

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AKC Seal of Approval Does Not Equal Humane Treatment

Los Angeles, CA – This morning on NBC’s *Today* show, it was reported that some puppies who come from “AKC approved” breeders can live in deplorable conditions, sometimes in their own filth. Often they have congenital defects, are malnourished and riddled with sickly parasites. Unfortunately, this revelation is not news to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Los Angeles (spcaLA).

“We must stop creating a demand for AKC type pets so the suppliers dry up,” says Madeline Bernstein, President spcaLA. “There are plenty of dogs and cats, pure and mixed, in shelters around the world who need homes today.”

It is often greed or profit that keeps unscrupulous breeders from providing the proper care for their “product.” Consumers who look for AKC approved breeders expect that the puppies they purchase are healthy and humanely raised. But that is not necessarily the case. The news report stated that the AKC has nine inspectors for the entire country, making it easy for some breeders to continue their cruel practices unseen.

Rather than go to a breeder or puppy mill, spcaLA encourages people to visit their local shelters instead.

The spcaLA is the only animal welfare agency in Los Angeles that is also law enforcement. If animal cruelty is suspected, it can be reported online to spcaLA.com or the spcaLA Animal Cruelty Tipline at 1-800-540-7722.

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

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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