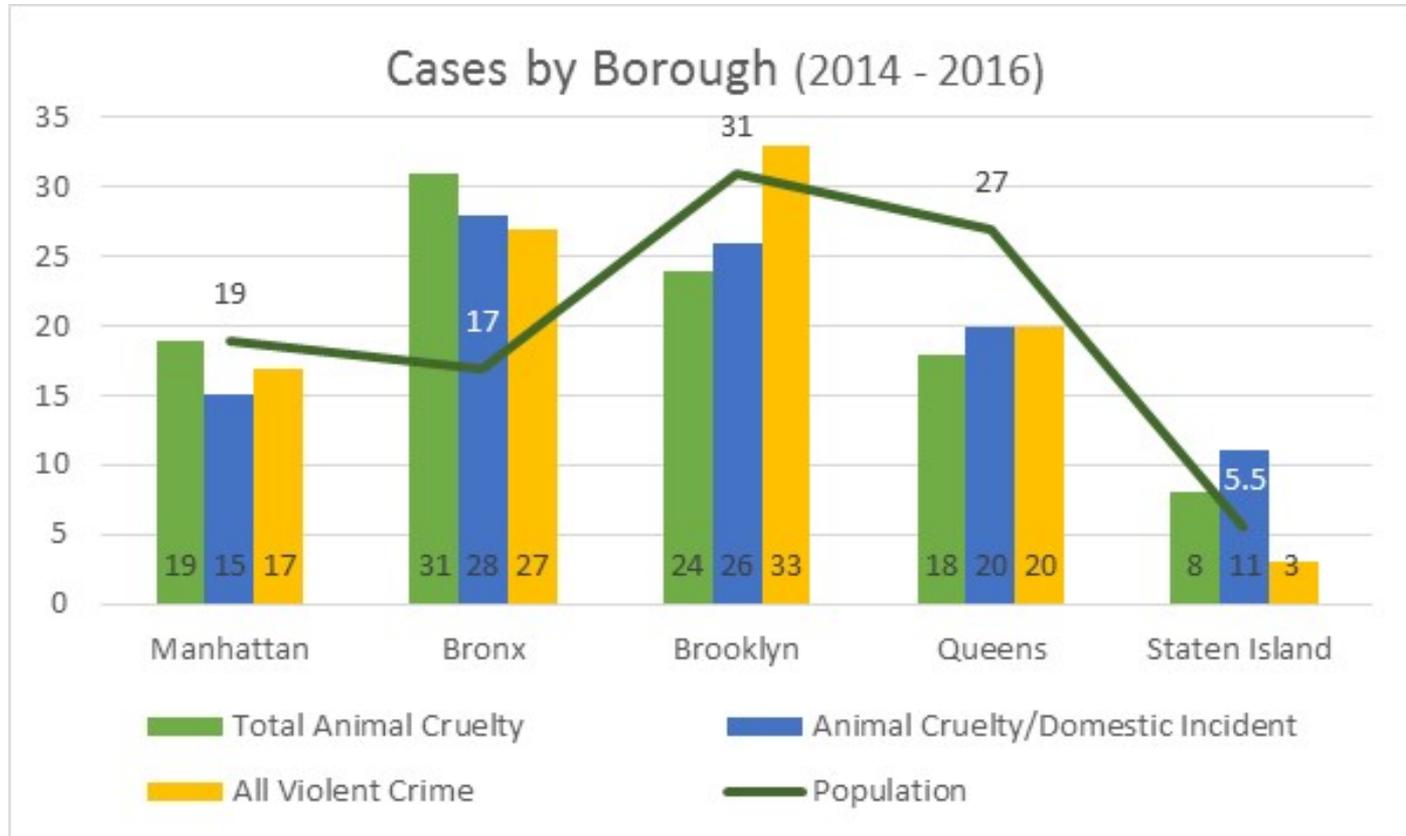
Animal Cruelty & Domestic Violence

2014-2016: 79 Animals

	2014	2015	2016	Totals
Average weight of all dogs				21.1
Average weight of live dogs				25.7
Average weight of deceased dogs				7.2
Live dogs < 15 lb.				
	2	7	6	15
Deceased dogs < 15 lb.				
	6	4	4	14
Mortality rate deceased dogs < 15 lb.				
				48%

