

“Duty with Compassion”

Los Angeles County Department of Animal Care & Control is committed to providing the best care possible to the 90,000 animals received at its six shelters each year. The County does not tolerate abuse or mishandling of animals by staff. The over 380 employees of the Department include Veterinarians, Registered Veterinary Technicians, animal caretakers and officers that protect animals from abuse and neglect. These dedicated professionals commit themselves to protecting and caring for animals 24 hours/day, seven days/week.

The Department has a zero tolerance for the mishandling of shelter animals and takes immediate action to intervene, investigate any alleged misconduct, and take all disciplinary measures necessary to correct such behavior and ensure it does not happen again. When the investigations are complete, the Department will pursue any and all appropriate disciplinary action based on the investigation findings.

Los Angeles County is constantly striving to enhance the care for animals at its shelters. In recent years the County allocated \$1.7 million in facility enhancements, \$5 million to replace three aging spay/neuter clinics with new facilities at double the size of the previous clinics; added over 25 animal care staff positions; reclassified and raised the salaries of entry level animal caretaking positions to better recruit and retain employees; increased animal holding capacity by adding additional cattery buildings for the Downey and Lancaster shelters as well as an additional dog kennel building and horse barn at the Lancaster shelter; and approved the construction of a new, state of the art animal shelter in the east Antelope Valley.

Caring for thousands of unwanted animals, and desperately trying to find homes for as many as possible, while caring for the sick, abused, neglected and dangerous, is an emotionally draining job. The persons who have chosen this as a profession should be thanked and commended for their efforts.