

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 23, 2013

***spcaLA to LA City Council: Ban the Bullhook***

*spcaLA urges Los Angeles City Council to put animal welfare over profit*

**Los Angeles, CA** – A motion to ban the use of bullhooks is scheduled for a vote at the 10:00am, Wednesday, October 23, 2013 Los Angeles City Council meeting. Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Los Angeles (**spcaLA**), its millions of supporters, and other animal welfare advocates urge Los Angeles City Council to vote in favor of the ban.

“My preference is that all exotic animals be banned from circuses and other such exhibitions, but banning the bullhook is a start,” said spcaLA President, Madeline Bernstein. “There is no reason an enlightened community, like Los Angeles, needs to encourage torture to entertain the masses.”

Bullhooks are heavy metal rods with sharp tips used to smack and intimidate an elephant, in order to elicit a desired behavior.

spcaLA urges Angelinos, before they brush this off, telling themselves “they’re only elephants,” to think about this: Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Los Angeles (spcaLA) was started in 1877 to protect those who people deemed to be “just women,” “just children,” “just horses” and “just pets.” For the voiceless, there is no payoff, no prize, no fame, and no glory. There is only suffering, confusion and death, all for our entertainment.

spcaLA urges Angelinos to contact their city councilmembers and urge them to vote in favor of banning the use of bullhooks, prior to the 10am, Wednesday, October 23, 2013 Los Angeles City Council Meeting.

Wednesday’s meeting is scheduled to begin at 10am in the John Ferraro Council Chamber, Room 340, City Hall (200 N Spring St, Los Angeles, CA 90012).

*For more information or to schedule an interview, please contact Miriam Davenport at 323-730-5300 x33, 323-353-4658 cell or by email at [mdavenport@spcaLA.com](mailto:mdavenport@spcaLA.com).*

**About spcaLA**

spcaLA is an independent, nonprofit animal welfare organization serving Southern California since 1877. There is no national SPCA, parent organization, or umbrella group that provides financial support to spcaLA. Donations run programs and services including Cruelty Investigation, Disaster Animal Response Team, Humane Education, and a variety of shelter services.

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