

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Justice for Wilson
Animal Abuser Pleads Guilty**

Shepherd on the brink of starvation is rescued and rehabilitated

Los Angeles, CA – Noe Perez pleaded guilty to one (1) count of Misdemeanor Animal Cruelty Charges in a Van Nuys courtroom for abusing his 2 year black Shepherd mix, known as Wilson. The conviction is a result of an investigation by Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Los Angeles (spcaLA).

In August 2013, an anonymous tipster led spcaLA Animal Cruelty Investigations to the Perez property on W. 62nd Street in South Los Angeles. Wilson was discovered behind piles of junk and debris, tethered to a tree by a chain with no access to food, water, or shelter. Wilson was flea-infested, emaciated, and anemic. He was starving to death due to Perez's neglect. Wilson was immediately seized by spcaLA Humane Officers. Upon examination, Wilson weighed a scant 39 pounds. An ideal weight for a dog of Wilson's build is 70 pounds.

While in spcaLA's care, Wilson received medical treatment and was fed a balanced diet. Today, he weighs a healthier 67 pounds. Wilson is now available for adoption.

Perez is sentenced to 36 months of probation, 200 hours of community service, counseling, restitution, and may have no contact with animals for five years.

"This abuser appears to have hidden Wilson on his property, leaving the poor dog to die – out of sight, out of mind," said Madeline Bernstein, spcaLA President. "Luckily, someone did see Wilson and contacted spcaLA Animal Cruelty Investigations. Now Wilson has a chance to live with a family who will love and care for him."

spcaLA is the only private animal welfare organization that is also Law Enforcement in the city of Los Angeles. To report animal cruelty, call the spcaLA Animal Cruelty Tip Line at 1-800-540-SPCA (7722) or report online at www.spcaLA.com.

Photos available.

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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