

**“Breaking the Chain of Community Violence:  
Overcoming Challenges at The Intersections of Animal Abuse and Other Family Violence”**

**Outline**

- I. Introduction
  - A. Objective
  - B. Introduction of speaker
  
- II. Animal Abuse
  - A. Interpersonal Violence Links
    - 1. The “Good Side” of the Human-Animal Bond
    - 2. The “Dark Side” of the Human-Animal Bond
  
  - B. Basic premises of the Link
    - 1. Why should animal abuse be taken seriously?
    - 2. Criminal Justice Systems’ response to the Link
    - 3. History of anti-cruelty laws
    - 4. Roles of pets in U.S. families
    - 5. Animal abuse’s links to other crimes
    - 6. Types of animal abuse
    - 7. Reasons for committing animal abuse
    - 8. Reality checks
  
  - C. TimeLine: History of Link research
    - 1. Child maltreatment and animal abuse
    - 2. Domestic violence and animal abuse
    - 3. Elder abuse and animal abuse
    - 4. Animal hoarding issues and responses
  
  - D. Legislative responses
    - 1. Past and present
  
- III. Investigating and prosecuting animal abuse
  - A. The scope of the problem in California
  - B. Challenges to animal cruelty prosecutions
    - 1. Definitions of “animal?”
    - 2. Measuring the incidence of animal abuse
    - 3. Definitions of animal abuse
    - 4. Getting courts’ support
  
  - C. Case Management models
  
  - D. Factors in charging decisions
    - 1. Severity
    - 2. Culpability
    - 3. Motivations
    - 4. Defendant’s emotional intelligence
    - 5. Attitudes
    - 6. Family history

7. Mitigating and aggravating circumstances
- E. Responses affecting criminal justice
  1. Veterinary forensics
  2. Psychological evaluation and counseling
  3. “Doggy Witness Protection programs”
  4. Animal assisted interventions for juvenile offenders and at-risk youth
- F. Recommendations for Criminal Justice officials
- G. Recommendations for all agencies
- H. Resources
- I. Conclusion
  1. Additional Q & A

## Puppy/Kitten Mill

### Outline

- I Introduction
  - A. Review of applicable Penal Code crimes
    1. Theft
    2. Animal Cruelty
    3. Improper Confinement
    4. Underage Sales
- II Review of applicable Health and Safety Codes
  - A. Breeder Warranty Act
    1. Pet Shop Laws
- III Review of applicable Codes Business and Professions Code
  - B. Business and Professions Code
    1. Unfair Competition et seq.
- IV Other applicable violations

1. Permits
2. Vaccines
3. Licenses
4. Drugs/Practicing medicine
5. Federal considerations

V Case Studies

A. Puppy Mill

VI Case Preparation Guidelines

A. How to guide

1. Report
2. Documentation
3. Evidence

The Evidence of Suffering

Course Outline

I. Introduction

A. How do we define suffering?

1. Implications of the word suffering
2. Legal realm of veterinary forensics
3. The word used synonymously with the term pain
4. Initiates nociceptive reflexes

II. Why is the Definition of Suffering Important?

A. Within the legal context

1. When the language of a statute is unambiguous
2. Subject to more than one interpretation
3. Legislative intent behind the statute

III. Felony animal cruelty statutes

A. Most contain some degree of suffering

1. Sampling of codes
2. CA Penal Code 597

3. Element of suffering overriding theme in legal context
- IV. Mental and/or Emotional Pain and suffering a Legitimate Aspect of the Case?
    - A. Signals an Evolution in the way we view animals and cruelty
      1. Veterinarians cognizant of symptoms and behaviors
      2. Black's Law Dictionary defines cruelty to animals
      3. Definition determine if mental suffering is an element
      4. Argument can be made mental suffering an element
  - V. Assessing an Animal Cruelty Victim
    - A. What should be documented to establish suffering occurred
      1. Thoroughly document the presence of suffering
      2. Factors may differentiate two classes of offenses
      3. Veterinarian prepared to articulate in detail the suffering
      4. Number of animals involved and degree of suffering
      5. Courts may look at cruelty cases differently isolated versus prolonged
      6. Heat of passion crime
  - VI. What Do We Take Away from This?
    - A. Legal Arena
      1. Old school perspective
      2. Struggling with suggestion animals feel pain
    - B. Veterinarian evaluation
      1. Primary focus to evaluate injury
      2. Be aware of suffering
      3. Mental status not to be ignored

