

2019 ANIMAL ABUSE AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CONFERENCE

Friday, October 4, 2019
Maricopa County Security Building
9th Floor Ballroom
222 N. Central Avenue,
Phoenix, Arizona



ARIZONA HUMANE SOCIETY EMERGENCY ANIMAL MEDICAL TECHNICIANS

Presented by:

Ruthie Jesus

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Distributed by:

ARIZONA PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS' ADVISORY COUNCIL
1951 West Camelback Road, Suite 202
Phoenix, Arizona 85015

ELIZABETH BURTON ORTIZ
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



ARIZONA HUMANE SOCIETY



EAMT

Emergency Animal Medical Technician

Arizona Humane Society



Sunnyslope Campus
9226 N. 13th Avenue
*Second Chance Animal Trauma
Hospital™ (shelter pets only),
Admissions, Adoptions, Thrift*



**Nina Mason Pulliam
Campus For Compassion**
1521 W. Dobbins Road
*Public Clinic, Adoptions,
Field Operations Office*

History

- The first ambulance hit the streets of Phoenix in 1958, one year after AHS opened
- The EAMT program as it exists today started in 2002 and is unique across the country due to the team's ability to make medical assessments in the field and begin treatment.
- Expanded services include:
 - ✓ ambulance/rescue services in the greater Phoenix area
 - ✓ 9 police contracts to investigate animal cruelty
 - ✓ disaster response



Our Team

- Led by Field Operations Manager Tracey Miiller
- New officers receive 12 weeks of intense field training, including cross-training with our behavior and trauma teams
- Investigators are certified through Colorado State University
- Tenured investigators, many of whom with more than 15 years of experience
- Filmed for Animal Cops Phoenix in 2008 and 2016



Field Services

- In 2018, the Field Operations Team responded to more than 11,000 calls for service – 7400 of which were investigations!



Animal Cruelty Investigations

AHS is currently contracted for cruelty investigations in:

- Phoenix, Scottsdale, Tempe, Glendale, Chandler, Gilbert
 - Full contract services in these cities means that AHS responds to calls for service directly from the public, thereby reducing call volume to the police
- Goodyear
 - Modified contract services in these cities means that AHS responds to calls for service from the police ONLY
- Mesa, Avondale
 - We contract in these cities w/ both animal control and police to assist with specific cases of cruelty or for welfare seizures

AHS Field Operations Emergency Dispatch

- Main line - 602.997.7585 x2073, answered daily from 8 am – 6 pm (phone lines closed at 3 pm on major holidays)
- Anonymous online reports can be made via www.azhumane.org twenty-four hours a day!

Animal Cruelty Investigations

Police contracts with AHS include:

- ✓ Education and resources for citizens including spay/neuter vouchers, low-cost vet referrals, and multiple sequences to gain compliance for minor issues
- ✓ Medical assessments and stabilization in the field
- ✓ Photographs and video, including before and after shots where applicable
- ✓ Impoundment of animals legally seized by police officers, as space allows



Animal Cruelty Investigations

And...

- ✓ Investigator reports that include case history relevant to suspect, address, or animals
- ✓ Medical reports, lab results, and x-rays from our trauma team at Second Chance Animal Trauma Hospital™
- ✓ Necropsies via Midwestern University
- ✓ Testimony for civil and criminal cases from AHS investigators and veterinarians



Welfare Seizures

AHS will also impound seized animals in contracted cities when an owner was arrested for non-animal related crimes, an owner is hospitalized with no caretaker available, or an owner has died and no next of kin has been found

- ✓ AHS will work with owners and will release animals to a friend or family member with permission
- ✓ Provide spay/neuter at little or no cost prior to pickup
- ✓ Provide updated documentation of vaccinations including rabies



Animal Cruelty Investigations

- No Water
- No Shelter
- Tethering
- Thin Animals
- Abandonment
- Abuse
- Animal Hoarding
- Animal Fighting
- Animals in a Hot Car
- Medical Neglect/No Treatment
- Bestiality



No Water Investigations

- ✓ Is the container size appropriate for the animal size?
- ✓ Is the water container in direct sun? Made of metal?
- ✓ Is the container secure? Can it be knocked over easily?
- ✓ Does a swimming pool count?

