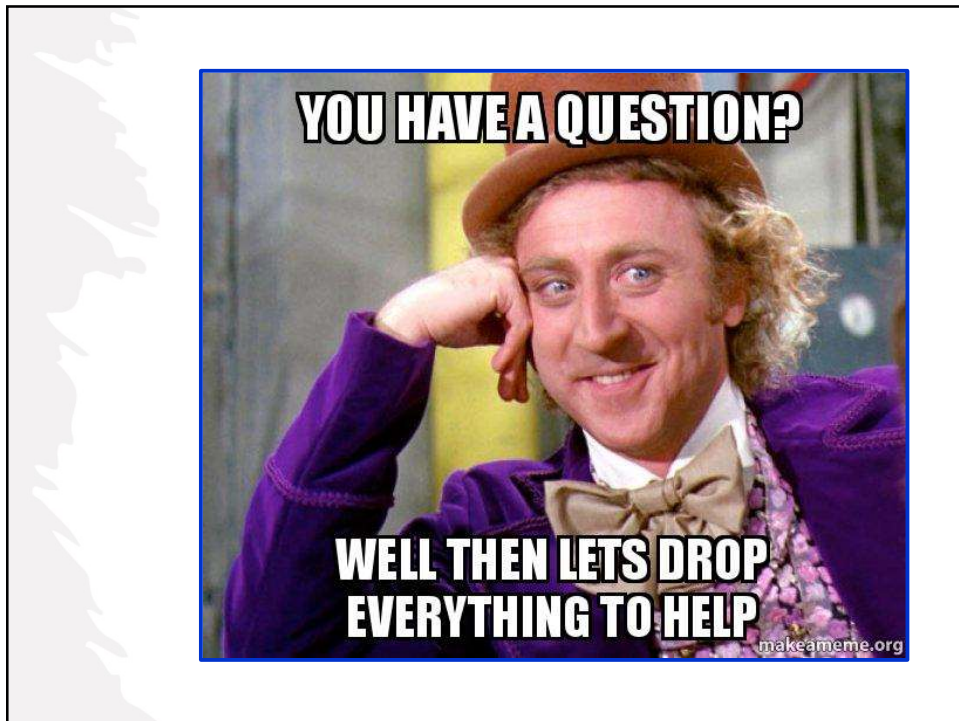




1



2

Content

- Receiving the Complaint
- Collecting and Reviewing Intel
- On-Scene Investigation
- Resolutions:
 - Education & Mitigation
 - Removal of Animal(s)
- BOAH Evaluation
- Filing the Case



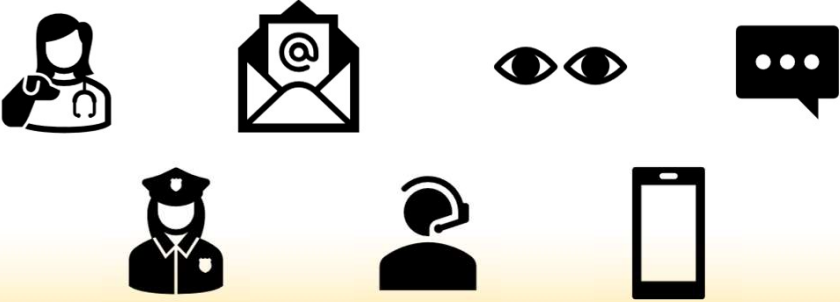
3


Receiving the Complaint



4

Sources






5

Anonymity

Does your agency accept
anonymous complaints?
Why or why not?



6

Information to Collect

- Source information
 - Name
 - Contact information
 - How they know of the concern
 - Relationship to involved party (if applicable)



7

Information to Collect, *cont.*

- Complaint Information
 - Address
 - Species/quantity of animals involved
 - Description of concern
 - Timeline (how fresh is the information)
 - Other concerns (domestic violence, drug use, etc.)



8

Collecting and Reviewing Intel



9

Previous Encounters

- Dispatch logs
 - Review all call types, not just animal calls
- Reports
- Other agencies
 - Health department
 - Zoning board
 - Law enforcement
 - Child/adult protective services



10

Social Media

- What to look for:
 - Posts created by involved parties
 - Comments made by involved parties
- What you can learn:
 - Estimate of how many animals
 - Estimate of animal's age
 - Timeline of ownership
- Things to note:
 - Prove/confirm ownership of account
 - Capture screenshots that include URL and date



11

My Case

Case Search - MyCase

public.courts.in.gov/mycase/#/vw/Search

mycase.IN.gov Sign In

Eviction case? Apply for rent assistance and learn about settling your case

Case Search

Search for non-confidential cases in Indiana courts that use the Odyssey case management system.

Search by: **Case** Name Attorney

Person: Last: [text input] First: first name / initial Middle: middle name / initial
 Birth Date: mm/dd/yyyy

-or- Business: business / organization name

Sounds-like: Enable sounds-like searching for last, first and/or middle name

Court: All Odyssey Courts

Limit search to: Criminal & Citation Civil

12

My Case, *cont.*

Search Results

Party Search

First: hannah

Last: fisher

[< Back](#) [New Search](#) [Refine Search](#) [Sort](#) [View](#) ▼

	State of Indiana v. HANNAH D FISHER 53C06-2207-IF-002503
Court	Monroe Circuit Court 6
Case Type	IF - Infraction
Filed	07/25/2022
Status	08/22/2022, Decided
Charges	9-21-5-2(a)(2)/IFC: Speeding -- Exceeding Maximum 55 MPH
Parties	State of Indiana, FISHER