## COURTROOM FACILITY DOGS

### Outline

- I. History and rationale for courtroom dogs
  - A. First used in 2003, according to Courtroom Dogs of Seattle. Practice is growing around the country. Used primarily for children but also for developmentally disabled adults and elderly.
    1. Psychological research shows participating in courtroom or other legal proceedings, such as forensic interviews, is stressful.
    2. Presence of an appropriately bred & trained dog can significantly reduce the anxiety of these experiences.

3. Petting an animal produces short-term decreases in blood pressure and/or heart rate.
4. Benefits occur even if a person is simply in the presence of a dog.

## II. Countering Defense Objections to courtroom dogs

A. Common objections: dog will distract jury, child will be distracted by dog, child will take oath less seriously, dog detracts from courtroom decorum, jurors will like the victim more than the defendant, dog makes the jury feel sympathy for the witness, if dog responds to the witness the jury can't tell if the witness is lying or just under stress, defense cannot cross-examine dog.

1. Response: Dog is less prejudicial than other courtroom accommodations.
2. Neutral presence of a dog is better than use of a comfort item or the presence of a support person.
3. Dog's presence reduces stress and thus allows more efficient interrogation for the ascertainment of truth.
4. Court can instruct jury to not make any assumptions or draw any conclusions based on the presence of the facility dog.

## III. Legal Authority

A. EC 765 – (a) Court shall exercise reasonable control over witness questioning in order to ascertain truth, and (b) shall take special care to protect witness under age 14 from undue harassment or embarrassment.

1. California case law
2. Other states' case law
3. Statutes in Arkansas and Illinois

## IV. Case Studies

A. Stilson, the Invisible Dog in the Courtroom: Snohomish Co. WA, 2012.

B. Lupe, SBCDA facility dog, used in *People v. Mario Hernandez*, FWV1401459, tried in April-May 2016

1. The motion we filed to ask the Court to allow the dog to assist the 12-year-old victim and his 13-year-old witness brother
2. Logistics and practical solutions to bring the dog in and out of the courtroom without the jury ever seeing her
3. How the boys bonded with Lupe
4. How Lupe helped the boys with the stress and trauma of trial
5. How Lupe even helped me, the prosecutor
6. What the jury was told – that a dog was there, since she might snore

## 7. The role of the dog handler victim advocate

- V. SBCDA's Special Victims K-9 Unit
  - A. Formed July 2015
    - 1. Protocol and policies
- VI. Videos
  - A. Lupe and Dozer
    - 1. Sworn in as courtroom facility dogs
  - B. PBS video
    - 1. Courtroom facility dogs

## Internet Crime Scene – Grabbing a Hold of a Digital Leash

### Course Outline

- I. Best practices when made aware of images or video that may be in your jurisdiction
  - A. Determining platform (Facebook, twitter, Instagram, blog, private device etc.)
  - B. Proper response and Preservation Requests
    - 1. What information needs to be preserved
    - 2. Why does it need to be preserved?
    - 3. Defeating a hearsay objection before it starts
    - 4. Prevention of deletion
    - 5. Manners of deletion and potential for recovery
  - C. Subpoena or Search Warrant?
    - 1. What if the carrier isn't in my jurisdiction?
    - 2. What if it isn't in the US?
    - 3. How do I know if this is even my case?
  - D. Who can file a preservation request and how do I do it?
    - 1. Walk through the specific terms for major platforms
  - E. Determining who owns a site
    - 1. Whose database?
- II. Pitfalls of the preservation request
  - A. Essential language needed
  - B. When you will need a court order
    - 1. Navigating through the platform's notice policies
    - 2. Preventing the platform from blowing your case
- III. Public Problems

