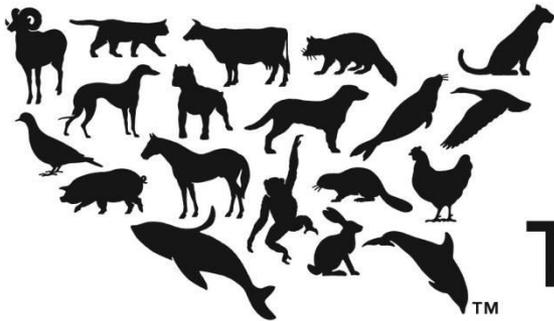
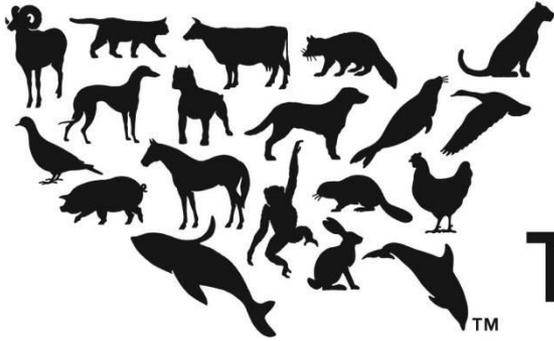


WELCOME!



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WE ARE HSUS!

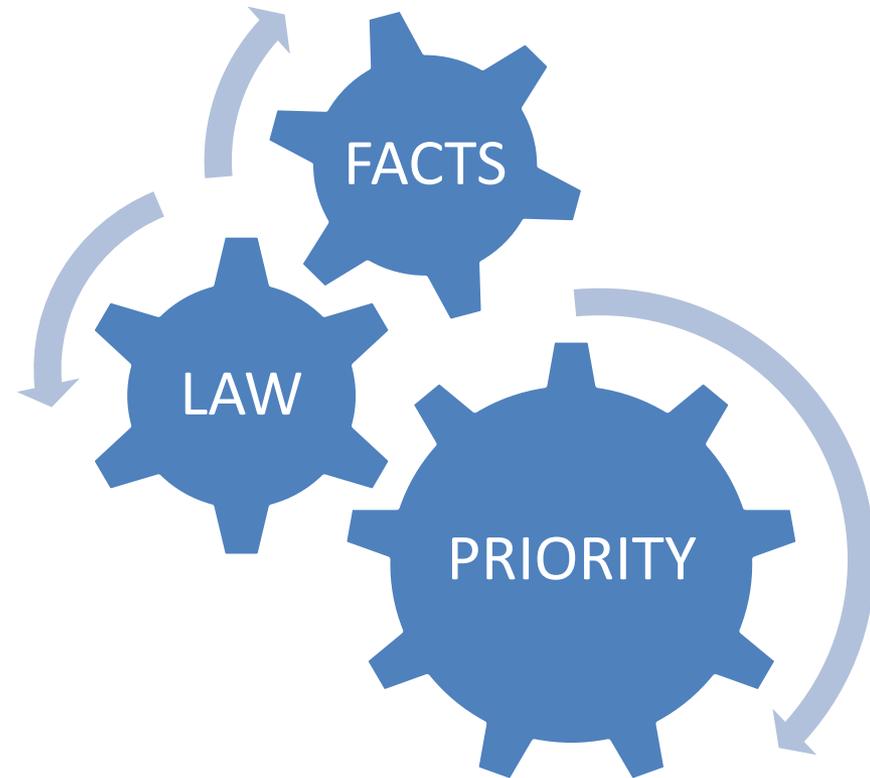
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WHEN A CALL COMES IN ABOUT A POTENTIAL CASE OF ANIMAL CRUELTY...

WHAT DRIVES ANIMAL WELFARE PROFESSIONALS?



WHAT DRIVES LAW ENFORCEMENT?





REALITY IS...

**Animal Welfare professionals and
the public must also work within the
confines of state law!**



What legally constitutes a crime of animal cruelty?

- Any act that is defined in MS current law
- A violation of local ordinance
- Violating federal law
- State regulations (wildlife, board of animal health)



The Connection Between Animal Cruelty and Human Violence



“...the best predictor of future behavior is past behavior, and a past history of violence is the single most important predictor of future violence... Violence against animals is violence and when present is synonymous with a history of violence.”

- FBI Supervisory Special Agent Alan C. Brantley at a Congressional Briefing. May 13, 1998



What is defined as animal cruelty under MS state law?