13

My Case, *cont.*

Chronological Case Summary

07/25/2022	Case Opened as a New Filing
07/25/2022	Traffic Citation Filed Filed By: State of Indiana File: 07/25/2022 Stamp:
08/22/2022	Case Closed
08/22/2022	Traffic Citation Paid in Full Defendant went IDP. PA
10/01/2022	Traffic Citation Filed Filed By: State of Indiana File: 07/25/2022 Stamp:
10/01/2022	Administrative Event The ticket document added to the Traffic Citation Filed event at the time of case initiation may have number included in the red file stamp is correct. A new Traffic Citation Filed event has been created

14

Witnesses

- Complainant
- Neighbors
- Cameras



15

Veterinary Records

- 25-38.1-4-5.5 (in relevant part)
 - ★ (e) An animal's veterinary medical records and medical condition **must be furnished** within five (5) business days **without written client authorization** under the following circumstances:
 - (5) As a part of an animal cruelty report and associated applicable records that are **part of an abuse investigation** by law enforcement or a governmental agency.
 - (6) To a law enforcement agency **as part of a criminal investigation.**



16

On-Scene Investigation



17

Microchip Scanners



- Scan the entire body, with focus near the shoulder blades
- If found, a number that correlates to a microchip will appear.
- Enter microchip number into database
- Contact appropriate microchip company



18



19

Evidence

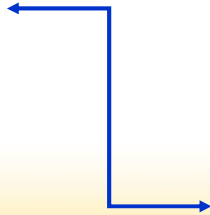
- Locard's Exchange Principal
- Chain of custody
- "Time to Feed the Evidence"
- Pictures
- Other Types of "Evidence"
- Proper collection and labeling
- Necropsy



20

Locard's Exchange Principle

You leave something (trace evidence) everywhere you go...

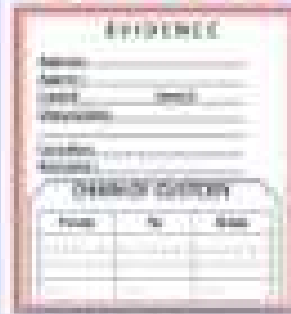


You take something (trace evidence) everywhere you go...



21

Chain of Custody



EVIDENCE		
Name:		
Date:		
Location:		
Case No.:		
Officer:		
CHAIN OF CUSTODY		
Name	No.	Date

• Dr. DeBacco



22

“Time to Feed the Evidence”

Copyright © 2005 Environmental Law Institute®, Washington, DC. reprinted with permission from ELR®, 1-800-433-5120.

10-2005

ELR
NEWS & ANALYSIS

35 ELR 10679

Time to Feed the Evidence: What to Do With Seized Animals

by Madeline Bernstein and Barry M. Wolf



23

cont.

- Animals are not inanimate evidence and therefore must be treated differently
 - Cannot be stowed away in an evidence locker
 - Condition will, and should, change/improve
 - “In reality, the best way to provide evidence regarding an animal’s condition at the time of the seizure is to thoroughly document that condition by means of photographs, affidavits, and preserve samples of other relevant forensic evidence”
 - “The importance of photographs *cannot* be over-emphasized.”



24

When to Take Pictures

- Always.
- Yes.
- D. All of the above.

There is usually only one chance to get your picture.