- A. Reporting the post
  - B. Interacting with the poster
  - C. The lynch mob mentality
  - D. When good meaning people do bad things
  - E. Navigating through Photoshop
    - 1. Beware of the potential for edited posts
    - 2. The pitfalls of screenshots
    - 3. Best evidence rule/hearsay and the reliability of an unverified post
- IV. Determining venue from a return
- A. IP Information
    - 1. New IP addresses vs old and the common use of shorthand
    - 2. Determining where a post was made
    - 3. Backtracking an IP address from a search warrant/subpoena return to an ISP
    - 4. Backtracking an ISP to a user or device
    - 5. Translating what looks like gibberish into something a jury can understand
- V. EXIF data
- A. What is EXIF data and why do I care?
  - B. Social media platforms dual databases
    - 1. EXIF data from a device vs. from social media
    - 2. EXIF data from text
    - 3. Reliable extraction of exif data – do you need an expert?
    - 4.
- VI. Seizing devices
- A. Why seize a defendant's phone/tablet?
  - B. How to seize an electronic device
    - 1. Specific requirements to survive a 4<sup>th</sup> amendment challenge
    - 2. Search warrant vs consent
  - C. What do I do about passwords?
  - D. What can I expect to recover from a device?
    - 1. Texts
    - 2. Emails
    - 3. GPS data (location services)
    - 4. Pictures/video
    - 5. Apps
    - 6. The pitfalls of hidden/disguised apps and how to identify them
    - 7. Hidden photo vaults
    - 8. Message deletion apps
  - E. Proper Storage
- VII. Admission of digital evidence
- A. Hearsay

- B. Experts
- C. Pictures
- D. Do you need additional search warrants?

VIII. Ethical concerns

- A. Who can find the information?
- B. Who can preserve it?
- C. What if I just want to find if something is out there?
  - 1. Facebook grid search
  - 2. Spoke
  - 3. To friend or not to friend?
  - 4. Hidden profiles
  - 5. Following
  - 6. Sock Accounts

The three 'I's' in Investigation

Course Outline

- I. Introduction of Investigation
  - A. The Investigator Role
    - 1. Evidence Collection
    - 2. Photography
    - 3. Large and small scale cases
  
- II. What does the Vet need from the Investigator?
  - A. CSI
    - 1. Assessment
    - 2. Observation
    - 3. Documentation
    - 4. Search
    - 5. Collection
    - 6. Analysis



- B. Unique to small scale cases
    - 1. Crucial evidence needed
    - 2. Neglect
    - 3. Physical abuse
    - 4. Sexual abuse
  - C. Unique to large scale cases
    - 1. Crucial evidence
    - 2. Hoarding
    - 3. Animal Fighting
- III. The Veterinarian Role in the Investigation
- A. Why is the Doc Here?
    - 1. Importance of having veterinarian on scene
  - B. Back at the Shelter
    - 1. Role of veterinary team in evidence collection
    - 2. Evidence such as radiographs and blood work
  - C. Necropsy: why you need one
    - 1. Importance of forensic necropsy
    - 2. Difference between a clinical necropsy
    - 3. Understanding the question, the investigators want answered
    - 4. Why Veterinarian needs information prior to necropsy
  - D. Getting the body to vet
    - 1. Body storage
    - 2. Documentation
    - 3. Chain of custody
  - E. The necropsy process – time line
    - 1. Overview of forensic necropsy
    - 2. Process from receiving to completion
    - 3. Documentation of photography
  - F. The Report
    - 1. Information provided in a forensic necropsy report
    - 2. Cause of death
    - 3. Manner of death
- IV. The Prosecutor
- A. What does the Vet need from the Prosecutor?
    - 1. Communication
    - 2. Prior to trial

## Sovereign Citizen Extremists

### Outline

**Abstract:** This presentation will examine the origin and ideology of the sovereign citizen extremist movement and discuss the tactics utilized by sovereign citizen extremists, including violence. In addition, recognizable behavioral indicators of sovereign citizen extremists will be identified. Finally, the presentation will focus on the evolving and serious threat sovereign citizen extremists pose to law enforcement, government employees, and others.

