Animal Abuse Reporting:
A Step by Step Guide

Start Here

Observe Potential Abuse or Neglect / Receive Concern

Is there valid concern?

No: Document and monitor, educate clients

Yes

Is this from a client?

Yes: Encourage client to report to police/sheriff
-Provide advice on evidence
-Keep records

No: You suspect it independently
-> *You report to police/sheriff*
-Provide documentation & photos
-Only release records if requested

Law Enforcement may request assistance

If assisting, provide expert opinion and document observations thoroughly

If removal warranted:
-Law enforcement seek warrant
-Use vet findings as support

If called as expert witness:
-Review case
-Testify to facts
-Use documentation

End

Local Law Enforcement Phone number:

_____

To find your local Law Enforcement, follow the link below!

A project by the Missouri Veterinary Medical Associations Animal Welfare Committee

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