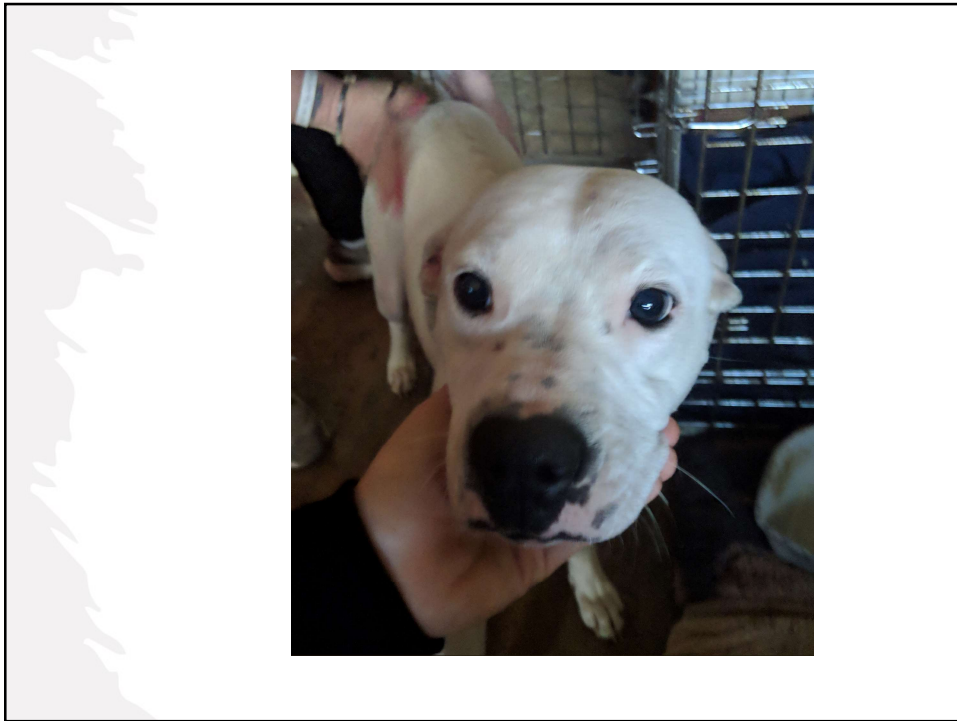
25

Pictures

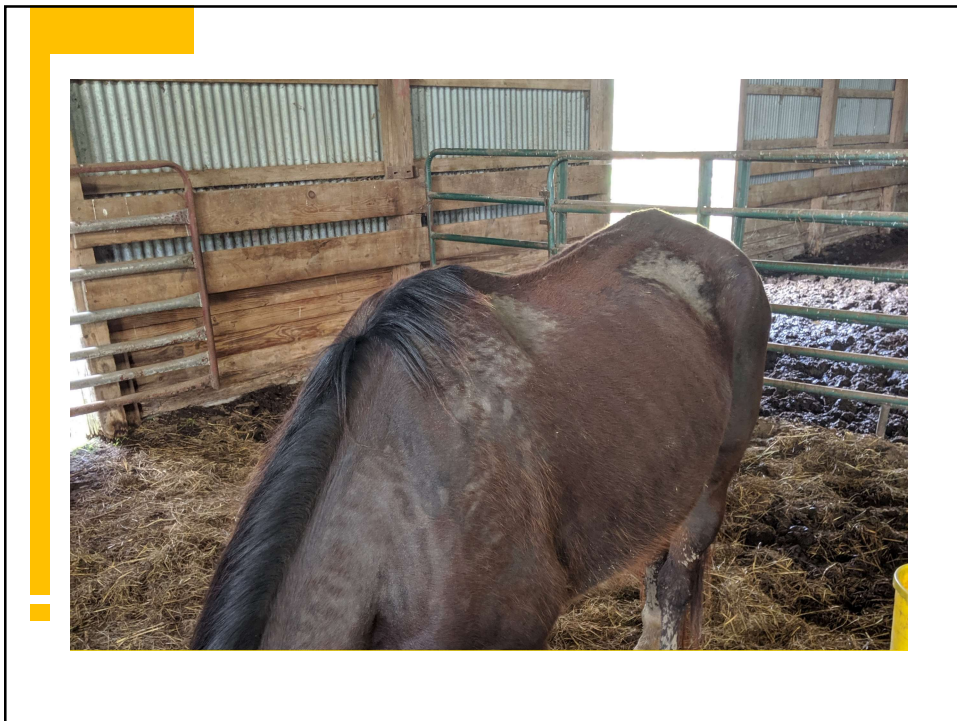
- **At minimum:** 4 pictures of each animal involved
 - Head shot (for identification purposes)
 - ★ Left side, 45 degree angle
 - Right side, 45 degree angle
 - Bird's eye view
- **Additional**
 - Specific injuries or areas of concern
 - Living conditions
 - Food/water provisions



