

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 31, 2014

## **Convicted Felony Animal Abuser Violates Probation**

*Charles Ferguson ordered no contact with animals*

**Los Angeles, CA** –Charles Ferguson, former owner and operator of J.R. Ewing Guard Dogs, Inc. et al, who was convicted of 4 felony and 4 misdemeanor animal cruelty counts in September, was found in violation of his probation today, as a result his probation was revoked.

County of Los Angeles Deputy District Attorney, Christopher Frisco presented evidence from Los Angeles Animal Control about animals currently in Ferguson's care. This evidence, coupled with Ferguson's failure to appear at a previous court date, was sufficient for The Honorable Allen J. Webster, Jr. to find that Ferguson was in violation of his probation.

The Honorable Allen J. Webster, Jr. sentenced Ferguson to 180 days in Los Angeles County Jail. That sentence was stayed, however, providing Ferguson meets the following conditions:

- Has no contact with any animals directly or indirectly (especially in the vicinity of 1207 El Segundo Blvd and 1210 W 127<sup>th</sup> St in Gardena, CA).
- Relinquishes all animals forthwith.
- Has no animal in his possession whatsoever.
- Reports to the probation department no later than Monday February 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Further proceedings in this case are scheduled for 8:30am on Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup>.

Ferguson was convicted as a result of a Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Los Angeles (spcaLA) animal cruelty investigation. spcaLA led an interagency investigation which unearthed evidence of horrible mistreatment and agonizing deaths of working dogs at J.R. Ewing Guard Dogs, Inc. These findings and others resulted in Ferguson's November 2012 arrest and September 2013 conviction.

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](http://www.spcaLA.com).

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