

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 8, 2013

**Riverside County Should Take a Lesson from Los Angeles**  
*spcaLA recommends spay/neuter for all dogs 4 months and older*

**Los Angeles, CA** – Officials in Riverside County are considering an ordinance that would require pit bulls, and pit bull mixes, to be sterilized in unincorporated areas of the county, the *Los Angeles Times* reported this morning. Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Los Angeles (**spcaLA**) recommends all dogs – regardless of breed – be sneutered™ (spayed or neutered).

“Targeting a specific breed with a spay/neuter ordinance only serves to vilify the dog, and doesn’t solve the problems of pet overpopulation,” said spcaLA President, Madeline Bernstein. “To see significant change, spay/neuter mandates must include all types of dogs, and be accompanied by robust public outreach, access to low-cost veterinary services, and support for enforcement.”

Reducing the numbers of unwanted litters – across all breeds – will allow animal control to keep the animals and people in our community safe by responding to dangerous dog complaints, picking up strays, and providing other vital services. Responsible pet ownership, combined with comprehensive sneuter initiatives and a robust offering of animal control services can help prevent tragedies from occurring.

Los Angeles County and the City of Los Angeles, as well as other Southern California communities, have laws on the books requiring most dogs (regardless of breed) to be sneutered if they are four months or older.

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

Society for the Prevention Cruelty to Animals Los Angeles (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.