26



27



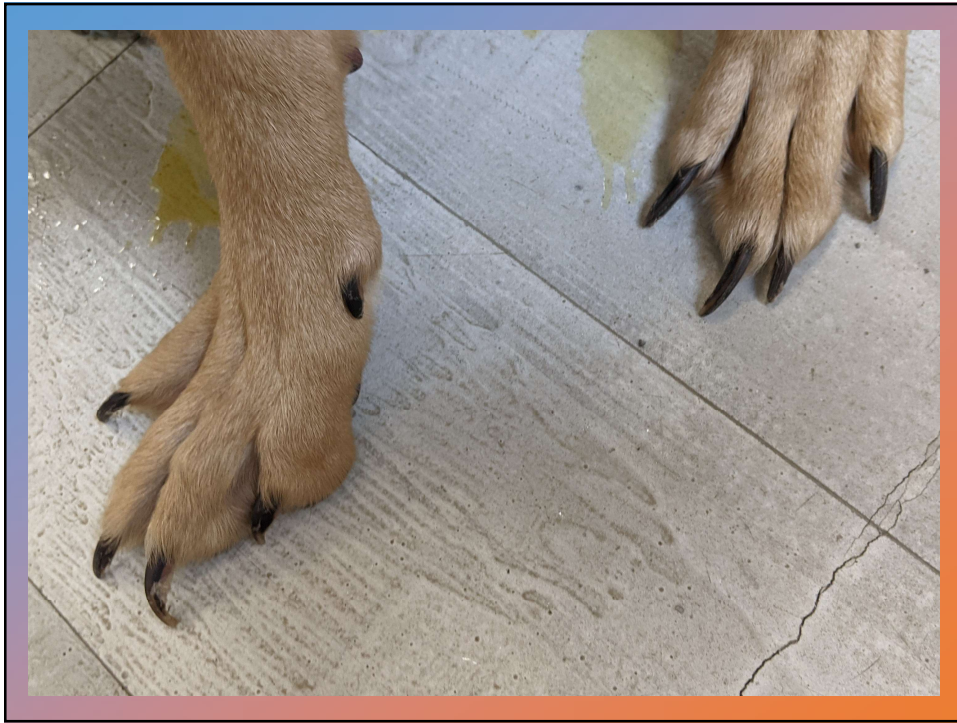
28



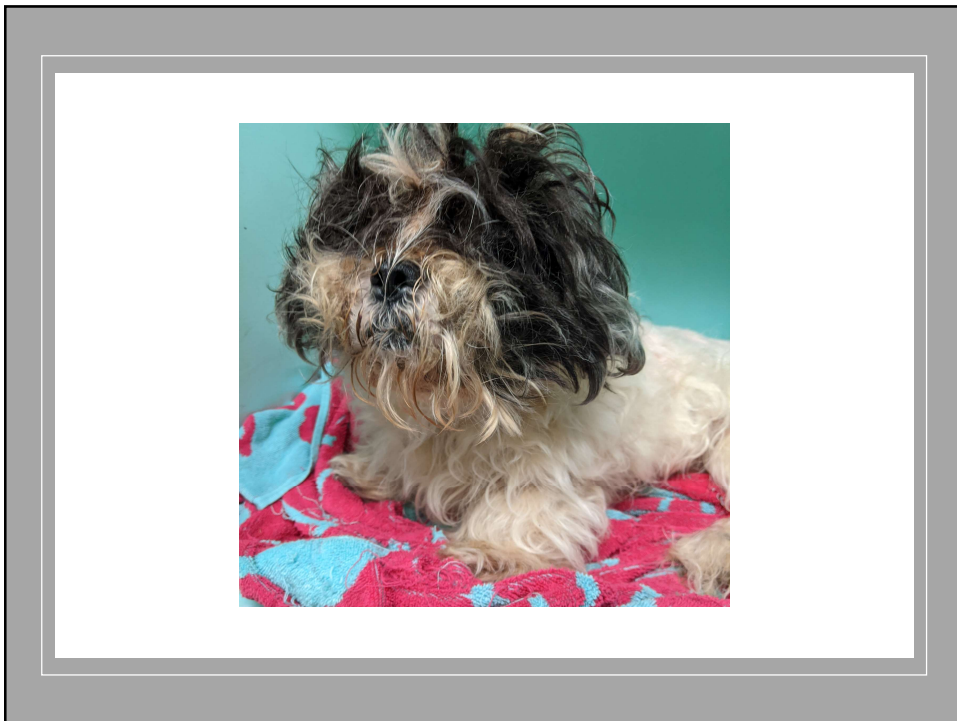
29



30



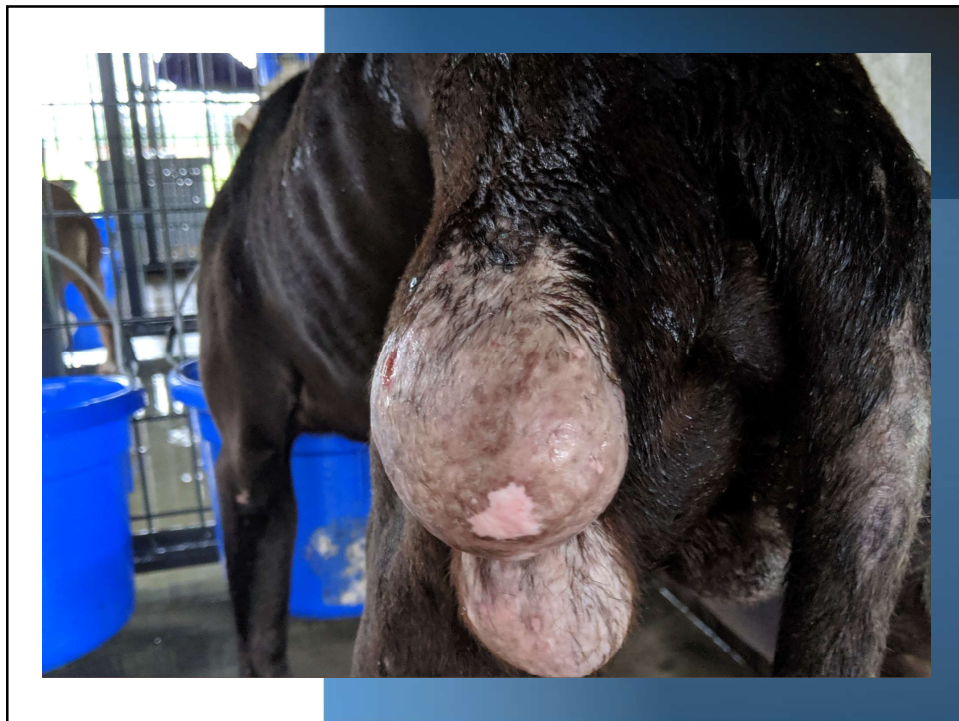
31



32



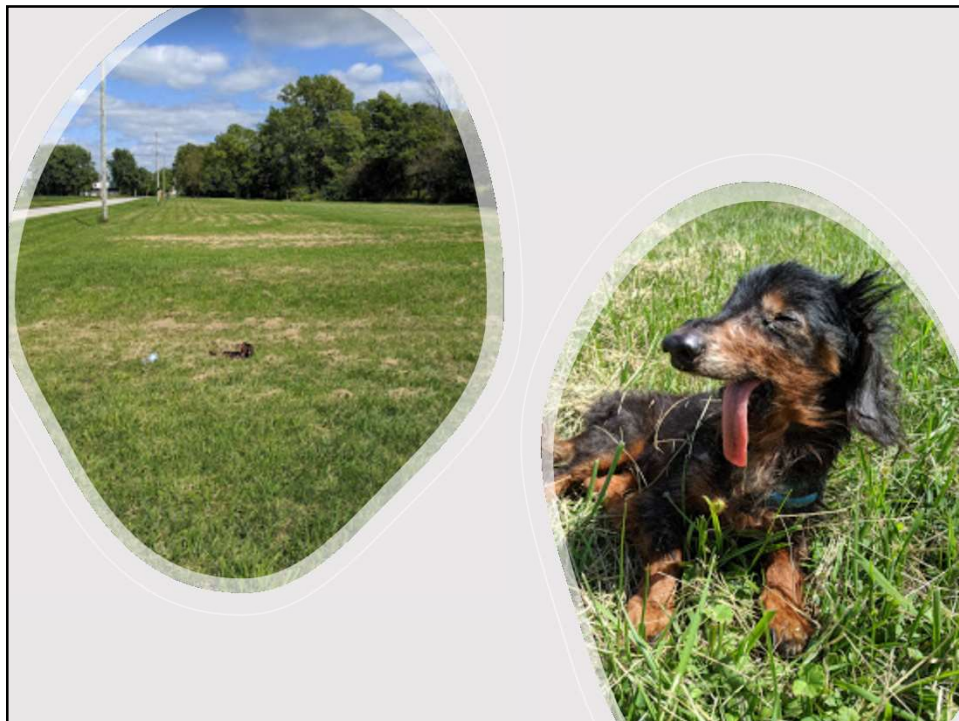
33



34



35



36

Pictures – Scales

- Gives a reference to allow for understanding of how small or large an item or animal is
- Ideally, a tape measurer or ruler will be used, however, you can also use a “known” item, such as a coin.