### **Learning**

**Objectives:** After attending this presentation, attendees will be able to:

1. Explain the origin and ideology of the sovereign citizen extremist movement;
2. Recognize different behavioral indicators of sovereign citizen extremists; and
3. Understand the threat posed by sovereign citizen extremists to law enforcement, government employees, and others.

### **Outline:**

- I. Case Studies
  - A. Violent Incidents
    1. Sovereign Citizen Extremists 2014-2016
- II. Sovereign Citizen
  - A. Movement Origin
    1. Christian Identity
    2. Posse Comitatus
    3. Township Movement
- III. Sovereign Citizen Ideology
  - A. Ideology
    1. Conspiracy Theory
    2. De jure Government
    3. De facto Government
    4. 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment
    5. 1933 Gold Standard
    6. Redemption Theory: Strawman/ Corporate Shell
    7. Capital Letters
    8. Zip Coes
    9. Punctuation in Names
    10. Sui Juris
    11. UCC
    12. "Accepted for Value" & "Bills of Exchange"

- IV. Sovereign Citizen
  - A. "Government"
    - 1. De Jure Grand Juries
    - 2. Common Law Courts
    - 3. "Government" Identification Documents
  
- V. Sovereign Citizen Extremist Contacts
  - A. Law Enforcement & Government Employees
    - 1. Traffic Stops
    - 2. Property Visits
    - 3. Court System

## ILLEGAL ANIMAL FIGHTING INVESTIGATION

### Outline

- I. Introduction
  - A. Learning objectives
    - 1. History of cockfighting
    - 2. History of dogfighting
    - 3. Information provided to public and media will be correct
  - B. Overview of present-day activities
    - 1. Understanding difficulties encountered by law enforcement
    - 2. Why it's important for all agencies to work together
    - 3. Prosecuting animal cruelty cases
  
- II. Applicable Law
  - A. Resources
    - 1. Federal laws pertaining to illegal animal fighting
    - 2. State laws pertaining to illegal animal fighting
    - 3. What case law applies
    - 4. Identifying resources for investigation and pursuing animal fighting cases
  
- III. Making your Case
  - A. Introduction to organizing and documenting
    - 1. Crime scene
    - 2. Handling the animals
    - 3. Seizing the animals as evidence
    - 4. Working with your prosecutor
  
- IV. What are you Looking at?
  - A. Visual examination (slides)
    - 1. Animal fighting paraphernalia
    - 2. Equipment
    - 3. Drugs
    - 4. Veterinary supplies at scene
    - 5. Underground publications
    - 6. Communication means
  
- V. Conclusion
  - A. Q & A

## Equine Humane Case Investigation Techniques

### Outline

- I. Introduction
  - A. Investigation Objectives
    - 1. Gather objectives
    - 2. Physical
    - 3. Statements
  - B. Check for the basics
    - 1. Food
    - 2. Water
    - 3. Shelter
    - 4. Evidence of needless suffering
- II. Identifying that you have a Crime
  - A. Initial reasons
    - 1. Usually a complaint
    - 2. Check priors on property or person
  - B. Observations upon arrival
    - 1. Initial statement by parties on scene
    - 2. Statements are often most powerful to your case
    - 3. Recollecting exactly what was said can be instrumental
  - C. Investigator's knowledge of laws
  - D. Investigator's prior experience and training
- III. Identifying that you have a crime
  - A. Penal Code 597(b) most common
    - 1. Malicious or intentional killing including torture, wounding or beating
    - 2. Overloads or overworks
    - 3. Deprives of necessary sustenance, drink or shelter
    - 4. Fails to provide proper food, drink, or shelter or protection from weather
    - 5. Subjects the animal to needless suffering
    - 6. More prevalent these days
    - 7. Every person who willfully abandons any animal is guilty of misdemeanor
- IV. Managing Crime Scene
  - A. Documentation is crucial
  - B. Keep in mind Locard's Exchange Principle – every contact leaves a trace
  - C. Crime Scene
    - 1. Macro crime scene – premises/immediate vicinity
    - 2. Micro crime scene – the animal itself
    - 3. Diagram of premises
    - 4. Mark the location of each animal