- 97-41-1 Living creatures not to be cruelly treated (applies to any animal except dog or cat)
- Animals must have food, water, and not be deprived of necessary sustenance
- Shelter is not required for horses, goats, etc.



- 97-41-16 Dog and cat protection law of 2011
- 2 parts of this law
- A) simple cruelty
- B) aggravated cruelty



Simple cruelty

- Intentionally wound, deprive of adequate shelter, food or water, carry or confine in a cruel manner
- Misdemeanor charge
- \$1000 fine and/or
- 6 month jail



MISDEMEANOR CRIMES IN MS

- THE PERSON WHO WITNESSES THE CRIME MUST BE THE PERSON WHO SIGNS THE AFFIDAVIT AGAINST THE ACCUSED



Aggravated cruelty (SECOND offense felony)

- With malice intentionally torture, mutilate, burn, starve, or disfigure
- \$2500 fine and/or
- 6 months jail and psychological counseling
- 2nd offense within 5 years is a felony
- \$5000 fine
- 1-5 years jail



- All charges under 97-41-16 can count for only one charge per incident.
- if you have a case of 20 dogs, you can only bring one charge against the owner if you found all the dogs at one time
- Makes negotiating puppy mill/hoarding cases more difficult



Authority to enforce state laws falls on the local law enforcement. **You called and the did not receive a response...why not?

- They didn't learn how
- Don't know it IS their responsibility
- They don't have a shelter or place for animals to go
- Don't have resources/equipment
- Not a priority

You can't help this animal, officer?
Watch this!



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How can social media be bad for good results on animal cases?

- You just let everyone know where a crime is allegedly being committed, including the criminal. Do you think the animal will still be there by the time law enforcement gets there? Now what was the fate of that animal?
- Did you help it? Probably not.
- Do you know for a fact the story circulating is true? Was the situation investigated? You can ruin an innocent persons life by cyber bullying someone without knowing if it is true. You can also be charged with harassment or cyber bullying.

Why not, continued....

- Did you attempt to make contact with the right person/s before heading to social media?
- -The sheriff, the chief, a state agency, etc....
- It is very possible you just didn't connect with someone who knows what to do.
- You are making all animal advocates look unreasonable and like extremists if you did not take the steps to resolve the situation in a professional way before going public.
- People will not take us seriously if we do not try to cooperate and act reasonably as a first step!

No, they can't

- The FBI, the governor, your congressman, the attorney general....
- None of these agencies are going to get involved in a local jurisdiction issue.
- Contact your STATE representative or senator for long term change!



- Be prepared to handle evidence collection
- Assist on scene with investigation
- Provide transport and placement for animals if needed
- Be prepared to educate owners on proper care and what care is required under state law



1. Get accurate address
2. Determine which LE jurisdiction
3. Contact appropriate LE agency
4. Request a deputy/officer escort you to property for a welfare check on animal/s
5. Arrange to meet them somewhere
6. Give them a brief summary of complaint and action plan before proceeding to property



SEIZURE ORDERS

- Animals are considered property in MS
- People have a constitutional right to their property
- You must have sufficient evidence of probable cause to present to judge to request a seizure order
- Seizure should be a last resort in most cases



Why is it important to press criminal charges?

- To avoid the cycle repeating itself
- You do not want to use resources revisiting the same situation
- Plenty of other cases out there



-NEVER GO ON SOMEONE'S PROPERTY
WITHOUT AN ESCORT FROM LE

-YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO BE THERE
ALONE

-YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO TELL
SOMEONE WHAT TO DO WITH THEIR
PROPERTY

-IF PEOPLE TELL YOU TO LEAVE, YOU
LEAVE UNLESS YOU HAVE A WARRANT



What to look for on scene

1. How many animals on property
2. Do they have clean water?
3. Are their coats shiny?
4. Can you see obvious bones protruding or injury?
5. Are they lethargic?
6. Look at length of toenails



- 7. look for signs of other animals, a hose leading to another pasture, a shed or outbuilding away from other animals
- 8. Look for skeletal remains
- 9. Look for empty feed bags, wormer
- 10. Look for evidence of other crimes; child neglect, drug use
- 11. Keep in mind what is ENFORCEABLE