Cases by Borough

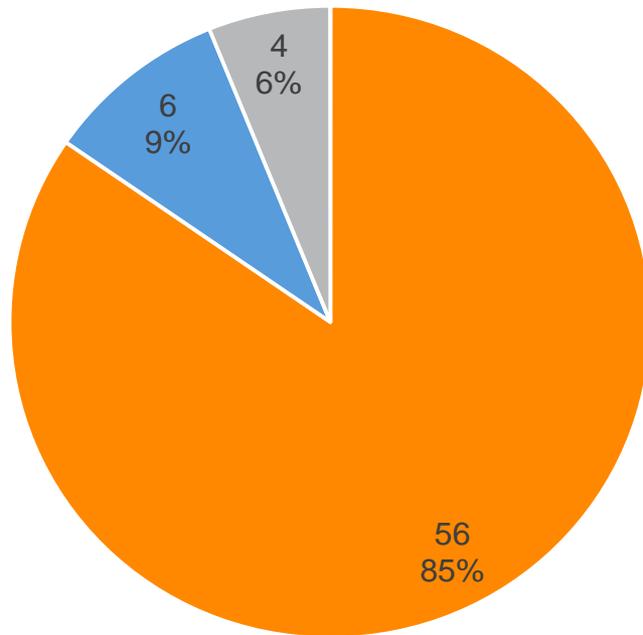
2014-2016



Animal Cruelty & Domestic Incidents

2014-2016: 66 Cases

Case Dispositions



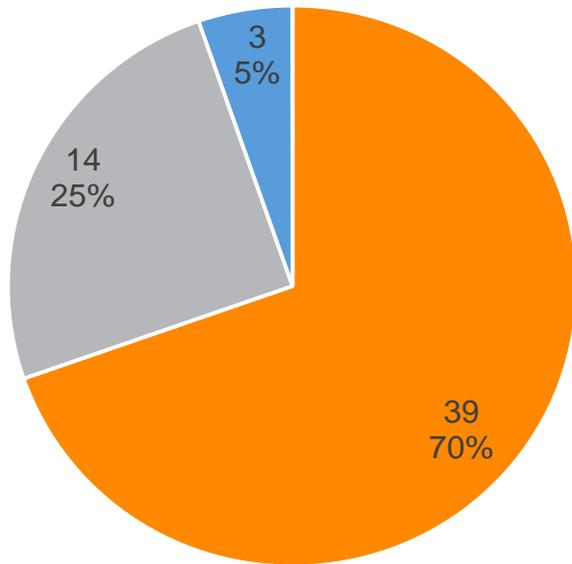
■ Arrest ■ Closed ■ Unapprehended



Animal Cruelty & Domestic Incidents

2014-2016: 56 Arrests

Intimate Partner Vs. Other Relationship



- Intimate Partner
- Non-Intimate Partner
- Exact Relationship Unknown

Intimate Partner

Boyfriend	21	54%
Spouse	9	22%
Couple	7	18%
Fiancé	1	3%
Ex-boyfriend	1	3%

Some of the photos in these case studies are graphic. They illustrate the seriousness of the subject, and why animal crime should be investigated and prosecuted.