What's wrong with this picture?



What's wrong with this picture?



No Shelter Investigations

- ✓ Does the shelter protect from all the elements?
Sun and rain?
- ✓ What direction does the patio or dog house face?
- ✓ Is the shelter sturdy and permanent, or easily knocked over?
- ✓ If there's one shelter for several animals, do they all fit at the same time?

What's wrong with this picture?



What's wrong with this picture?



What's wrong with this picture?



What's wrong with this picture?



Tethering Investigations

- The city of **Phoenix** has a specific tethering ordinance which states:
 - ✓ A dog must be wearing a collar that is specifically designed for a dog and properly fitted to their exact neck size plus one inch
 - ✓ A dog cannot be tethered at all if it's less than 32 degrees or more than 100 degrees – or if there is a heat advisory or monsoon/dust storm warning
 - ✓ If it's a legal temperature to have the dog on a tether, the tether must:
 - be in a length longer than 10 feet
 - permit the dog access to water/shelter/shade/dry ground
 - does not place the dog in unsanitary conditions
 - does not cause injury to the dog

What's wrong with this picture?



What's wrong with this picture?



Animal Fighting

- Animal fighting (or blood sports) most commonly involves dogs or roosters.
- Search warrants often yield guns, drugs, and large amounts of cash at a scene where fighting or breeding takes place.
- In 2016, our team worked **OVERNIGHT** to catch more than 150+ roosters!



Cock Fighting



Back yard breeding and fighting in residential Phoenix...

Cock Fighting



Back yard breeding and fighting in residential Phoenix...

Cock Fighting



Fighting pit

Cock Fighting



Fighting pit

Animal Fighting



Items commonly found at rooster fights include gaffs, wood blocks, moleskin, wax twine, antibiotics, needles, and vitamins/steroids.



Cock Fighting



Animal Fighting



Roosters used for fighting often have their combs and waddles cruelly removed to reduce bleeding during a fight.

Because of the gaffs attached to their legs during a fight, one rooster can more easily cause deep lacerations and death to another rooster.



Thin Animal Investigations

- ✓ Are all the animals at a property thin or only one?
- ✓ What brand of food are they feeding?
- ✓ Is the food type appropriate for the species?
- ✓ Is the animal tick infested? Possibly sick?
- ✓ Is it a momma that may be nursing a large litter?

Thin Animal Investigations

Nestlé PURINA BODY CONDITION SYSTEM

- TOO THIN**
- 1** Ribs, lumbar vertebrae, pelvic bones and all bony prominences evident from a distance. No discernible body fat. Obvious loss of muscle mass.
- 2** Ribs, lumbar vertebrae and pelvic bones easily visible. No palpable fat. Some evidence of other bony prominence. Minimal loss of muscle mass.
- 3** Ribs easily palpated and may be visible with no palpable fat. Tops of lumbar vertebrae visible. Pelvic bones becoming prominent. Obvious waist and abdominal tuck.
- IDEAL**
- 4** Ribs easily palpable, with minimal fat covering. Waist easily noted, viewed from above. Abdominal tuck evident.
- 5** Ribs palpable without excess fat covering. Waist observed behind ribs when viewed from above. Abdomen tucked up when viewed from side.
- TOO HEAVY**
- 6** Ribs palpable with slight excess fat covering. Waist is discernible viewed from above but is not prominent. Abdominal tuck apparent.
- 7** Ribs palpable with difficulty; heavy fat cover. Noticeable fat deposits over lumbar area and base of tail. Waist absent or barely visible. Abdominal tuck may be present.
- 8** Ribs not palpable under very heavy fat cover, or palpable only with significant pressure. Heavy fat deposits over lumbar area and base of tail. Waist absent. No abdominal tuck. Obvious abdominal distention may be present.
- 9** Massive fat deposits over thorax, spine and base of tail. Waist and abdominal tuck absent. Fat deposits on neck and limbs. Obvious abdominal distention.