37



38

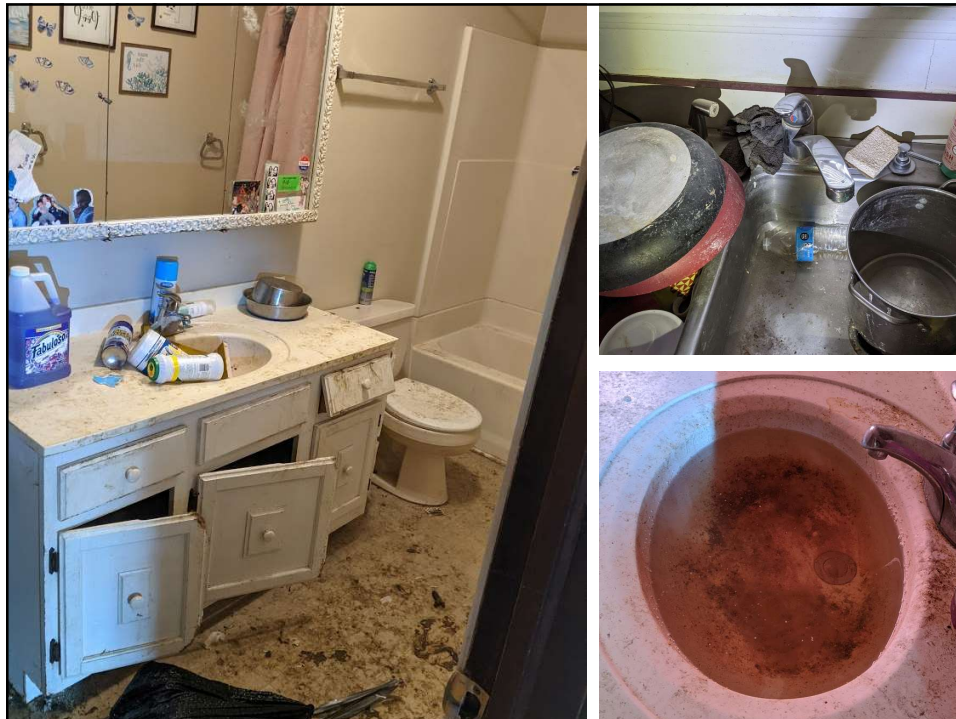
Claw/Teeth Marks

- Look for evidence of the animal trying to get in (or out)



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40



41

Proper Collection and Labeling

- Must be recognized as relevant evidence (what makes you believe it needs processed)
- If able to, take pictures of the evidence *in place*
- Use appropriate information to protect yourself *and* the evidence (gloves, masks, tweezers, etc.)
- Follow department policies and procedures
- Request assistance from law enforcement and/or your department's investigations division



42

★ Necropsy

- Animal autopsy
- Purdue University ADDL (Tippecanoe County)
 - <https://vet.purdue.edu/addl/tests/fees.php?id=272>
 - ~\$150-200
 - Gross and histologic examination and report
 - Included: Parasitology, bacteriology, and fluorescent antibody (as deemed necessary)
 - Separate charges: **toxicology**, PCR, virus isolation, antimicrobial susceptibility testing, serology, IHC, and tests available only at other labs
- Heeke ADDL (Dubois County)



43

Necropsy, *cont.*

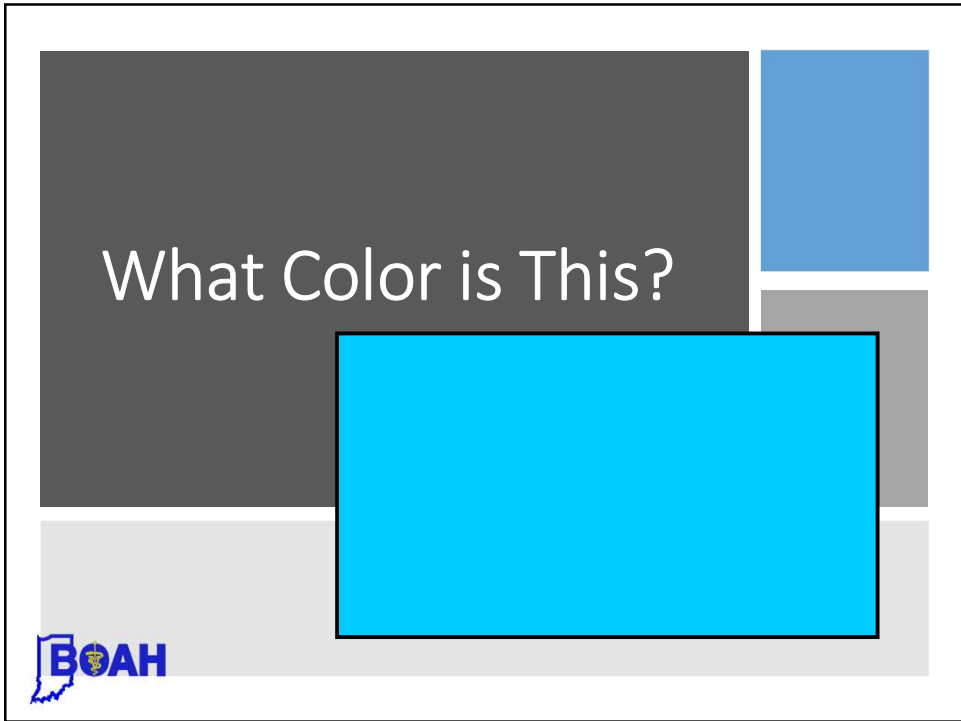
- Specimen preparation:
 - Entire carcass (or what is left)
 - Refrigerated from time of collection to time of delivery
 - Transported on ice (not directly exposed)
 - <3 days or sooner after time of death
 - (Species specific) Submission Form
 - Chain of custody paperwork



