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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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County of Los Angeles Department of Animal Care and Control Stands with the Community During Fires

The County of Los Angeles Department of Animal Care and Control (DACC)stands in solidarity with our community during these challenging times. We are here to assist the community with animals who have been impacted by the devastating fires affecting our region.

DACC is committed to saving as many lives as possible amidst these tragic circumstances. In our efforts to support affected pet owners, we will be waiving all owner redemption fees for animals that were rescued or boarded as a direct result of the fires. Additionally, we will be extending the holding period 3 weeks for all animals admitted to any of DACC's Animal Care Centers (ACCs) that originated from the fire-affected areas within our jurisdiction.

We would also like to express our deep appreciation for the overwhelming support we have received from our adoption partners, rescue groups, and animal welfare agencies from all over California and out of state. Their assistance in adopting animals has provided much-needed space in our ACCs to accommodate the influx of animals requiring shelter.

Thanks to the incredible efforts of our community, rescue groups, and adoption partners we have had over 176 animals adopted/rescued since the start of the fires, with the number expected to grow over the weekend. These commendable efforts highlight the strength and compassion of our community and partners.

DACC will continue to collaborate with other animal welfare agencies to arrange for the ongoing transport of animals already in our care, further increasing our capacity to assist animals impacted by the fires.

Currently DACC is offering fee-waived adoptions for the month of January at all seven ACCs to encourage additional support to increase the capacity for evacuee animals at all locations.

The Department urges everyone to make sure your emergency plans include your pets. You can find a list of items to put in your pet's "go bag" at <u>https://ready.lacounty.gov/pet-disaster-supply-kits/</u>.

Please visit lacounty.gov/emergency for information on fire evacuations, shelters and road closures. A wealth of emergency preparedness information is also available at <u>Ready.LACounty.gov</u>.

About Noah's Legacy Fund

The Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation's Noah's Legacy Fund supports the Department's emergency response efforts. These services are critical to the communities we serve as we continue to respond to the wildfires, flooding, and earthquakes that can occur in the areas we serve.

Learn more at https://lacountyanimals.org/way-to-give/disaster-relief/

About the Los Angeles County Department of Animal Care and Control (DACC)

DACC is one of the largest animal care and control agencies in the nation, operating seven animal care centers and providing services to more than three million residents and their pets. DACC operates under the nationally recognized Socially Conscious Sheltering model to ensure the best possible outcomes for animals and the community. As a community resource center for pets and owners, DACC protects people and animals from harm, provides care for lost and unwanted animals, reunites lost pets with their families, and strives every day to move closer to its goal of finding a loving home for every adoptable pet that comes through its doors. To learn more about DACC, the resources DACC provides, and view its animals, visit <u>https://animalcare.lacounty.gov</u> or follow us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, and <u>X</u> (formerly Twitter). To support DACC's efforts, please donate to the Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation at <u>https://lacountyanimals.org/</u>. To learn more about Socially Conscious Sheltering, visit <u>https://scsheltering.org/</u>.

About the Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation

The Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation supports the County of Los Angeles Department of Animal Care and Control through fundraising which supports spay and neuter programs, pet adoptions, public education, disaster response, and animal welfare. Many of the Foundation's fundraising efforts have enabled the department to enhance the care given to animals in the County animal care centers. To learn more, visit <u>lacountyanimals.org</u>.