The BODY CONDITION SYSTEM was developed at the Nestlé Purina Pet Care Center and has been validated as documented in the following publications:

Mowbray D, Bortges JW, Mayers T, et al. Comparison of body fat estimates by dual-energy x-ray absorptiometry and deuterium oxide dilution in client owned dogs. *Compendium* 2001; 23 (9A): 70

Lafamme DP. Development and Validation of a Body Condition Score System for Dogs. *Canine Practice* July/August 1997; 22:10-15

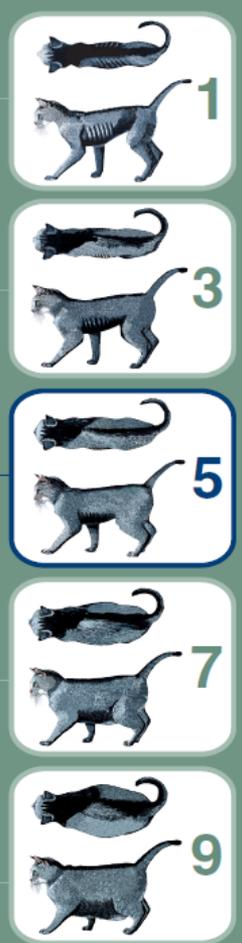
Kaaly, et al. Effects of Diet Restriction on Life Span and Age-Related Changes in Dogs. *JAVMA* 2002; 220:1315-1320

Call 1-800-222-VETS (8387), weekdays, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. CT

Nestlé PURINA

Nestlé PURINA BODY CONDITION SYSTEM

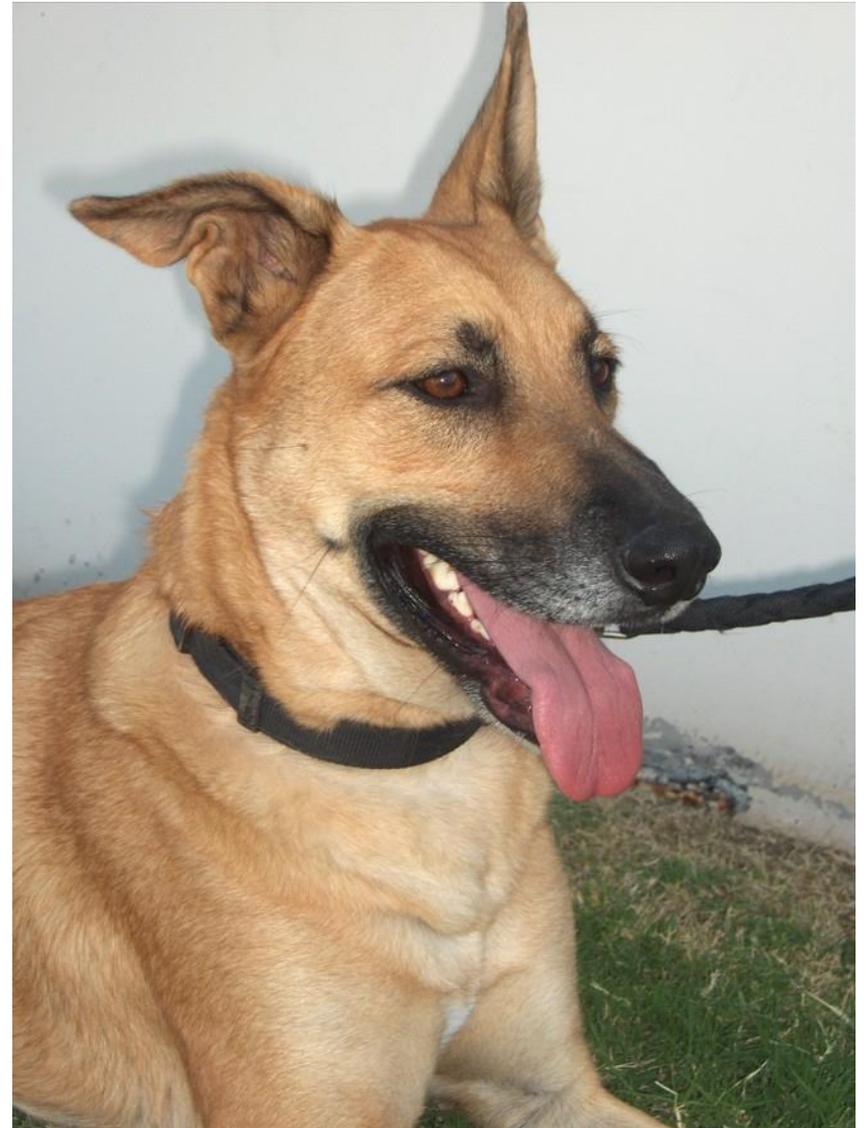
- TOO THIN**
- 1** Ribs visible on shorthaired cats; no palpable fat; severe abdominal tuck; lumbar vertebrae and wings of ilia easily palpated.
- 2** Ribs easily visible on shorthaired cats; lumbar vertebrae obvious with minimal muscle mass; pronounced abdominal tuck; no palpable fat.
- 3** Ribs easily palpable with minimal fat covering; lumbar vertebrae obvious; obvious waist behind ribs; minimal abdominal fat.
- 4** Ribs palpable with minimal fat covering; noticeable waist behind ribs; slight abdominal tuck; abdominal fat pad absent.
- IDEAL**
- 5** Well-proportioned; observe waist behind ribs; ribs palpable with slight fat covering; abdominal fat pad minimal.
- TOO HEAVY**
- 6** Ribs palpable with slight excess fat covering; waist and abdominal fat pad distinguishable but not obvious; abdominal tuck absent.
- 7** Ribs not easily palpated with moderate fat covering; waist poorly discernible; obvious rounding of abdomen; moderate abdominal fat pad.
- 8** Ribs not palpable with excess fat covering; waist absent; obvious rounding of abdomen with prominent abdominal fat pad; fat deposits present over lumbar area.
- 9** Ribs not palpable under heavy fat cover; heavy fat deposits over lumbar area, face and limbs; distention of abdomen with no waist; extensive abdominal fat deposits.