44



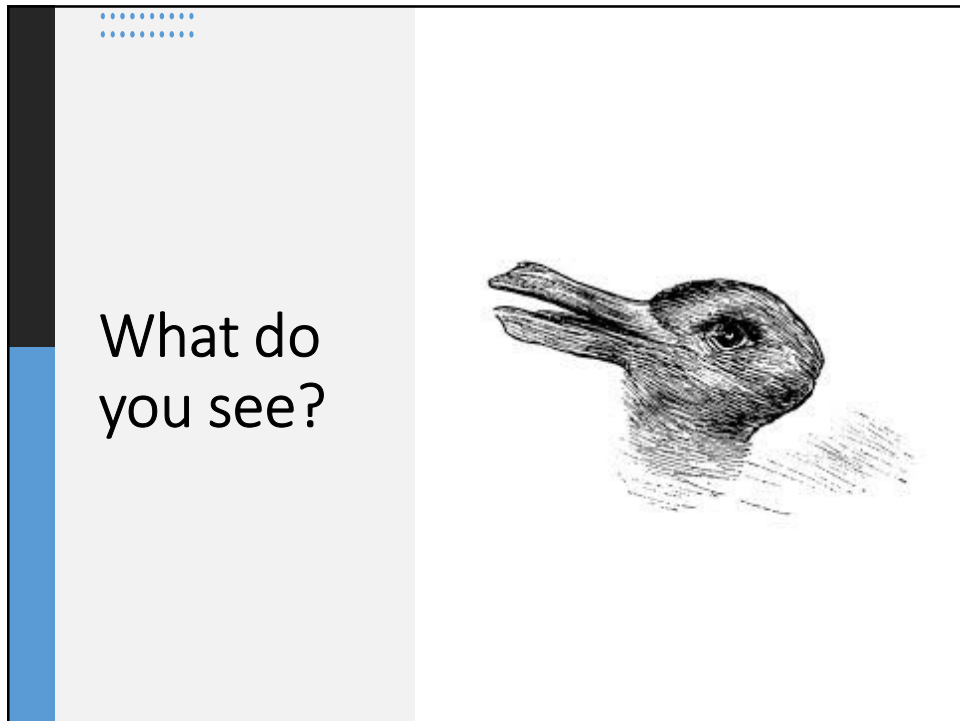
45



46



47



48

Merriam-Webster Dictionary Thesaurus discretion Games & Quizzes

No data caps

Dictionary

discretion **noun** ★

dis·cre·tion (di-'skre-shən)

Definition

- Synonyms
- Example Sentences
- Word History
- Phrases Containing
- Related Articles
- Entries Near
- Show More ▾
- Save Word 🌟

- a** : individual choice or judgment

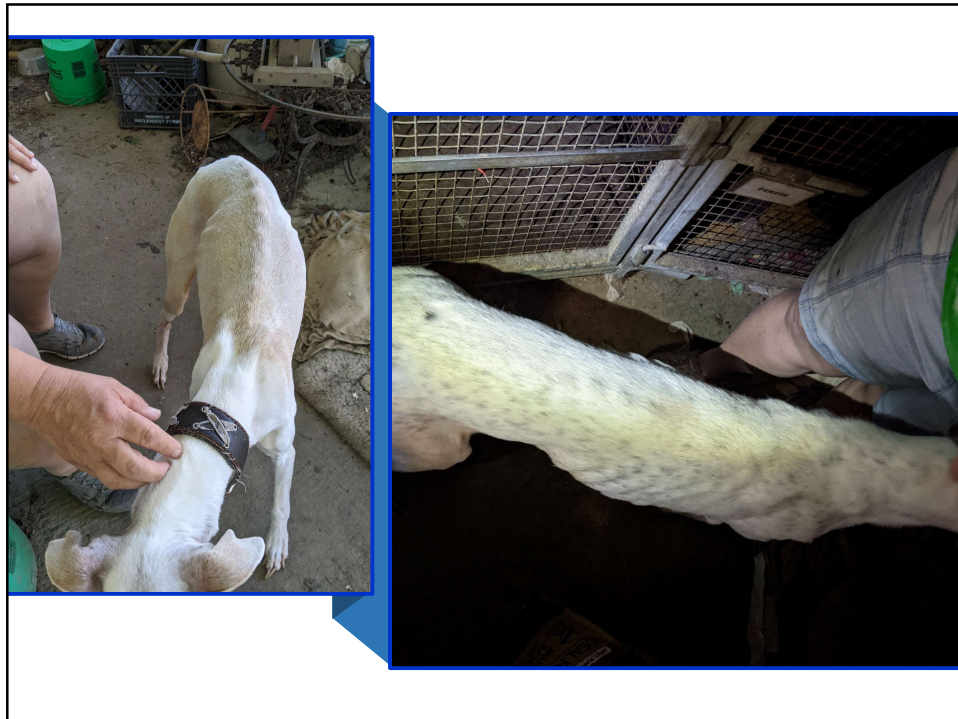
left the decision to his *discretion*

b : power of free decision or *latitude* of choice within certain legal bounds

reached the age of *discretion*
- : the quality of having or showing *discernment* or good judgment : the quality of being *discreet* : **CIRCUMSPECTION**

especially : cautious *reserve* in speech
- : ability to make *responsible* decisions
- : the result of separating or distinguishing

49



50

Resolutions



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51

Education and Mitigation



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52



No, we don't want your dog.

- How severe is the situation, actually?
- Is this a “repeat offender?”
- Does the owner have the resources to improve/correct the situation?

53



54




55

Resources

- Can you teach them?
- Can you show them?
- Can you provide for them?
- Can you connect them?

56

★ Rechecks & Followups



TIMING EXPECTATIONS RATIONAL

The slide features a dark blue header with a red star icon and the text 'Rechecks & Followups'. Below the header, three icons are displayed in a row: an orange icon with a stopwatch, a grey icon with a checklist, and a yellow icon with a head and gears. Each icon is positioned above its corresponding label: 'TIMING', 'EXPECTATIONS', and 'RATIONAL'.

