

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

412A



FROM: Community Health Agency

SUBMITTAL DATE:
October 20, 2005

SUBJECT: Proclamation to recognize the Department of Animal Services Katrina Relief Effort

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

- 1) Recognize the Katrina Relief Effort undertaken by the Department of Animal Services; and
- 2) Present the proclamation to Robert Miller, Director of Animal Services, at the November 8, 2005 Board of Supervisors meeting.

BACKGROUND: Many people were forced to abandon their companion animals when New Orleans was struck by Hurricane Katrina and subsequent flooding. Local animal control agencies did not have the resources to respond to such a large scale disaster. The states of Louisiana and Mississippi designated the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) to coordinate animal rescue efforts during the disaster. HSUS requested Riverside County Department of Animal Services to send a team of animal control officers, animal care technicians and veterinary staff to assist. The department responded to the call with personnel, trucks, supplies and equipment. Those left behind contributed to the effort by assisting in the care of animals rescued from the disaster area and evacuated to Southern California.

Susan D. Hamilton for GF

Gary M. Feldman, M.D.
Director of Community Health Agency

FINANCIAL DATA

Current F.Y. Total Cost:	\$ 0	In Current Year Budget:	n/a
Current F.Y. Net County Cost:	\$ 0	Budget Adjustment:	n/a
Annual Net County Cost:	\$ 0	For Fiscal Year:	2005/06

SOURCE OF FUNDS: N/A

Positions To Be Deleted Per A-30	<input type="checkbox"/>
Requires 4/5 Vote	<input type="checkbox"/>

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVE

County Executive Office Signature

Dan Martinez

Dept's Recomm.: Consent Policy Policy
Per Exec. Ofc.: Consent Policy

Prev. Agn. Ref.:

District:

Agenda Number:

2.2

Board Proclamation

Whereas, Hurricane Katrina's presence in the Gulf of Mexico created a need for residents of the region to quickly evacuate; and

Whereas, Hurricane Katrina made landfall on August 29, 2005 at New Orleans; and

Whereas, the storm caused over eighty percent of the city to flood preventing residents from returning for weeks; and

Whereas, people had to leave companion animals behind when they evacuated; and

Whereas, local animal control agencies did not have the capacity to respond to such an overwhelming disaster; and

Whereas, the Humane Society of the United States was designated to coordinate animal rescue efforts by the States of Louisiana and Mississippi; and

Whereas, the Humane Society of the United States requested assistance from the Riverside County Department of Animal Services; and

Whereas, the Department of Animal responded to the call by sending a Response Team of Animal Control Officers, Animal Care Technicians, Veterinary Staff, a Manager, trucks, equipment and supplies; and

Whereas, the Team distinguished themselves through their professional conduct and compassionate service; and

Whereas, the Team spent nine days on scene, performed more than 648 individual activities in response to calls for service or field initiated activities, rescued over 150 animals, cleaned, fed and watered over 390 dogs, set up over 60 cages and walked more than 200 dogs in a single day; and

Whereas the Team provided more than 1332 hours of rescue and recovery, 77 hours of animal care and 26 hours of veterinary support in 9 days; and

Whereas, staff remaining in Riverside County took on the workload left by those in New Orleans and assisted local humane organizations to transport and shelter animals evacuated to Southern California and continues to shelter and care for animal evacuees on behalf of a humane organization;

Therefore, let it be known that the Board of Supervisors acknowledges and honors the Department of Animal Services on November 8, 2005 for their contribution to the Katrina Disaster Relief effort.