

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 11, 2014

## **Long Beach Man Charged with Four Felony Counts of Animal Cruelty Pleads Guilty**

**Los Angeles, CA** – Steven Ullery (dob 5/22/90) of Long Beach pled guilty yesterday to 4 felony counts of cruelty to an animal in Los Angeles County Superior Court, Long Beach Branch (case NA098033) the Honorable Judge Tomson T. Ong presiding.

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Los Angeles (spcaLA) began an investigation in August 2013 after Ullery and his wife arrived at spcaLA with the bodies of two deceased cats and requested a refund. The animals had been adopted a month earlier.

During the spcaLA investigation, it was revealed that in March and May 2013, Ullery and his wife presented three additional dead cats to the Uptown Animal Hospital. One of the cats died from blunt force trauma to the face and another was choked to death, according to Los Angeles County prosecutors.

“This was a very interesting case that had to be proven with forensics and impeccable detective work, as there were no eye-witnesses,” said Madeline Bernstein, President spcaLA. “spcaLA is dedicated to being a voice for those who cannot advocate on their own and I commend the dedicated effort of the LA County’s District Attorney’s office who prosecuted this case.”

An earlier trial in October resulted in a hung jury, 11-1 in favor of guilty. Ullery will appear in court on January 6, 2015 for sentencing.

###

*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.