57

Removal of Animal(s)



BOAH Indiana State Board of Animal Health

The slide has a white background with a yellow gradient at the bottom. The text 'Removal of Animal(s)' is centered in a blue, italicized font. At the bottom, the logo for the BOAH (Indiana State Board of Animal Health) is displayed, featuring a blue outline of the state of Indiana and the text 'BOAH Indiana State Board of Animal Health'.

58

Animal Identification

- Each animal should have a unique, specific identification number or letter that will stay with them throughout the duration of the investigation.
- Paper collars make a great option for labeling the animals quickly on-scene; labeling sheets work well for labeling crates or pet carriers.
- Photograph the animal with the identification number or letter.



59




60

<h3 style="text-align: center;">Impoundment</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Probable cause, exigent circumstances, or a warrant • Removal from owner's possession • Owner retains ownership rights 	<h3 style="text-align: center;">Confiscation</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Failure to post bond or court order • Owner forfeits ownership rights <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">(Surrender)</p>
---	--

61

Welfare Considerations

- Determine if emergency medical care is warranted
- Refeeding syndrome
 - ★ • Sudden load of carbohydrates in emaciated animals can lead to medical emergencies and potentially death
- Rapid rehydration
 - Too much water too fast can also lead to medical emergencies and potentially death



62

Transportation Considerations

- Proper handling techniques
- Proper protective equipment
 - Handling gloves
 - Catch-poles, leashes, slip-leads
- Appropriate means of containment
 - Cages, pet taxis, trailers (livestock)
- Identification of animals



63

IC 35-46-3-6 The Bonding Statute

We will visit this topic separately.

64

BOAH Evaluation



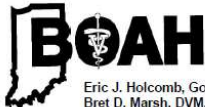
65

IC 35-46-3-6

- “Whenever charges are filed under this chapter, the court shall appoint the state veterinarian under IC 15-17-4-1 or the state veterinarian's designee...”



66



BOAH

Eric J. Holcomb, Governor
Bret D. Marsh, DVM, State Veterinarian

INDIANA STATE BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH

Office of the State Veterinarian
Discovery Hall, Suite 100
1202 East 38th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46205-2898
Phone: 317/544-2400

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

CASE NUMBER: 14NM0WJQ-0B4

CASE REPORT

TO: [REDACTED]
CC: Dr. Maria Cooper, Deputy Director of Animal Health Programs, and Hannah Fisher, Director of Welfare Operations, IN Board of Animal Health (BOAH)
FROM: Deborah Boyd, DVM, District 4 Field Veterinarian, BOAH
CASE TYPE: Animal Welfare Investigation


DATES OF INVESTIGATION
START: May 13, 2022
END: May 20, 2022

OWNER NAME & ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
 Crawfordsville, IN 47933

OWNER PHONE NUMBER: unknown

COUNTY: Montgomery

LOCATION OF ANIMALS: [REDACTED]
 Crawfordsville, IN 47933



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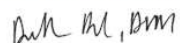
CONCLUSION & OUTCOME: It is an owner's responsibility to provide proper care and nutrition for her animals. At the time of this investigation, there were 15 dogs, one cat, one ferret and one chinchilla in appropriate body condition.


The two dogs and the cat kept in cages in the back room were at the greatest risk of poor health due to the environmental conditions. The ventilation in that room was subjectively poorer than the rest of the house. Those animals were not let out of their cages for any length of time and were very poorly socialized. [REDACTED] was not willing to surrender these three animals, but she had surrendered four other animals from that room on a previous visit. It would be in their best interest to be removed from the back room, but the cages are relatively clean, and the animals appear to be in appropriate body condition.

It is also the owner's responsibility to provide a safe proper environment that does not have detrimental effects on her animals' health. At the time of this investigation, the ammonia level in the house was determined to be 20 ppm, which is higher than ideal but not at levels that are likely to cause severe health conditions in the short term. Animal Welfare League staff indicate that the air quality was better during this visit than on previous visits. It is likely the ammonia levels were elevated above 20 ppm previously, possibly to levels that could be harmful to the animals' health and particularly with long term exposure. It appears [REDACTED] has made improvements in the animals' environment to the point where they are not considered in jeopardy at this time.

Verbal recommendations were reiterated to [REDACTED] about continuing to improve the air quality in the house for both human and animal health. If the [REDACTED] cannot maintain at least the current level of cleanliness and ventilation in the house, the animals may be in jeopardy. A recheck visit by the AWL was scheduled for the following week.

Respectfully submitted on 05/20/2022 by:


 Deborah Boyd, DVM
 Indiana State Board of Animal Health



68

Filing the Case



69

Pursuing Criminal Charges

- Each jurisdiction has an attorney(s) responsible for filing and pursuing criminal charges
- Some states refer to these attorneys as “District Attorneys” (DA)
- Indiana has “Prosecuting Attorneys” (Prosecutors)
 - Each county has a Prosecutor
 - Most counties have a Chief Deputy Prosecutor
 - Furthermore, most counties have Trial Deputy Prosecutors, Deputy Prosecutors, or otherwise



70

**I can't report animal cruelty.
YOU CAN.**



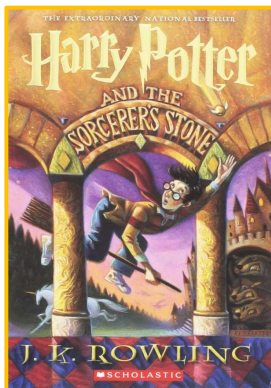
Report Writing

- “Written account of something that one has observed, heard, done, or investigated”
- “Account given of a particular matter, especially in the form of an official document, after thorough investigation or consideration by an appointed person or body”

