



Animal Care and Regulation
Dave Dickinson, Director

News Release

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County Animal Shelter Operating With Normal Hours

Sacramento County Animal Shelter will resume normal operations today, November 29, 2012. Yesterday, the shelter closed early because of the sudden death of Animal Control Officer Roy Marcum. Marcum was fatally wounded during a welfare check on animals that were left behind because of an eviction. A suspect is in custody and the animals have been taken to a shelter.

In a statement released today, Dave Dickinson, County Animal Shelter Director, stated, "We are deeply saddened with the loss of Animal Control Officer Roy Marcum. Our condolences and prayers go out to Tina, his wife, their four children and Roy's entire family, as they try to cope with the loss of Roy. He was a good officer who loved animals and people, and was well-liked by all those who worked with him and the communities he served. He exemplified the very best qualities of an animal control officer. As the heartbreaking incident that took his life demonstrates, there are real risks for an Animal Control Officer to perform in even the routine duty of checking on the welfare of an animal. Roy's dedication to see the job through and serve animals, pet owners and the County was exceptional. Our thoughts and prayers are with Roy's wife, children and family. He will be greatly missed."

Bradley J. Hudson, Sacramento County Executive stated, "Our hearts go out to the family; this is an unacceptable loss to the County family and to the community."

Dickinson went on to say that the support from law enforcement and partner animal care agencies has been extraordinary. "We have received assistance from the Cities of Galt, Elk Grove, and Sacramento Police Departments, the Rio Cosumnes, Galt, and Sacramento Fire Departments, the California Highway Patrol, and from the Animal Care Agencies of the Cities of Elk Grove, Rancho Cordova, Folsom, Citrus Heights, Sacramento, and the Sacramento Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. I especially want to thank the Sacramento County Sheriff's Leadership, Deputies, and Chaplains who have provided strong support in helping us cope with this situation."

The Department of Animal Care and Regulation enforces the state and County laws regarding animals existing within the County. The director and officers have the authority to enforce County ordinances including impounding animals, issuing citations for violations and issuing quarantines of animals.

The Sacramento County Animal Control Officers patrol just under 1,000 square miles and are on the job 24/7, 365 days a year. Officers also respond to approximately 1600 calls a month, ranging from dog bites, loose animals, injured animals in distress, animals locked in cars, and cases of animal abuse. Sacramento County Animal Care and Regulation is the one of the largest agencies in the County that investigates cases of animal cruelty and neglect and works closely with local law enforcement and other agencies to prosecute abuse offenders.

The County Animal Shelter is open Wednesday through Friday from 12:30 - 5:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday from noon - 4:30 p.m. and is closed Monday and Tuesday and most holidays. The shelter is located at 3839 Bradshaw Road, 1 mile south of Highway 50.

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