ASACA CRUELTY INVESTIGATION:

101#

Law Enforcement Training Institute
Investigation Training:

• Crime scene:

• Visual documentation:

• Written documentation:

• Evidence collections:

• Chain of Custody:

• History:
Arrive at Crime Scene

- Exigent Circumstances:
- Plain View:
- Curtilage:
- Warrant:
- Consent:
- Arrest
- Evidence Collection:
Visual Documentation:

• Photographs will be taken in EVERY Cruelty, Neglect and Abandonment case.

• Photographs will be taken of the animals’ living conditions, cruelty violations and animals’ condition.

• Photographs will be take of owner/ suspect’s property (including Curtilage).

• Current DATE stamp must be on photographs.
How to photograph your Investigation:

• Map out the crime scene and property.

• Work from the outside in, go wide; (include mailbox).

• Adjust lighting and other settings when needed.

• Photograph each animal (if possible).

• Take top and side angle photographs to show (depth).

• Magnify collected evidence items (links of a chain).
Photograph Angles:
### Physical care scale - Haircoat and Nails

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Terrible</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Poor</td>
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<td>Borderline</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Lapsed</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Adequate</td>
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### Body Condition Assessment

Body condition is determined by both looking at the animal and feeling the animal.

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<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Emaciated</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Thin</td>
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<td>Underweight/Lean</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Ideal</td>
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Written Documentation/ Chain of Custody:

• Take notes, rewrite notes, check spelling and grammar.

• Make two copies of all related paperwork & forms, this includes *(complaint slip, Vet records, citations, subpoenas, arrest & search warrants, police reports, witness statement forms, animal intake cards, photographs, cover letter, etc..)*

• Obtain Case numbers#

• Check case folder and all related material before signing it over (evidence) to Property Room.
Evidence Collection/ Chain of Custody:

- Gather Evidence
- Package Properly
- Label & Date
- Sign Logs/ Property Room
**EVIDENCE LOG**

Agency: 
Case Number: 
Animal Description: 
Notes: 

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Items Of Evidence</th>
<th>Collector’s Name</th>
<th>Date collected</th>
<th>Disposition</th>
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**PHOTO LOG**

Agency: 
Case Number: 
Animal ID: 
Page 

Disk #-Photo # | Item Photographed |
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Time:                        

Group 1# CASE STUDY
CASE STUDY

Group 3#
The Body after Death:

- **Before 3 hours:** Some muscles begin to stiffen (Rigor mortis)

- **After 6-12 hours:** Rigor mortis takes over the whole body. The muscles may stay stiff for as long as 12 hours.

- **After 12-24** Rigor mortis disappears.
DEKALB COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL UNIT

Patient Information and Veterinary Recommendation

This form is to be returned to Dekalb County Animal Control at the time the animal is picked up by Animal Control from the hospital, clinic, or emergency clinic.

DATE INTO HOSPITAL DATE RELEASED

BRING IN BY: Please give name & address or phone. If Animal Control-give ACO’s name.

NAME & ADDRESS OF ATTENDING HOSPITAL/CLINIC:;

VETERINARIAN WHO TREATED:

PATIENT INFORMATION: Species: dog cat other

Breed: Sex: Age: I.D.?

Was animal’s condition due to accident or illness? Yes No

Please specify symptoms or injuries for which animal was treated:

Treatment Given:

Is follow-up treatment recommended? Yes No

Is euthanasia recommended? Yes No

Can animal be humanely held as required by law in the Animal Control Shelter for 7 days? Yes No If yes, is special handling/caging necessary? (Please specify): Special instructions or information from Vet which Animal Control should know:

Date & type of follow-up treatment recommended:

RECEIVED FROM BET BY: VETERINARIAN’S SIGNATURE:

Animal Control Officer

ATHENS VETERINARY DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY

College of Veterinary Medicine
University of Georgia
Athens, Georgia 30602-7383
Tel: (706) 542-5568
Fax: (706) 542-8577

GA Reg. Number Required

Check here if you need additional forms

Check here if this is a new address

Check one: [ ] Pick up [ ] Fax [ ] E-mail

Report to: Animal’s ID Date

Owner:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Telephone:

Specimen: Species Breed Sex Age

Please fill out this form completely including history on reverse side

By submitting diagnostic specimens to the AVDL, clients are considered to have agreed to AVDL testing procedures and policies, including billing. If tests that are either not offered or temporarily out of service at AVDL are requested, specimens will be referred to other reputable laboratories of AVDL’s choosing. In this case, a shipping fee of $8 or actual shipping cost (whichever is higher) and test charges from the referral laboratory will be added to the client’s bill.

