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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

County Animal Services Saves 23 Dogs

SANTA BARBARA, CA – On November 9, 2016, a team of Santa Barbara County Animal Services staff seized 23 dogs from inside a home in Los Alamos. The dogs received a preliminary assessment and vaccinations on-site and were transported to the Santa Barbara Animal Center for further assessment and care.

An operation of this size requires a team to implement the seizure in a safe and humane manner to meet the immediate needs of the animals while supporting safety of people. The ten member team included a veterinarian, three Animal Control Officers, three supervisory staff, and a Registered Veterinary Technician in addition to others.

A community complaint expressing concerns about potentially abandoned dogs, resulted in a Notice of Seizure under Penal Code 597. Upon arriving at the site, the team found the conditions at the home to be squalid and unlivable. The dogs had adequate water and food and were in relatively good condition. The owner was not on-site at the time of the seizure.

Dori Villalon, Operations Manager of County Animal Services stated, "This was a safe, efficient, well-run seizure. I am feeling really proud and grateful to be working with such a terrific team."

The legal process will proceed with the owner. It is likely that a number of the dogs will be available for adoption in the future through our Santa Maria Animal Center. Loving homes will be sought for each of the animals.

For more information about dogs available for adoption now, please visit any of our three shelters. The Santa Maria Animal Center is located at 548 W. Foster Rd. in Santa Maria, the Santa Barbara Shelter is at 5473 Overpass Rd. in Santa Barbara, and the LaPAWS Adoption Center is at 1501 W. Central Ave. in Lompoc. The shelters are open for adoptions from 10am-4:30pm Monday through Friday and 10am-3:30pm on Saturdays.

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