5. Make chart with their identification in systematic fashion
6. Sample identification chart
- D. Macro Crime Scene – keeping crime in mind
  1. Quantity
  2. Quality
  3. Food
  4. Water
  5. Shelter
  6. Photos – examples
- E. Body Condition Scoring
  1. Most power tools to describe a horses well-being
  2. Accepted in a court of law
  3. Relatively objective methodology
  4. Well documented
  5. Commonly done incorrectly
  6. Defense counsel’s dream
  7. BCS Scale 1-9
  8. Example of scaling
- F. Food
  1. Supplements
  2. Grain, bran, sweet feed, beet pulp complete feed pellets, oil
  3. Inadequate food – pictures
- G. Shelter
  1. Temperature
  2. Ventilation
  3. Tethering
  4. Inadequate Housing/shelter – pictures
  5. Animals in confinement
- H. Micro crime scene
  1. The animal – evidence, alive or dead
  2. Identification by BCS
  3. 6 key areas of BCS
  4. Teeth
  5. Long hooves
  6. Unique Identifiers
  7. Wounds
  8. Photographing horses
- V. Necropsy
  - A. California Animal Health and Food Safety Lab
    1. Davis
    2. San Bernardino
    3. Tulare
    4. Turlock

- B. Necropsy – Tests to request
  1. Body weight
  2. Body fat stores
  3. Bone marrow fat content
  4. Presence of feed
  5. Iron concentration
  6. Chronic disease
  7. Condition of teeth
  8. Examples – pictures

VI. Protecting and Preserving Evidence

- A. What constitutes evidence
  1. What court receives
  2. Help determine who is responsible
- B. Protecting and Preserving Evidence
  1. Should not be altered in any way
  2. Should be photographed where it was found
  3. Use ruler or ID
  4. Collect enough
  5. Chain of custody
  6. Evidence log

VII. Report Preparation

- A. Must do.....
  1. Use prescribed reporting format
  2. State facts
  3. Avoid opinions or conjecture
  4. Chronologically
  5. Use common terms and plain English
  6. Proof read

VIII. Legal Considerations and Resources

- A. Do you have legal right to be there?
  1. Exculpatory Evidence
  2. Brady Material
  3. Hearsay exceptions
  4. Crawford Decision'
  5. Chain of custody

IX. Wrap up – Conclusion

- A. Q & A

# The Sexual Exploitation of Animals

## Course Outline

- I. Introduction
  - a. Biography and Background
  - b. Disclaimer
  - c. Objective
  
- II. History
  - a. Relevance to the Arts
  - b. Biblical References
  
- III. Research
  - a. Kinsey, 1948-1953
  - b. Abel and Harlow, 1995-present
  - c. Miletsky, 1999
  
- IV. Origins of Investigation
  - a. Child Exploitation Background
  - b. Terminology
  
- V. Online Forums and Websites
  - a. Craigslist (CL)
    - i. Examples
    - ii. Interpretation of CL Terminology
    - iii. Types of Advertisements
  - b. BeastForum.com
    - i. Introduction to the Website
    - ii. "Home-made" Forum
    - iii. Personals Forum
    - iv. Profiles
    - v. Tools to Investigate a Profile
  - c. Beast-Dating.com
    - i. Introduction to the Website
    - ii. Profiles
  
- VI. Analysis of Completed Investigations
  - a. Types of Cases

- b. Common M.O.s
- c. Prevalence of Crimes against Humans
- d. Offender Profile



- VII. Case Study #1
  - a. Offender Profile
  - b. Relevant Conduct
  - c. Online Presence
  - d. Investigative Measures
  - e. Investigative Outcomes
  - f. Prosecution
  
- VIII. Case Study #2
  - a. Offender Profile
  - b. Relevant Conduct
  - c. Online Presence
  - d. Investigative Measures
  - e. Investigative Outcomes
  - f. Prosecution
  
- IX. National Success Stories
  
- X. Conclusion
  - a. Lack of Law Enforcement Concern
  - b. Tools for Success
  - c. References