Check the appropriate boxes for requested tests. Call laboratory or consult user manual for appropriate specimens.

CULTURE & IDENTIFICATION

BACTERIOLOGY / MYCOLOGY

[ ] Aerobic culture & Sensitivity
[ ] Anaerobic culture
[ ] Fungal Yeast culture
[ ] Minimum Antimicrobial Inhibition Concentration (MIC)
[ ] Salmonella culture
[ ] Campylobacter culture
[ ] Mycobacterium culture
[ ] Mycoplasma culture
[ ] Leptospira culture
[ ] Yersinia culture
[ ] Stains (Please circle) *acid fast *gram *other

[ ] Other

VIROLOGY

[ ] Virus Isolation (Specify Virus)
[ ] Electron Microscopy
[ ] Rabies (Requires special form)

CLINICAL PATHOLOGY

[ ] CBC (WBC) 3-way slide
[ ] Chemistry profile (1 ml serum)
[ ] Urinalysis Collection Method
[ ] Amylase (serum)
[ ] Blood parasites (2 ml dried smear)
[ ] Cortisol
[ ] Lipase (serum)
[ ] T4 (canine, feline, equine, 0.5 ml serum)
[ ] TSH (canine, 0.5 ml serum)
[ ] Other

EQUINE

[ ] Potomac horse fever
[ ] Equine viral arteritis
[ ] Equine Influenza A type 2
[ ] Rhinoviruimpora (EIV-1)
[ ] Salmonella
[ ] Rhodococcus equi
[ ] Streptococcus equi

FELINE

[ ] Feline Infectious Peritonitis
[ ] Leukemia
[ ] Pasteurella
[ ] Rhinovirus (FIV)
[ ] Toxoplasmosis
[ ] Chlamydia
[ ] Chlamydia pneumoniae
[ ] Respiratory syncytial virus
[ ] Other

PORCINE

[ ] Influenza (H1N1 & H3N2)
[ ] Parvovirus
[ ] Pseudorabies
[ ] PRRS
[ ] TGE
[ ] Circovirus type 2
[ ] Other

MISCELLANEOUS

[ ] Brucella
[ ] Pseudovesicular stomatitis virus
[ ] Leptospira
[ ] Campylobacter
[ ] Chlamydia
[ ] Clostridium (Blackleg, Malignant Edema)
[ ] Cryptosporidium
[ ] Giardia
[ ] Other

SPECIAL PROCEDURES

[ ] Asian Influenza PCR
[ ] Clostridium difficile cytotoxin assay
[ ] Coccidiosis perfringens ELEISA
[ ] Scarlet fever 1 SH
[ ] Mobile virus 5 PCR
[ ] Neospora disease PCR
[ ] Pacheco’s disease FA
[ ] Other

PARASITOLOGY

[ ] Direct saline smear
[ ] Fecal egg count
[ ] Fecal float
[ ] Helminth
[ ] Other

SPECIMENS

[ ] Nec
[ ] Hia
[ ] CP
[ ] Bac
[ ] Bac
[ ] Vi
[ ] Par
[ ] EM

Office Use (Date):
Paint a picture for the (*Judge & Jury*)

- Use graphic purposeful photographs.
- Show current living conditions.
- Have your expert witness explained the animal’s injury.
- Use your Animal Cruelty Chapter’s language verbatim.
- Stick to the fact’s, don’t sway or give ground to the defense.
- Ask for the maximum fine or charge.
STARVATION:

• The dog’s biochemical functions shift into survival mode within twenty-four hours with no nutritional intake.

• After about two days without food the liver reserves of glycogen (glucose) are depleted.

• On the third day of food deprivation the dog’s metabolism (metabolism refers to all the chemical reactions going on to maintain life) slows down.