Call 1-800-222-VETS (8387), weekdays, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. CT

Nestlé PURINA

Thin Animal Investigations



Thin Animal Investigations

- On intake... Blue weighed a mere 44 pounds...



Thin Animal Investigations

- Blue was adopted weighing 60 pounds, gaining 26% of her body weight!!



Failure to Provide Medical Treatment

- While many pet owners struggle with the costs associated with veterinary care and respond favorably to education and low cost resources, there are those pet owners who simply refuse to provide necessary care and knowingly allow their pets to suffer.
- ✓ Immediate evaluation and treatment in the field by an EAMT is often critical to the case.
- ✓ AHS's Second Chance Animal Trauma Hospital can facilitate extensive evaluation, diagnostics, and ultimately live-saving treatment
- ✓ Partnership with Midwestern University for necropsies

Ruger



Ruger



Mitz



Animals In a Hot Car

YOUR CAR CAN BECOME A DEADLY OVEN IN JUST MINUTES

It takes just minutes for temperatures inside your car to rise to extremely dangerous levels. Even on a cool day, temperatures can become deadly.

Outside Temperature	10 minutes	20 minutes	30 minutes	60 minutes
70°	89°	99°	104°	113°
80°	99°	109°	114°	123°
90°	109°	119°	124°	133°
100°	119°	129°	134°	143°
110°	129°	139°	144°	153°
120°	139°	149°	154°	163°

**Source: Department of Earth & Climate Sciences, San Francisco State University*

Animal Hoarding

- In most cities, animal hoarding is not about an exact number of animals that causes someone to be considered a hoarder... a person may be considered a hoarder if they have more animals than they can afford to feed, socialize, and provide medical care for.
- ✓ BOTH the animals and people are suffering in a hoarding situation.



Animal Hoarding

- The city of **Phoenix** has a specific hoarding ordinance which states:
 - ✓ A person commits animal hoarding if:
 - Keep, harbor, maintain 10 or more animals under circumstances injurious to the health or welfare of any animal or person
 - Circumstances include:
 - 1) Unsanitary, overcrowded, or other inhumane conditions
 - 2) Failure to provide appropriate medical care
 - 3) Failure to provide suitable ware or food for the species