Know what is an acceptable weight

Nestlé PURINA

BODY CONDITION SYSTEM

TOO THIN	1	Ribs, lumbar vertebrae, pelvic bones and all bony prominences evident from a distance. No discernible body fat. Obvious loss of muscle mass.		
	2	Ribs, lumbar vertebrae and pelvic bones easily visible. No palpable fat. Some evidence of other bony prominence. Minimal loss of muscle mass.		
	3	Ribs easily palpated and may be visible with no palpable fat. Tops of lumbar vertebrae visible. Pelvic bones becoming prominent. Obvious waist and abdominal tuck.		
IDEAL	4	Ribs easily palpable, with minimal fat covering. Waist easily noted, viewed from above. Abdominal tuck evident.		
	5	Ribs palpable without excess fat covering. Waist observed behind ribs when viewed from above. Abdomen tucked up when viewed from side.		
TOO HEAVY	6	Ribs palpable with slight excess fat covering. Waist is discernible viewed from above but is not prominent. Abdominal tuck apparent.		
	7	Ribs palpable with difficulty; heavy fat cover. Noticeable fat deposits over lumbar area and base of tail. Waist absent or barely visible. Abdominal tuck may be present.		
	8	Ribs not palpable under very heavy fat cover, or palpable only with significant pressure. Heavy fat deposits over lumbar area and base of tail. Waist absent. No abdominal tuck. Obvious abdominal distention may be present.		
	9	Massive fat deposits over thorax, spine and base of tail. Waist and abdominal tuck absent. Fat deposits on neck and limbs. Obvious abdominal distention.		

The BODY CONDITION SYSTEM was developed at the Nestlé Purina Pet Care Center and has been validated as documented in the following publications:

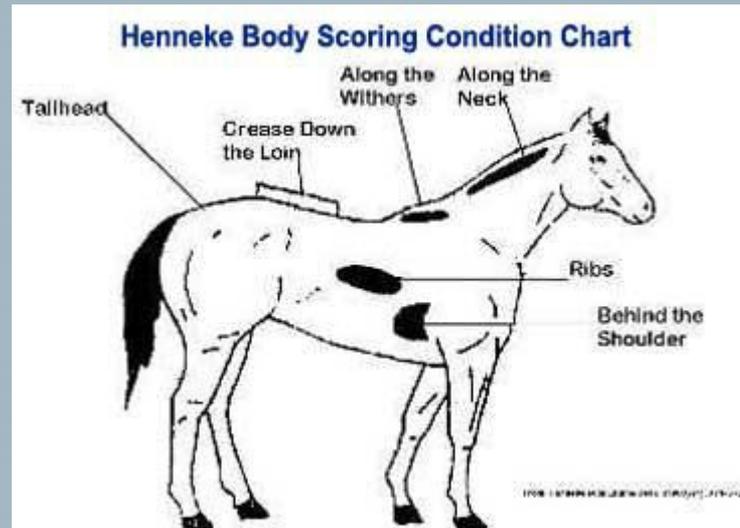
Mowbray D, Berges JM, Mojam T, et al. Comparison of body fat estimates by dual energy x-ray absorptiometry and deuterium oxide dilution in client owned dogs. *Compendium* 2001; 23 (9A): 70

Lafrenze DP. Development and Validation of a Body Condition Score System for Dogs. *Canine Practice July/August 1997; 22:10-15*

Kendy, et al. Effects of Diet Restriction on Life Span and Age-Related Changes in Dogs. *JAVMA* 2002; 220:1315-1320

Call 1-800-222-VETS (8387), weekdays, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. CT







How does a horse get to the point of starvation?

- Amazingly the first reason is owner ignorance
- The second is economic hardship



What will you hear?

- You should have seen him before I got him!
- He is a rescue!
- It's not mine!
- He's old!
- I feed him everyday!
- What horse? What dog?



Hair coat will be shaggy and dull, often with patches of hair loss. The horse will be depressed with head hanging low, his ears and tail are motionless, and his eyes are dull and lifeless. ■





What happens during starvation?

- When an animal is starving, he first uses up all his stored fat and carbohydrates.
- When there is no more left, he begins to break down protein. While there is protein in every type of tissue, there are no extra stores of it.
- Therefore the animal begins to use protein, not just from its muscles, but from even its vital organs such as the heart.
- The body also becomes severely depleted of vital electrolytes and vitamins.



Prognosis:

- Once an animal loses more than 50% of its original body weight, prognosis for survival is poor.
- This is because a animal that is starved to this extent has had to utilize protein from his tissues, including vital organs in order to survive.
- Some tissues and organs can re-generate, but some cannot.
- There may be damage, such as damage to the heart, that is irreversible.