• After five days of starvation fat becomes the main source of energy
Animal Cruelty Case:
# Dog’s Weight in pounds

**Total Calories Needed Per Day**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Calories</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>456</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>1,151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66</td>
<td>1,508</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>88</td>
<td>1,827</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>132</td>
<td>2,394</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Use this chart on every canine case.
**Never leave home without it.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Body Condition System</th>
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<td><strong>4</strong></td>
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<td><strong>5</strong></td>
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<td><strong>6</strong></td>
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<td><strong>7</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>8</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>9</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Body Condition System was developed at the Nestlé Purina Pet Care Center and has been validated as documented in the following publications:

*Lafreniere DP, Development and Validation of a Body Condition Score System for Cats: A Clinical Tool. Feline Practice 1997; 26:12-17*


Cell 1-800-522-VETS (8387), weekdays, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. CT
Embedded Collars Cases:

• This is usually a misdemeanor charge, should be a felony charge; due to the unjustifiable pain & suffering caused.

• Can only be charged as a felony, if the Embedded collar causes death or disfigurement to the animal’s neck.

• This injury takes several weeks to months to occur, there’s often a serve foul odor associated with this injury.

• Secondary infection will start oozing on the fur or swelling around the neck and face area.

• These Embedded collars make it difficult for the animal to swallow, move his head to eat or drink and ultimately can cause such a serve infection that the animal dies.
Key Points:

• The collar should be measured around the neck then compared to the circumference of the neck.
• Once it is removed it should be saved as evidence which also preserves the odor.
• The depth and width of the wound should be documented.
• Granulation tissue grow at a rate of 1mm/day, slowing with time to 1cm/month and time estimate for the condition should be given.
• Pictures should be taken before and after treatment.
Inadequate Shelter:
Hoarding Case:
Hoarding Case:
Detailed entomological calculations
Detailed entomological calculations

- **Step 1. Determine temperature history at crime scene**
  - Extract weather bureau records of maximum and minimum daily temperatures at the weather station nearest to crime scene, over the general period the body has been exposed.
  - Set up weather station at crime scene (after body has been found) and compare temperature changes with those at the nearest weather station. Calibrate the weather bureau data for the period preceding discovery of the body, accounting for differences between crime scene and weather station.
  - Calculate the average temperature that the body has been exposed to.
Step 2. Rear maggots to adulthood to identify species
• Collect a range of maggots, (particularly those that might be the oldest) from the body and rear them (on ox-liver) at constant temperature.
• Record time taken until larvae pupate.
• Keep pupae until adults emerge.
• Identify fly species from adult characteristics. (For some species, identification from larval features may be possible or they can be identified from DNA samples, if a DNA library is available.)
Detailed entomological calculations

• **Step 3. Estimate time of egg laying**
  • Using knowledge of development rate of the particular species at rearing temperature, count back to estimate age of maggots when body found.
  • Using knowledge of development rate* of the particular species at the average crime scene temperature, count back to determine date of egg laying.
  • This is the latest time at which the body died. (It may have died earlier if there was a delay between death and egg laying. This depends on weather conditions and accessibility of the body to insects).
Livestock Cases:

• Call for horse trailer or additional truck, and all related equipment.

• Call for assistance (additional Officers) to help capture loose animals.

• Call for vet to respond, brief exams at incident scene.

• Call State Agriculture to help remove and board animals.

• Photograph, catalog each animals with (ID number#).

• Have owner surrender animals, foster/ rescue out animals ASAP!
Sick Colt: Document Current Living Conditions:
Henneke Body Condition Scoring System
Equipment Needed:

- Measuring/ Girth tape
- Thermometer
- Camera SLR
- First aid kit
- Evidence collection kit
- Black lamp
- Pencil/ note pad
- Muzzle
- Tweezes
- Scissors
- Cat gloves
- Large bolt cutters
- Pocket knife
- Binoculars
- Photography scale
- Respirator Mask
- Tactical Vest carriers
- Catch pole
- Snake Tongs
- Crow Bar (large & small)
- Heavy wire cutters
- Tyvek Suite
- Rubber boots
- Rubber gloves
- Large/ garbage bags
- Large/ paper bags
- Computer scanner
- Portable projector
- Two way radio’s
- Night vision goggles
- 2 Cruelty vehicles
- Training budget
- CSI collection kit (forensic)
Thank you for your time, Question & Answer Session:

For other courses & workshops please contact me @ 770-595-8041

Investigator K.D. Hearst

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