

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 13, 2013

spcaLA Assists in Search Warrant of Cockfighting Operation

Los Angeles, CA – Los Angeles, CA – Today, Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Los Angeles (spcaLA) humane officers assisted the Los Angeles Police Department Animal Cruelty Task Force with serving a search warrant on a property where illegal cockfighting is suspected. Also present was the Los Angeles City Department of Health, Los Angeles City Building Inspectors, and Los Angeles City Animal Control.

Several game fowl, paraphernalia, and other evidence of cockfighting were discovered, and several people were detained. A conviction of misdemeanor or felony animal cruelty can mean jail time as well as a fine of up to \$20,000 per offense.

“spcaLA is the only animal welfare organization in the city of Los Angeles that is also Law Enforcement and we are happy to assist other law enforcement agencies to prevent animal cruelty and to protect animals,” said spcaLA President, Madeline Bernstein. In December 2012, spcaLA assisted in a cockfight raid with Los Angeles County Department of Animal Care and Control where 60 birds and \$100,000 was confiscated.

spcaLA Humane Officers may exercise the powers of a peace officer anywhere in the State of California, in order to prevent animal cruelty.

In the course of fulfilling their duties, spcaLA Humane Officers help over 40,000 animals annually. To report animal cruelty call 1-800-540-SPCA or go to www.spcaLA.com.

For more information or to schedule an interview, please contact Ana Bustilloz at 323-730-5300, ext 252, 323-707-1271 cell or by email at abustilloz@spcaLA.com.

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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.