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June 15th is National Pet Fire Safety Day

[Editor's note: photos available upon request]

Roseville, Calif. – July 15th is National Pet Fire Safety Day, and the Placer SPCA would like to remind all pet owners of the following tips to help keep their four-legged loved ones safe in the event of a fire:

Prevention

- **Help your pets avoid open flames.** According to the National Fire Protection Association, nearly 1,000 home fires are started by pets each year. Do your part to prevent this from happening by keeping pets away from open flames like candles and fireplaces while unsupervised, and make sure flames are thoroughly extinguished before you leave. Consider investing in flameless candles and enclosed fireplaces to reduce this danger even further.
- **Remove stove knobs.** Stoves and cook tops are the number one cause of pet-started home fires. Prevent this from happening by removing or securing knobs before you leave your home.
- **Confine your pet to a secure and safe area.** Keep your pet away from potential fire hazards by confining them to a safe area when you are not home.

Preparedness

- **Include your pet in your emergency plan.** Practice escape routes with your pets. Know your pet's hideaways to quickly locate them in an emergency.
- **Keep pet essentials ready.** Make sure that carriers and leashes are in an easily accessible location in case of an emergency. Create emergency pet supply bags including important documents and medication.
- **Regularly maintain smoke detectors and fire extinguishers.**
- **Make it easier for firefighters to rescue your pets.** Use a pet alert window cling to list the number of pets in your household and keep it up-to-date. This information saves critical time when firefighters are locating your pets.

ABOUT THE PLACER SPCA

Founded in 1973, the Placer SPCA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing the lives of companion animals and supporting the human-animal bond. Today, we are the largest and most comprehensive nonprofit animal welfare provider in Placer County. In 2018 the Placer SPCA opened a best in animal welfare practices Adoption & Education Center and can house up to 4,000 animals annually. The Placer SPCA continues to grow and provide many innovative programs to enhance animal well-being and improve adoptability, such as: environmental enrichment and socialization strategies,

behavior modification counseling and training, foster care, and mobile adoption. We also work closely with the community to provide adoption counseling, pet retention services, spay/neuter assistance and education, pet lost and found, humane education, collaborative rescue efforts, and volunteer opportunities.