Re-feeding syndrome

- When fed the carbohydrates of a normal diet, insulin is released causing the carbs and essential electrolytes to go from the blood stream into the cells where they are stored for energy.
- This can lead to DEATH within 3-5 days, mostly due to the severe depletion of electrolytes which are needed to run the body's organs.



Who is at risk?

Any animal with a BCS of less than 3.5/9

Any animal that has fasted for more than 5 days regardless
of BCS!!

Animals that have lost more than 10% of their bodyweight
over less than a 2 month period.

Ponies and minis!



How to do it properly

- Feed small amounts of alfalfa (about 1/6 of a flake) every 2-4 hours for the first 24 hours.
- For the next 10 days, slowly increase the amount of alfalfa fed and decrease the frequency.
- After this time, the horse can eat as much as he wants.
- At this time, you can also begin to slowly introduce grass hay and commercial feed.



What should a horse that has been rescued look like?





Solomon 9-14-12





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Solomon 10-18-12





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October 1st before
October 29th after





Break out sessions

- each get a picture
- Determine what kind of case it is
- Determine the appropriate action:
 - educate owner
 - seize animals
 - no action

GROUP 1



GROUP 2



GROUP 3



Group 4





Dogfighting

- Felony
- Do NOT have to catch them in the act
- Any paraphernalia associated can be used against them; treadmill, break sticks, medications, logging chains, scarred dogs
- Drugs, cash, and illegal weapons often found



Cockfighting

- Misdemeanor
- Same law that was enacted in the 1800's
- Popular blood sport in MS
- Legal to raise birds for fighting



Puppy Mills

- Not every breeding operation is a puppy mill
- Do not expect LE to know what a PM is
- Ask for vet references, proof of rabies



- <http://video.humanesociety.org/admin/quickview.php?bctid=2398780581001&submitVideoID=Go>



Hoarding

- No magic number constitutes a hoarder
- Hoarding is a mental disorder that requires psychiatric treatment
- Past trauma
- Hoarders believe they are caring for the animals but in reality can not provide adequate care for them and often disregard their own health



- <http://video.humanesociety.org/admin/quickview.php?bctid=2434253582001&submitVideoID=Go>



Know your resources:

- ✓ State Board of animal health
- ✓ Department of Agriculture
- ✓ Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks
- ✓ National organizations



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Remember....





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NOBODY CAN ENFORCE A LAW THAT DOESN'T EXIST



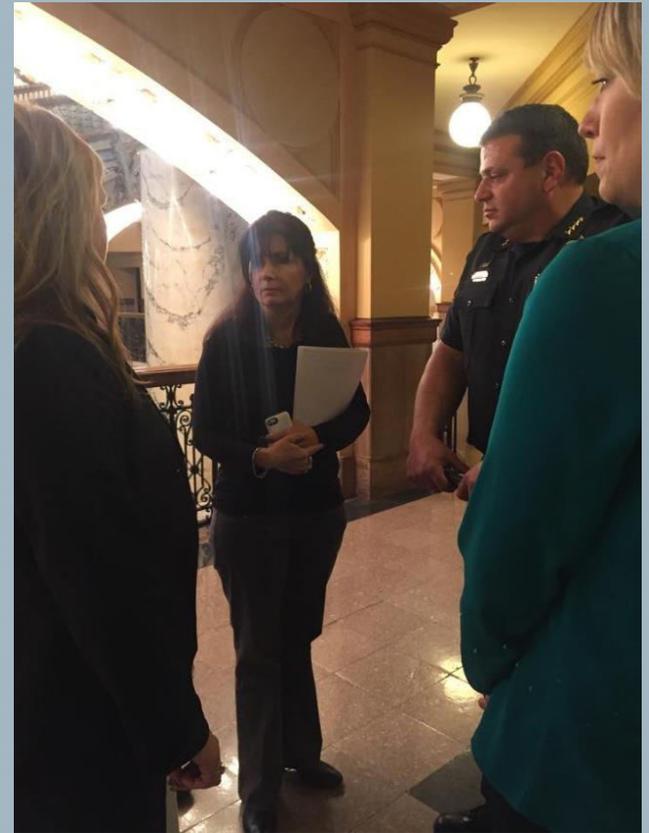


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BE THEIR VOICE!



VOLUNTEER!

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Interested in Doing More for Animals?

Become a District Leader



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QUESTIONS?

