

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## ***The Cruellest Show on Earth?***

*spcaLA calls for circus boycott*

**Los Angeles, CA** – The Ringling Brothers Circus is in town, despite the best efforts of Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Los Angeles (**spcaLA**) and other animal welfare organizations.

“I’ve gotten a lot of calls and emails asking how we can shut down the circus,” said spcaLA President, Madeline Bernstein. “The answer is simple: don’t go and suggest to your elected officials that Los Angeles must be as compassionate as Pasadena.”

In 2001, the city of Pasadena banned circuses and other animal acts. As recently as November 20, 2012, the Los Angeles City Council was considering an ordinance to ban the use of live elephants in traveling exhibits and circuses that visit Los Angeles as well as the use of bullhooks against an elephant. Despite overwhelming support, the LA City Council let the issue die.

spcaLA urges Angelinos, before they brush this off, telling themselves “they’re only elephants,” 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 does not advocate the use of live animals for entertainment and would urge Los Angelinos to not purchase tickets or attend performances. Instead, engage in activities that do not exploit animals or contribute to their mistreatment.

*For more information or to schedule an interview, please contact Ana Bustilloz at 323-730-5300 x252, 323-707-1271 cell or by email at [abustilloz@spcaLA.com](mailto:abustilloz@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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