Hoarders



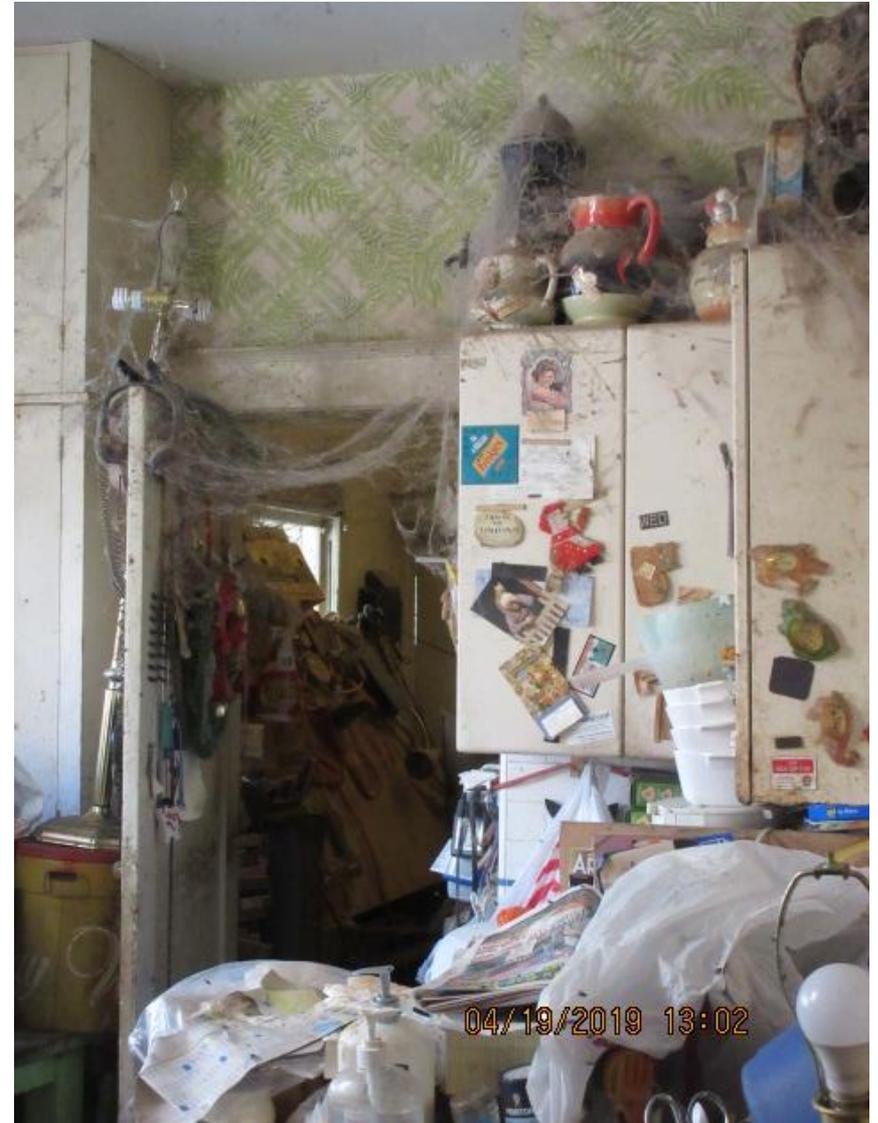
Hoarders



Hoarding



Hoarding



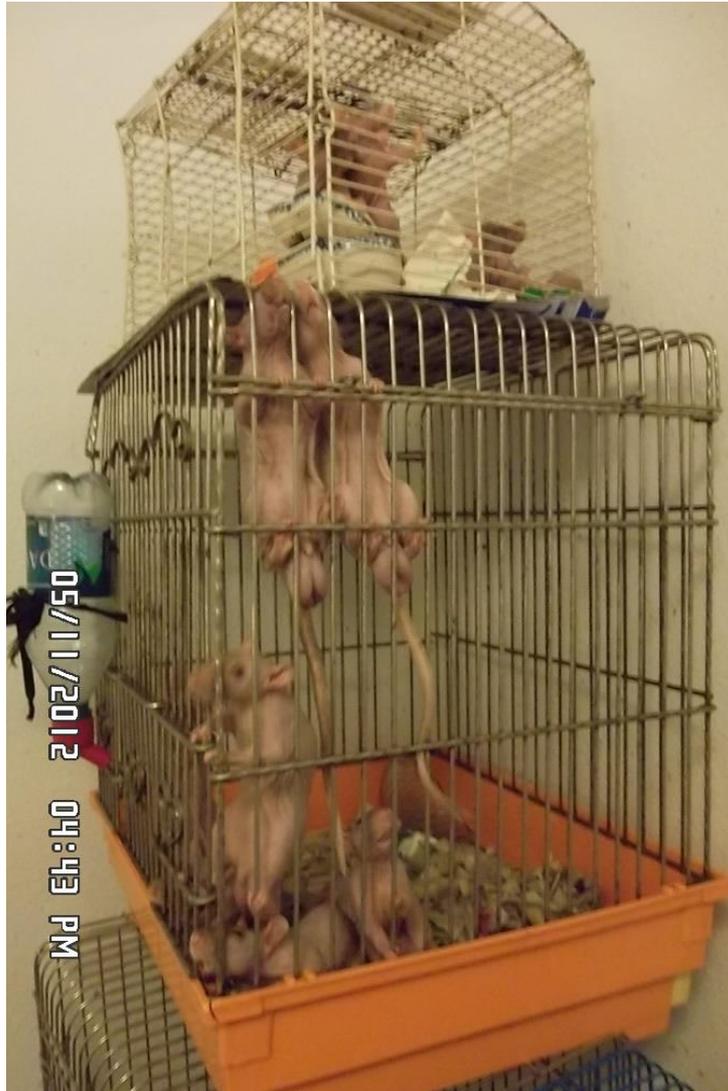
Hoarding



Hoarding



