

Texas C.A.R.E.S:

An Animal Cruelty Investigations and Response Workshop

Comprehensive Animal Cruelty Response, Education and Support

Agenda: Day 1, September 30

*Law enforcement, ACOs and prosecutors are expected to attend both days of training.
All other attendees are encouraged to do the same but may prioritize Day 2.*

TOPIC	DESCRIPTION
Animal-Related Laws and Search and Seizure	Learn about relevant state statutes for animal fighting and cruelty and why it's critical to understand these statutes when conducting investigations. We'll also discuss the importance of knowing and complying with the Fourth Amendment.
Animal Disposition and Legal Holds	Learn about statutes that govern an animal's cost of care and disposition following seizure. You will also learn about the limitations of caring for animals who are on legal hold status.
Scenario and Property Visit	You will conduct a virtual property visit, using your observation skills to gather intelligence for a suspected neglect case. You'll also learn how to develop an investigative theory and case strategy.
Investigative Tips and Documentation	Use your investigative skills to establish probable cause for a search warrant and join a discussion about best practices for documenting observations of neglect.
Interview Skills and Surrender Discussions	Engage in a simulated interview with a suspected neglect offender to collect key information for determining probable cause and to practice initiating a conversation about voluntary animal surrender.
Testimony Workshop	You will learn tips and practices for general testimony. Participants will be selected for a mock cross-examination to highlight various cross techniques and challenges.

Agenda: Day 2, October 1

*Law enforcement, ACOs and prosecutors are expected to attend both days of training.
All other attendees are encouraged to do the same but may prioritize Day 2.*

TOPIC	DESCRIPTION
Operational Planning for Hoarding Cases	You will examine the unique complexities in planning large-scale hoarding cases and explore the necessary safety precautions that must be considered when planning field operations.
Transportation of Animals in Large-Scale Cases	Learn how to choose the proper vehicle to safely transport animals from large-scale cases to a vet or shelter. We'll show you how to properly outfit a vehicle with supplies to make animal handling and transport safe for staff and comfortable for the animals.
Leveraging Cases for Change	Join a discussion about how to best message animal-related cases and advocate for resources, policy and legal changes.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Scene and Live Animal Documentation	Law enforcement attendees will learn essential techniques for documenting scenes and identifying evidence. We'll also teach best practices related to the proper labeling and documentation of living animals on scenes involving animal cruelty investigations.
Veterinarians Role in Cruelty Cases	Veterinarians will participate in a hands-on lesson about a your role in animal cruelty and criminal investigations. We will practice conducting a forensic examination and teach you how to produce appropriate photographic and written documentation. You will also learn about state requirements and protections for veterinary reporting of animal abuse.
Intake and Sheltering Best Practices for Large-Scale Cases	Shelter and rescue professionals will learn how to create an intake plan and apply an integrated care approach to sheltering animals from a variety of cruelty and neglect cases.
Pathway Planning and Placement for Large-Scale Cases	Shelter and rescue professionals will gain a thorough understanding of the importance of pathway planning for every animal within their shelter system. You will learn to review and adapt your processes to address the unique challenges of large-scale intakes. We'll help you identify and eliminate bottlenecks within your processes that hinder efficient outcomes. Additionally, you will experience the advantages of a collaborative, cross-functional approach to pathway planning and its role in reducing LOS in the shelter environment. This session will also explore holistic strategies for ensuring successful animal placement.