

## **MEDIA CONTACT:**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 18, 2016

## 30 Dogs Rescued from Korean Dog Meat Farm Now Available for Adoption

**SAN DIEGO, CA**: —Three weeks ago, <u>San Diego Humane Society</u> admitted 30 dogs and puppies rescued from the deplorable conditions of a Korean dog meat farm. After an extensive acclimation period, they have been treated for any medical issues, undergone preliminary behavior modification to socialize the shy and fearful dogs, and been given current vaccinations, microchips and spay/neuter surgeries. While some will continue a behavior modification regimen before being released, most will be available for adoption on Friday, March 18<sup>th</sup>.

On February 20<sup>th</sup>, the San Diego Humane Society's *Special Response Team* of skilled animal welfare professionals transported the dogs from San Francisco to San Diego after they traveled from South Korea through a rescue program of Humane Society International (HSI). Similar to conditions found in puppy mills and factory farms, the dogs have been living in filthy, cramped cages for their entire lives with very little food or veterinary care. Many suffer from disease and malnutrition and most are subject to daily cruelty. There are a variety of breeds, including Tosas (similar to Korean Mastiffs), Golden Retrievers and Huskies, all under 2 years old with some being under 6 months old.

"Helping to end the horrors of the dog meat trade is a critical mission for us," says Dr. Gary Weitzman, president and CEO of San Diego Humane Society. "We have pledged to keep San Diego at zero euthanasia of healthy and treatable animals -- and we will keep that promise -- but that doesn't mean we will ever turn our backs on other animals in need."

This is the second rescue San Diego Humane Society has participated in partnership with HSI. San Diego Humane Society's Special Response Team will continue working on these types of rescue efforts according to Chief of Humane Law Enforcement Steve MacKinnon, "The purpose of the Special Response Team is to be able to rescue animals in their greatest time of need. We're happy we could do that this week."

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For more information, or to schedule an interview, please contact Stacy Archambault at (951) 837-5706 or sarchambault@sdhumane.org.

**SUGGESTED TWEET:** 30 dogs @sdhumane rescued from Korean meat trade now available for adoption. Read more here: << link>>

## **PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES**

- B-ROLL AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST
- Photos from transport at San Francisco SPCA

## **INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITIES**

- Dr. Gary Weitzman, President and CEO, San Diego Humane Society
- Chief Steve MacKinnon, Chief of Humane Law Enforcement, San Diego Humane Society