Hoarders



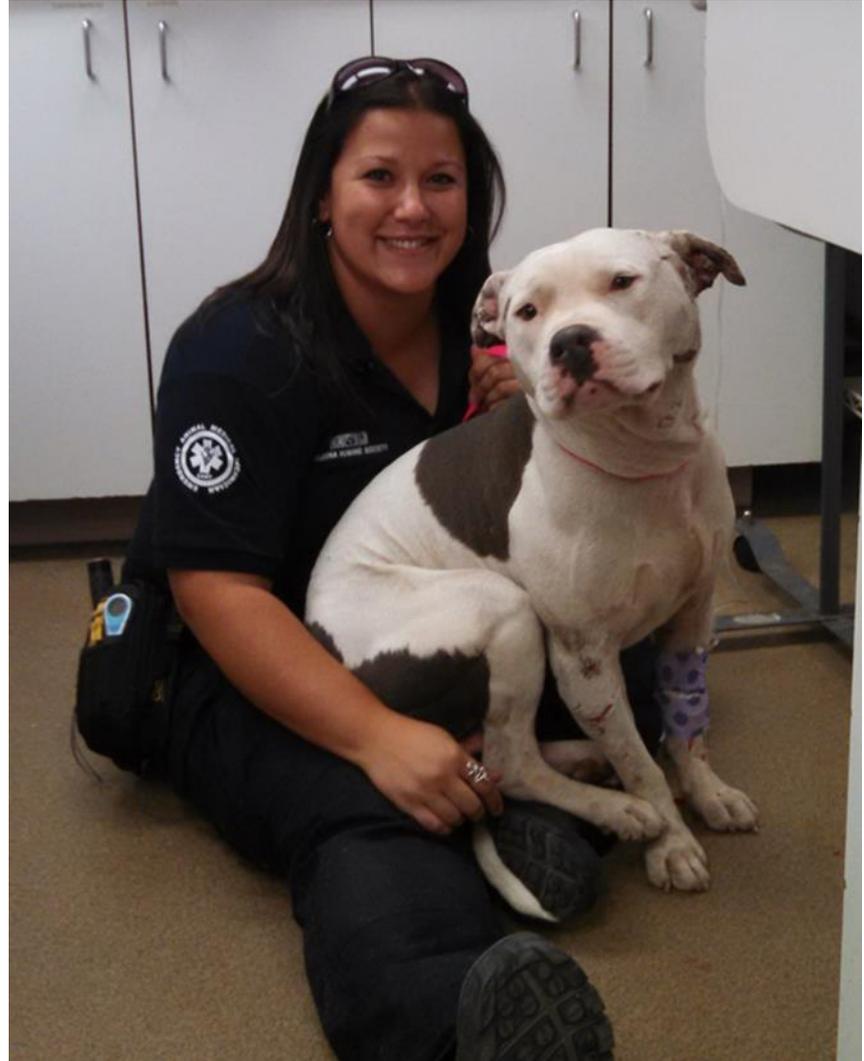
Hoarders



Ambulance

EAMTs respond across the greater Phoenix area for sick/injured stray animals:

