

MEDIA CONTACT:

Nina Thompson 619-372-0916 *cell* **nthompson@sdhumane.org** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 13, 2021

Imperial Beach Firefighters to Help Reunite Stray Pets with Owners

San Diego Humane Society supplied microchip scanner and trained IB Fire-Rescue Dept. to use it.

Imperial Beach, CA — Firefighters with the Imperial Beach Fire-Rescue Department now have a microchip scanner at Station 39 and can help reunite stray pets with their families within their own community. San Diego Humane Society's staff and volunteers trained firefighters to use the scanner, so that people who have located stray pets, including dogs, cats, rabbits and tortoises, can easily bring them to Station 39 in Imperial Beach, instead of making a trip to the shelter or a veterinary office.

The month of July has been designated as Lost Pet Prevention Month by <u>PetHub</u>. It's important for all pet owners to microchip and license their pets, and



ensure they are wearing up-to-date collars and tags so they can return home quickly if they become lost.

Media is invited to San Diego Humane Society's microchip clinic and the launch of Imperial Beach's Microchip Scanner Program.

When: Wednesday, July 14, 2021 at 1 p.m. -2:30 p.m.

Where: Imperial Beach Fire-Rescue Department, 865 Imperial Beach Blvd., Imperial Beach, 91932

Who: San Diego Humane Society staff and volunteers, Imperial Beach Fire-Rescue, including Chief John French and community members bringing their pets for free microchips.

Visuals: Pets getting microchipped, firefighters making microchip scans, interview opportunities with San Diego Humane Society's Sr. Director of Community Engagement Elkie Wills and Imperial Beach Fire-Rescue Chief John French.

Firefighters trained with staff and volunteers from San Diego Humane Society on June 15, 2021. Video, soundbites and photos for media use from the training can be downloaded here: https://bit.ly/3wz7kpI

Suggested Tweet: Firefighters with @CityofIB now have a microchip scanner at Station 39 and can help reunite stray pets with their families within their own community. @sdhumane trained firefighters to use the scanner, so that people who have located stray pets, can skip a trip to the shelter.

About San Diego Humane Society

San Diego Humane Society's scope of social responsibility goes beyond adopting animals. We offer programs that strengthen the human-animal bond, prevent cruelty and neglect, provide medical care, educate the community and serve as a safety net for all pet families. Serving San Diego County since 1880, San Diego Humane Society has campuses in El Cajon, Escondido, Oceanside, Ramona and San Diego. For more information, please visit sdhumane.org.