COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES IMPOUNDS 104 DOGS

(SANTA BARBARA, Calif.) – Yesterday, a team of Santa Barbara County Animal Services staff impounded 104 dogs from inside a home in Lompoc. The owner relinquished legal custody of the dogs, the majority of which are Chihuahua and Chihuahua mixes. The dogs received a preliminary assessment on site and were then transported to the Santa Maria Animal Center for further assessment, vaccinations and care.

An operation of this size requires a team to impound the dogs in a safe and humane manner and meet the immediate needs of the animals, while supporting safety and health protocols for staff. The 18-member team included a veterinarian, two registered veterinary technicians, four Animal Control officers, three supervisory staff, five support staff and three volunteers who worked late into the night to ensure that all of the dogs received proper care and shelter.

A concerned citizen reached out to Animal Services about the dogs, which resulted in the site visit and ultimate relinquishment of the animals. After assessing the situation, Animal Services staff quickly coordinated with rescue partners to find placements for all of the dogs who will be transported today to Santa Ynez Valley Humane Society, Santa Barbara Humane Society, Ventura County Animal Services, Ventura Humane Society, Woods Humane Society and Burbank Humane Society where they will be available for adoption. Loving homes will be sought for each of these dogs.

“This was an extraordinary effort on the part of our team and rescue partners,” stated Angela Yates, Director of Santa Barbara County Animal Services. “Staff and volunteers quickly went into action, and within 12 hours of receiving the initial report, 104 dogs had received veterinary care, were safely housed at our Santa Maria shelter for the night, and rescue transports were scheduled for this morning. What initially seemed impossible became a shining example of what we can accomplish through dedication, teamwork and committed partnerships!”

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