

About the Program

Animal control officers, humane agents and police officers are often required to make a rapid assessment of the overall condition of an animal when responding to a cruelty complaint. For example, is the animal in imminent danger? Does the animal require veterinary care? Is the animal a victim of neglect or are there other factors affecting its appearance and behavior?

In the field, a determination of neglect or abuse rests with the judgment of the officer. Subjective judgments, however, are not good enough when an animal's life is at stake, and they do not provide strong evidence if cruelty charges are brought against an owner.

This seminar will provide participants with tools to respond to animal cruelty complaints with greater effectiveness and consistency. Learn how to evaluate dogs using the Tufts Animal Care and Condition Scales and improve your equine assessment with the Henneke Body Condition Scoring System. The workshop will also include a presentation on veterinary forensics and an overview of animal cruelty statistics in Rhode Island.

This training event is entirely FREE and every attendee will receive two laminated copies of the TACC Scales and the Henneke Body Scoring System, one set to use and one to share with colleagues. Lunch will also be provided.

Questions Addressed by this Workshop:

- ✓ What information do I need to obtain when receiving an animal cruelty complaint from a member of the public?
- ✓ How do I recognize and document animal neglect and abuse in the field?
- ✓ What steps do I need to take to develop strong evidence that will hold up in court?

When and Where

Tuesday, November 18, 2003
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
(registration begins at 9:30 a.m.)

Radisson Airport Hotel
2081 Post Road
Warwick, RI 02886
(401) 739-3000

Directions:

Take Route 95 North or South to exit 13 (T.F. Green Airport exit). When you get off the exit, you will be on a connector road. Follow to the Post Road exit. At the end of that exit, there is a traffic light; take a left onto Post Road. The Radisson Airport Hotel is 1/10 of a mile on the left-hand side.

Please return your registration form and completed survey by mail or fax to the HSUS New England Regional Office no later than Monday, November 10, 2003:

HSUS New England Regional Office
PO Box 619
Jacksonville, VT 05342
(802) 368-2756 fax

Who Should Attend:

- ✓ Animal Control Officers
- ✓ Cruelty Investigators
- ✓ Law Enforcement Officers
- ✓ Animal Sheltering Professionals
- ✓ Veterinarians

Registration Form

NAME _____
TITLE _____
ORG _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY/STATE/ZIP _____
PHONE _____
EMAIL _____

Survey

*This survey **must** be completed in order to register for the seminar (our grant requires us to collect this information). If you have any questions, please contact the HSUS New England Regional Office at (802) 368-2790. Please indicate hard numbers vs. educated guesses for the questions below.
Thank you for your assistance!*

1. How many animal cruelty complaints have you received in the last six months?
2. Of these complaints, how many have been successfully resolved without resorting to legal action?
3. How many animal cruelty cases have you prosecuted in the last six months?
4. Of these court cases, how many have resulted in a conviction?
5. Do you currently use any standardized measurements to establish the presence of animal abuse or neglect?
6. Are you confident in your ability to judge an animal's condition?
7. *If you work at a private animal shelter, how many animal cruelty complaints have you referred to an investigating agency (e.g. animal control, RISPCA, etc) in the last six months?*

About the Instructors

Dr. Peter Belinsky

Peter Belinsky, VMD, graduated from the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine in 1970 and received post-graduate training in marine pathology from the University of Rhode Island. He served as the Attending Veterinarian at the Roger Williams Park Zoo for 10 years and has worked in private practice at the Belinsky Animal Hospital since 1970. In 2000, Dr. Belinsky became the Rhode Island State Public Health Veterinarian and has worked on a number of animal health and welfare issues over the past three years.

Dr. E. J. Finocchio

E.J. Finocchio, DVM, graduated from Kansas State University in 1968 and completed an internship in Equine Medicine and Surgery in 1969. He founded the New England Horse Care Center, the first equine hospital in Rhode Island, in North Smithfield in 1969. This practice served the medical needs of horses in a tri-state area for 33 years. His work addressing the rehabilitation of the malnourished horse, first reported to the American Association of Equine Practitioners, is still referred to today. Dr. Finocchio has published over 50 articles in both professional and lay journals on horse-related problems and has been a guest lecturer at several universities and colleges. He is presently the Director of the Rhode Island Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Dr. Annette Rauch

Annette Rauch, DVM, graduated from the Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine in 1986. She teaches at the Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine and also works as a program coordinator at the Tufts Center for Animals and Public Policy. Previous to coming to Tufts, she owned a companion animal veterinary hospital. Dr. Rauch is a member and former board member of the Rhode Island Veterinary Medical Association.

HSUS NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL OFFICE
PO BOX 619
JACKSONVILLE, VT 05342

IDENTIFYING ANIMAL CRUELTY & NEGLECT THROUGH THE USE OF STANDARDIZED TOOLS

*A seminar on the Tufts Animal
Care and Condition Scales for
dogs and the Henneke Body
Condition Scoring System
for horses*

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2003
RADISSON AIRPORT HOTEL



Co-Sponsors

Humane Society of the United States'
New England Regional Office
&
Rhode Island Society for the
Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

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from the Rhode Island Foundation



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