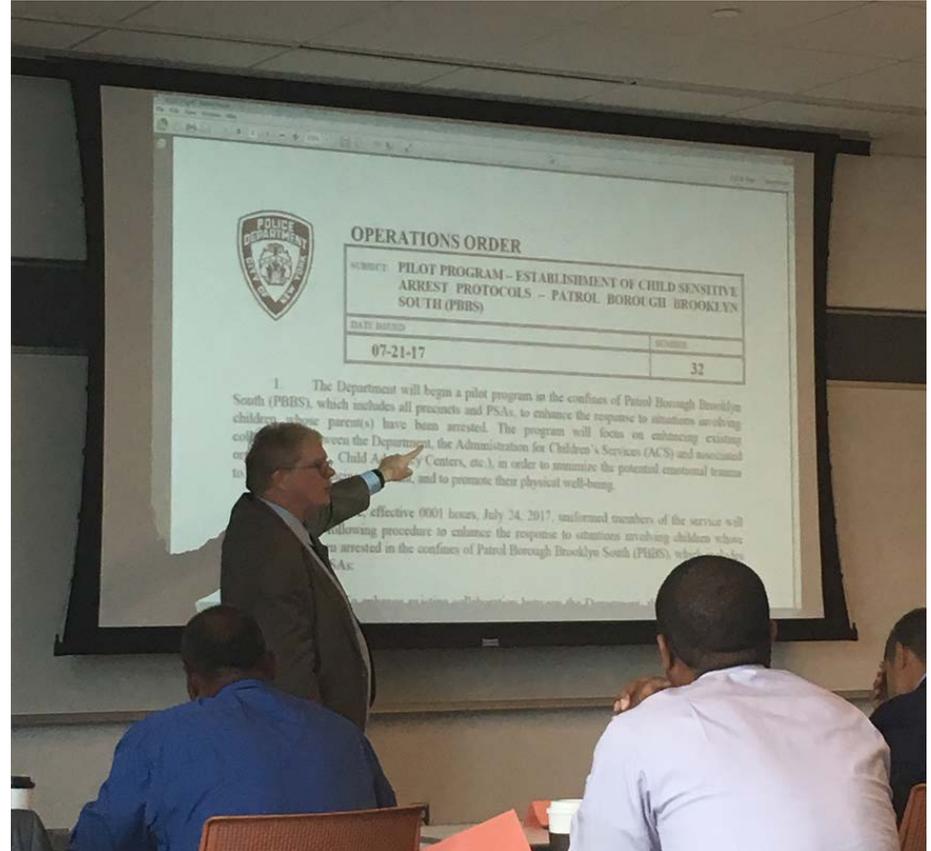


Training NY Police Academy

August 15, 2017



ASPCA



Administration for Children's Services

Correspondence

September 6, 2017

Just wanted to let you know, I just had a case in the Bronx where a father killed a dog in front of his children ages 7, 2 and 1...

Thanks for raising my awareness on this, attending your presentation made this possible.