- Animals hit by car
- Cats or small dogs injured/attacked by large dogs or coyotes
- Sick cats/dogs
- Newborn kittens



Kitty w/Blow Dart Through The Eye



Dog w/ Paw Degloved/Crushed



Matted stray w/ fishing lures



Cactus Kitty



12/19/2012 10:05 AM

Zeus



Stray – severely matted and tick infested



Animal Rescue

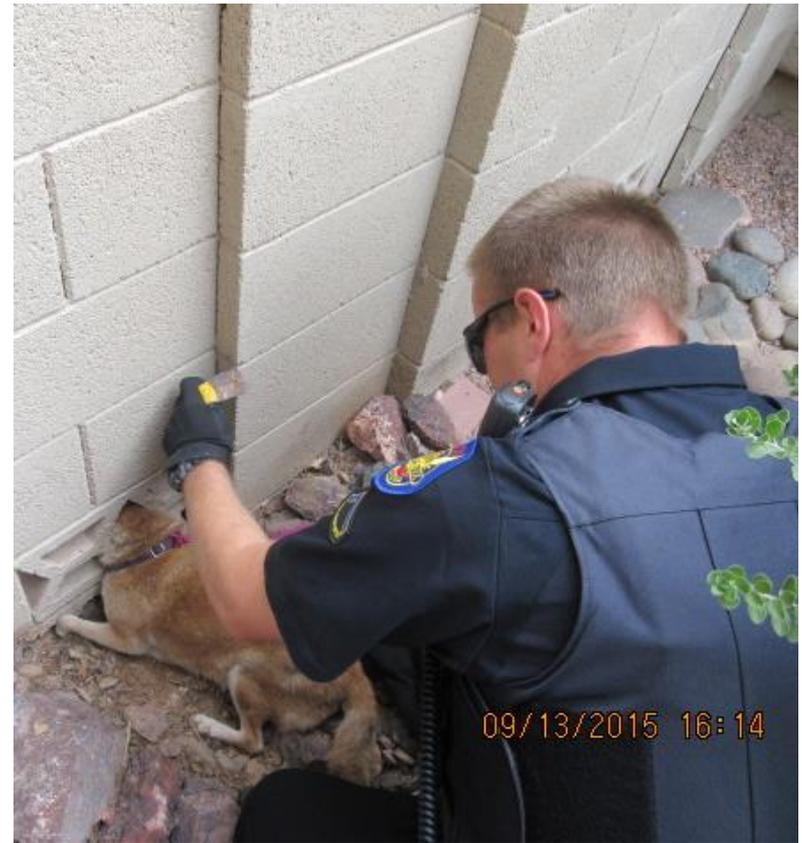
- EAMTs respond to rescues for BOTH stray and owned animals. Rescuing animals from precarious situations requires:
 - Calm evaluation of the whole scene
 - Careful consideration of officer safety
 - Creativity – no two rescues are ever alike!
 - Patience – some rescues can take hours or even multiple attempts over several days!



3 Story Cat Rescue



Block Wall Rescue



Engine Rescue



Pine Tree Rescue



Attic/Wall Rescue



Canal Rescue



Wildlife Training & Rescue

- EAMTs attend specialized training with our local wildlife rescues for training – including Phoenix Herpetological Society, Wild @ Heart, and Southwest Conservation
- Since the risk of getting bitten by a rabid animal is higher with wildlife, the entire team has also been rabies vaccinated!



AHS Disaster Team

AHS is the state designated disaster responder, which means we have a specialized team to deploy statewide for disasters like wildfires! We hope to be able to deploy nationally when needed... plus, we utilize staff from every department of the organization when a deployment lasts weeks or even months!



Yarnell Fire Disaster Response









Woodbury Fire



Woodbury Fire



Woodbury Fire



Questions?





ARIZONA HUMANE SOCIETY

Arizona Humane Society

602-997-7585 ext 2073

