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PRESS RELEASE

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Subject: Change in Services UPDATE (COVID-19)
From: Ventura County Animal Services (VCAS)

VENTURA COUNTY, Calif.: Due to Governor Newsom's stay-at-home order for California residents, Ventura County Animal Services is further limiting in-person visits to both the Camarillo and Simi Valley shelter locations. The following is effective immediately and until further notice.

Shelter Closure: VCAS is closing down operations at the Simi Valley Animal Shelter. All animals will be transported to the Camarillo Animal Shelter at 600 Aviation Drive.

Adoptions: VCAS has moved adoptions to appointment-only. Those interested in adopting animals seen online are asked to schedule a virtual "Adoption Counseling Session" by phone, at www.vcas.us/scheduling. If all parties feel a good match is made, shelter staff will schedule a time to meet the animal in-person. VCAS is only allowing two (2) members of a family to come to interact with an animal. Both individuals must be under the age of 65 and not medically compromised.

Surrenders: VCAS will be limiting the intake of surrendered animals to those in an urgent or emergency situation. To schedule a surrender, please call their Pet Retention Coordinator at (805) 383-4716.

Stray Cats: VCAS is encouraging residents to only bring in stray cats who appear to be sick or injured. Litters of kittens should only be brought in whose mother has not returned for them after 6-8 hours. Mothers often leave kittens in order to hunt for food and expect to return to their kittens. Please do not remove kittens if not absolutely necessary.

Lost Pets: VCAS is encouraging those to call ahead if they are coming to reclaim their lost pet, but an appointment is not necessary. (805) 388-4341

Foster and Volunteer: New foster parents and volunteers are not needed at this time. Should the need should arise, VCAS will announce this on their website and via social media.

Events: All community events are cancelled or postponed until further notice including low-cost rabies vaccination clinics and TNR/Community Cat public spay/neuter services.

Pet License: VCAS is not processing licenses on-site at either the Camarillo or Simi Valley shelter locations. Pet licenses can only be processed online at www.vcas.us/licensing or by U.S. mail. Payment should be sent to Ventura County Animal Services 600 Aviation Drive, Camarillo, CA 93010. License-related documents can be sent via FAX to (805) 388-4393 or emailed to vcas_pet_license@ventura.org.

Field Services: Animal Control Officers continue to respond to public safety and animal welfare calls such as dangerous dogs, sick/injured animals, conduct animal cruelty investigations, and be on general patrol. Less urgent calls will be deferred until further notice.

Donations: VCAS is requesting no physical donations be brought to the shelter. Those who wish to give are encouraged to visit www.vcas.us/AmazonWishlist or www.vcas.us/Donate.

VCAS is committed to ensuring that the highest quality of care is provided to all animals at all time. Their team of highly dedicated staff and volunteers are available to feed, clean, and provide medical care and enrichment for all animals. They continue to reunite lost pets with their families and find loving homes through adoption services.

Questions, comments or concerns, please contact them at (805) 388-4341 or info@vcas.us.

Thank you – Ventura County Animal Services