Forensic Review of Video Surveillance

September 7, 2017



Forensic Review of Video Surveillance

September 7, 2017



Forensic Review of Video Surveillance

September 7, 2017



Forensic Review of Video Surveillance

September 7, 2017



Forensic Review of Video Surveillance

September 7, 2017



Charges & Outcome

- **Charges:**

- Misdemeanor Animal Cruelty

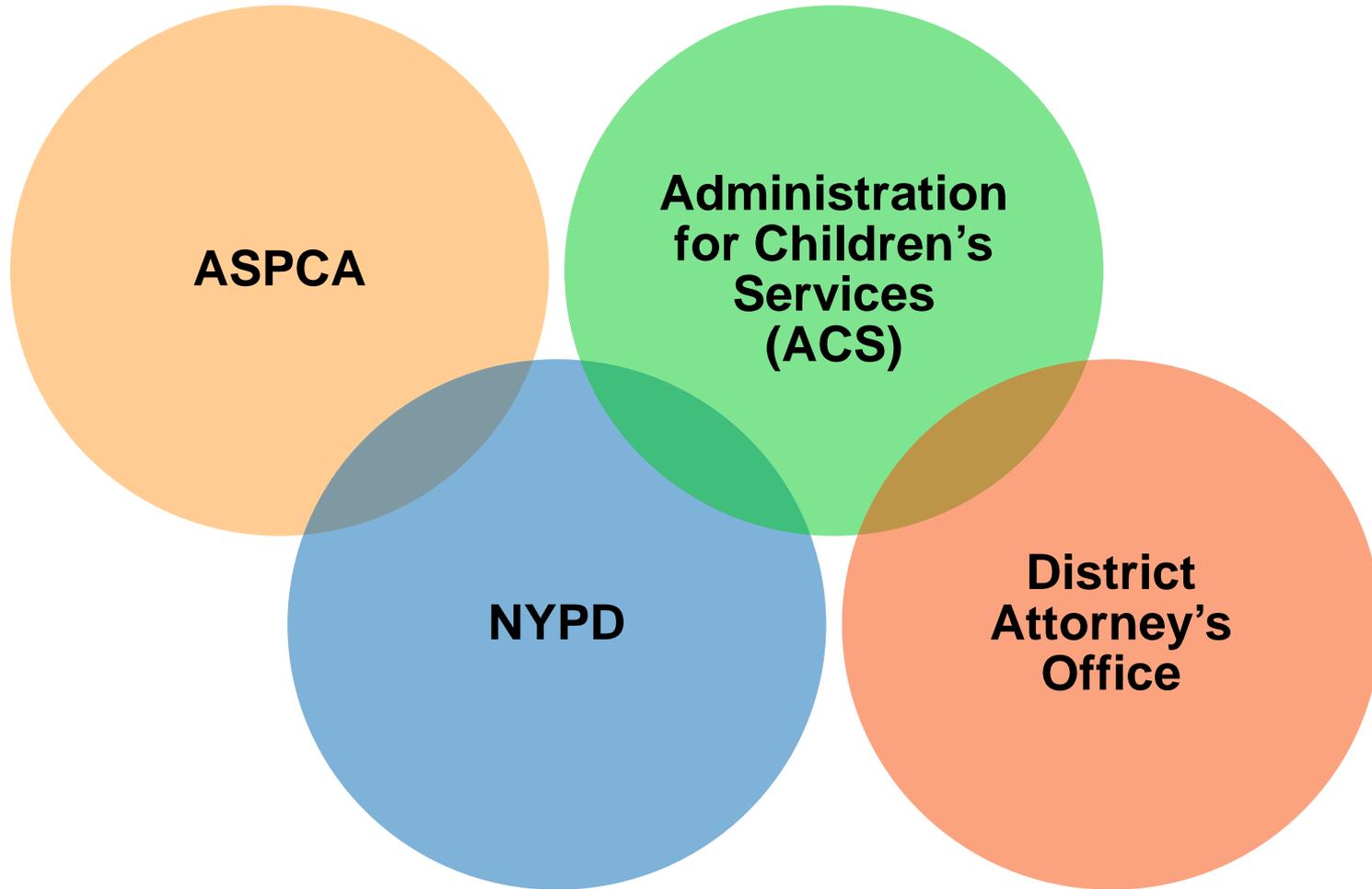
- Felony Animal Cruelty

- Endangering the Welfare
of a Child



- Indicted for Felony Animal Cruelty on September 14, 2017
- Defendant also had open warrant for Criminal Possession of a Weapon (CPW)
- **Plea:** Misdemeanor CPW, **Felony Animal Cruelty**
- **Sentence:** 2 years for **felony cruelty**, 10 year animal ownership ban, Animal Abuse Registry, 1 year misdemeanor CPW

Inter-Agency Collaboration



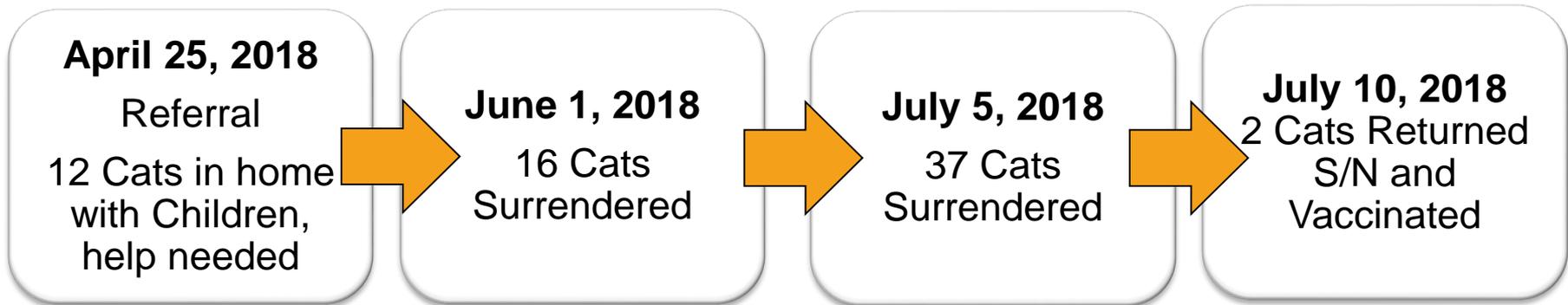
Heroes in Human Service Awards

April 25, 2018



Case Example

Administration for Children's Services Referral



Case Example

Background

“I should just kill your stupid cat.”



Medical Findings

- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Nasal bone fractures
- Lower jaw fractures
- Lung injury, 3 rib fractures
- Liver lacerations, blood loss
- Broken right femur



2 month-old, female, Siamese kitten (1.6 lb.)

Charges & Outcome

- **Charges**

 - Assault

 - Harassment

 - Menacing

 - Obstruction of Breathing

 - Felony Animal Cruelty**

- **DV survivor did not testify**

- **Plea: Misdemeanor Animal Cruelty**

- **Sentence: 45 days jail**

**Victim was able to move out of state while
defendant was in jail**

Case Example

NYPD Referral

Family in
Precinct
Emergency
Relocation

Dogs
Transported to
Veterinary
Partner

Animal Welfare
Org. near Family
Identified
Temporary
Boarding

Reunification



Casper and Snow



Case Example

Background



Medical Findings

- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Ruptured and proptosed eye
- Nasal bone fracture
- Soft tissue injury and contusions to the face
- Fractured Teeth
- Contusions under tongue
- Pneumothorax



Medical Findings

- Acute fractures of 14th and 15th caudal vertebral bodies; left 3rd, 4th, and 5th metacarpal bones; and right 2nd, 3rd, and 4th metacarpal bones
- Chronic healed fracture of left 5th metacarpal bone
- Subluxation of right accessory-ulnar intercarpal joint
- Soft tissue injury left hind foot



Outcome

- Owner surrendered due to concern for safety
- Adopted by member of NYC veterinary community
- Defendant charged with and pleaded guilty to **Felony Animal Cruelty**



Key Takeaways



Questions?



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