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EDWARD A. BOKS
General Manager

June 5, 2009

Honorable Antonio R. Villaraigosa
Mayor, City of Los Angeles
Room 300 City Hall

Honorable Members of the City Council
City of Los Angeles
Fourth Floor, City Hall

Re: Closure of Animal Care Centers for July 3 and 4, 2009

Dear Mayor Villaraigosa and Honorable Members of the City Council:

For the upcoming 2009-2010 Fiscal Year, the national Independence Holiday of July 4th falls on a Saturday. The day designated as the "holiday" for the purposes of employee compensation is the closest weekday, or Friday, July 3, 2009. Los Angeles Animal Services is closed to the public on City-recognized holidays, including July 4th, which allows us to minimize the need for overtime on the holiday by only requiring animal care staff and animal control officers necessary to handle the animals on hand or turned in, and the calls for assistance we receive. However, in the upcoming circumstances, we would be closed on the holiday, but open the day before the holiday, resulting in a high number of employees requiring overtime pay. In light of the financial situation of the City, the typical low adoption turnout on both days, and the admonishment to reduce or prevent overtime whenever possible, we will close all animal care centers on both July 3 and July 4, 2009, for regular business. As is the case 24/7 in the City of Los Angeles, we will accept animals turned in to animal care centers and animal control officers will be on duty to respond to emergencies and dangerous situations.

The Department will also be sending out publicity information before the July 4th holiday reminding the public about precautions to take with pets during the holiday noise period.

Please do not hesitate to contact Assistant General Manager Kathy Davis or Linda Barth if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you as always for your support of LA Animal Services and our mission in protecting humans and animals in the City of Los Angeles.

Very truly yours,

EDWARD A. BOKS
General Manager

Cc: Board of Animal Services Commissioners
Jim Bickhart
Linda J. Barth
Kathleen J. Davis

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