

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Golden Retriever dog, who survived a deadly RV fire, has been adopted at
spcaLA**
Caretaker murdered in Long Beach

Los Angeles, CA – For Puddles the 2-year-old Golden Retriever mix, arriving at Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (spcaLA) may have been a welcome relief. Puddles was under the care of Thomas Taylor, aged 61, because her former owners are seeking treatment for a life-threatening illness out-of-state, and could no longer care for her. Then, this January, Taylor was murdered and his RV set aflame – with Puddles inside.

According to Long Beach Animal Care Services (LBACS), Puddles rushed out of the RV when Long Beach Police were investigating the incident. A Long Beach Police Officer placed Puddles inside a police cruiser and called LBACS.

Puddles survived her ordeal with no serious injuries, has just been adopted at Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Los Angeles (spcaLA). spcaLA and the City of Long Beach pioneered the public-private model for animal welfare, fully integrating spcaLA, LBACS, and all major program functions in one complex.

“Puddles is in good health, but a little apprehensive. This is understandable as she has been through so much, losing her home and companion and having that terrifying experience of the fire,” said Madeline Bernstein, President spcaLA. “Now she can continue to recover in her new home.”

Puddles was inside of the motor home that was intentionally set on fire in January of 2014. Also inside the motor home was Taylor, who was found dead. The vehicle was parked in an alley behind a vacant business in the 500 block of West 17th Street near Magnolia Avenue in Long Beach. Three suspects have been arrested and charged in connection to the fire, which led to a murder investigation. According to the City of Long Beach, the motive for the murder appears to be an on-going dispute.

spcaLA finds home for more than 3,500 animals a year. Adoptable pets and information regarding adoption can be found at www.spcaLA.com.

For more information, please contact Ana Bustilloz at 323-730-5300 x252, cell 323-707-1271 or abustilloz@spcaLA.com.

Since 1877, spcaLA has been the premiere independent, nonprofit animal welfare organization serving Southern California. 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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