



State of New Mexico

Department of Public Safety

May 7, 2008

Contact: Peter Olson
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Governor's Conference on the Link between Animal Abuse and Human Violence

Albuquerque, NM — The 5th Annual Governor's Conference on the Link Between Animal Abuse and Human Violence will be held on Tuesday, May 20th at the UNM Continuing Education Center. Participants from around the state will come together to learn about the "The Link" and what they can do to break that link in our society. The conference seeks to educate and train those from various antiviolence organizations on the cycle of violence in our society impacting both people and animals. Additionally, the conference aims to promote and facilitate cooperative action within New Mexico's communities so that we can respond promptly to incidents of animal cruelty and human violence and assist all victims immediately.

What is the Link? "The Link" refers to the connection between animal abuse and human violence that has been proven in numerous psychology, sociology and criminology studies. Understanding "the Link" allows law enforcement, animal control officers, social workers, lawyers, judges and others in society to not only identify violent behaviors, but also gives insight into effective prevention techniques and appropriate treatment for abusers and victims.

Conference participants will receive instruction in the following topics of interest:

- The Link – What is it? How do we stop it?
- Spotting Animal Abuse
- Spotting Domestic Abuse
- AniCare Adult Overview – Working with Adult Abusers
- Animal Fighting – Links to Other Violence
- AniCare Child Overview – Stopping Abuse by Children
- Prosecuting Abuse Cases
- Positive Animal-Humane "Links"

Guest speakers and instructors for the full-day conference include these experts in their respective fields:

- Sharon Pino - New Mexico Domestic Violence Czar, Office of the Governor
- Sheriff Darren White – Bernalillo County Sheriff
- Susana Martinez – 3rd Judicial District Attorney
- Gino Jimenez - Animal Control Officer, Las Cruces Police Department
- Karen Schaefer - Psychologist/Training Coordinator, New Mexico State University Counseling Center
- Linda Cravens-Rodriguez & Curtis Bay – CYFD Statewide Central Intake
- Robyn Gojkovich & Susie Maldonado – Dona Ana County Sheriff’s Dept.
- Tamara Ward - Community & Social Services Coordinator, Juvenile Justice Services/CYFD

Contact: Tammy Fiebelkorn, 505 410-3884
What: “Breaking the Link”, New Mexico’s 5th Annual Governor’s
Conference on the Link between Animal Abuse and Human Violence
Who Should Attend: Anyone interested in stopping violence in our society
When: Tuesday, May 20, 8:00am – 5:00pm
Where: UNM Continuing Education Center, 1634 University NE, Albuquerque NM
Cost: Free!

The conference is free but advanced registration is required. For a complete conference schedule or to register visit: www.e-solved.com/TheLink or call 505-410-3884

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