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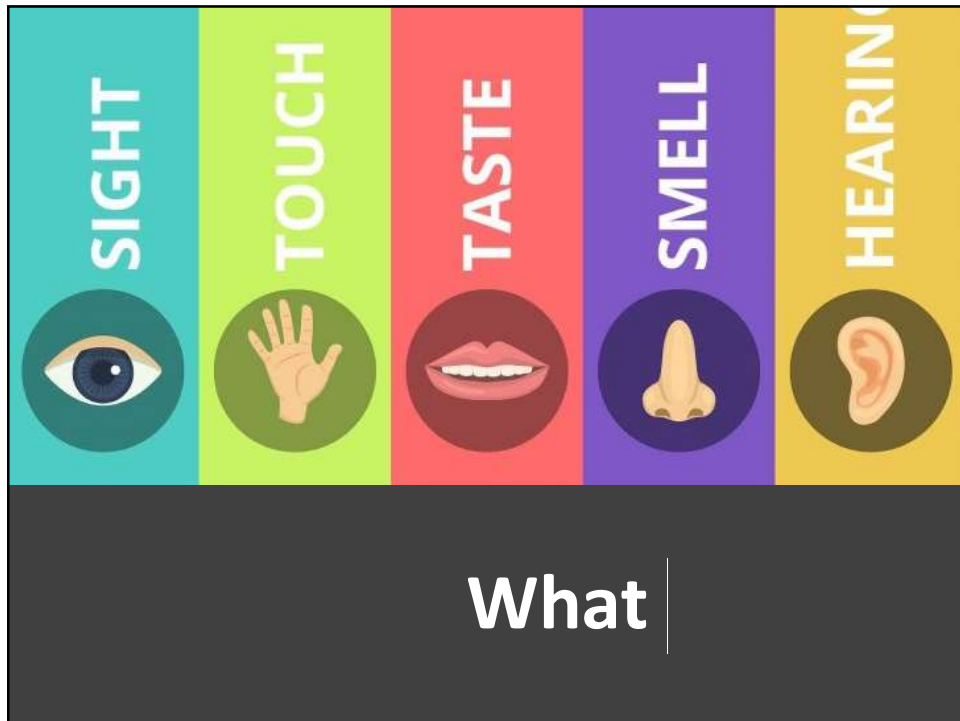
Your report should make the reader feel like *they are living it!*



72



73



74

★ “Triple I” / III

- Interstate Identification Index
- State/federal criminal history
- Maintained by the FBI
- Similar previous offenses may serve as enhancements (higher level Misdemeanor and/or bump a Misdemeanor to a Felony)

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75



76


All Inclusive

- All evidence
- All statements
- All reports
- All pictures
- All witnesses
- All timelines
- All animals
- All alleged offenses
- All everything




77

In Closing

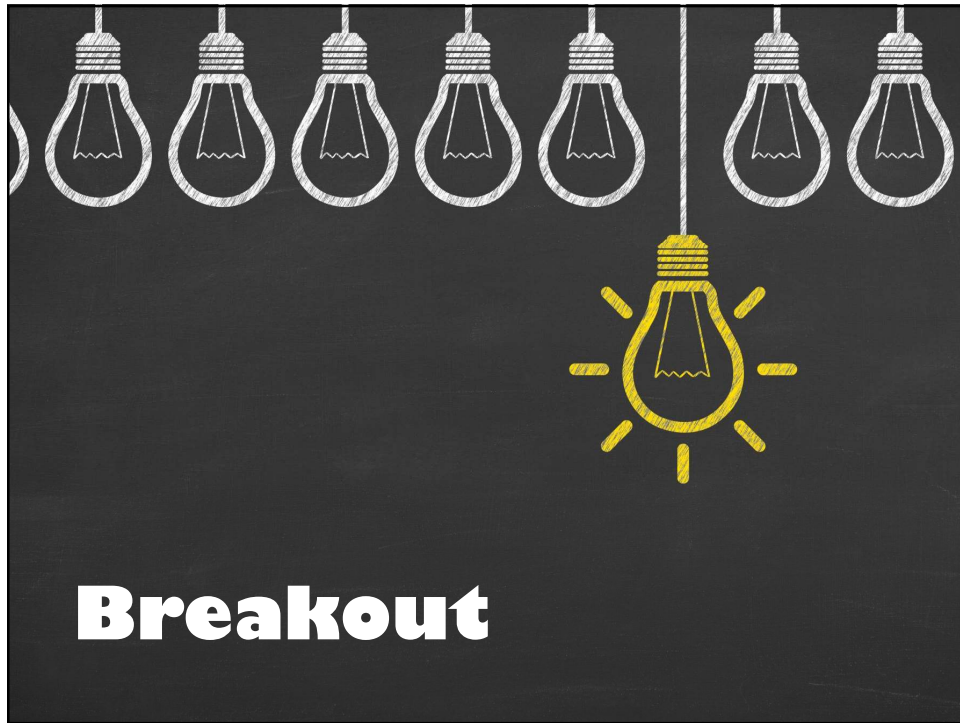


LOOK FOR THINGS...



DOCUMENT THE THINGS...

78



79

You are dispatched to a truck stop for reports of “two dogs tied to a camper.” This is what you see upon arrival.

What should you be doing/asking?

www.transx.com

80

A veterinary clinic calls you to report that an owner brought in their cat who allegedly got stuck in a furnace. What do you do?



81

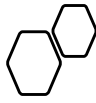


You are dispatched to a residence for “dogs barking excessively.”

This is what you discover.

Is this okay?

82



**Assume it's
~20 degrees
outside and
you are
dispatched
to a welfare
check.**

Thoughts?



83



**A person calls in to report a
deceased horse on their neighbor's
property. You discover a dead horse
and this horse. Now what?**



84



85



86