

## **Press Release**

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Feb. 1, 2018

**CONTACT:** Priscilla Segura

(626) 580 - 2051

## City of El Monte Addresses Alleged Animal Abuse

**El Monte, Calif.** – The City of El Monte is committed to improving the quality of life for its citizens. For this reason, the City takes complaints of any regard very seriously and addresses complaints through a diligent investigative process.

On Wednesday, January 31, the City's Animal Control Division received a complaint regarding an alleged dog abuse. Immediately within the hour and without notifying the dog owner, the Animal Control Officers were on scene investigating the complaint.

The Officers examined the dog and its environment, and did not see visible injuries or signs of abuse. The Animal Control Officers have issued a citation to the dog owner for a licensing violation. During the inspection, Officers observed that the dog owner also had a fox, which is classified as an exotic animal. While the fox appears to be in good health, the City is coordinating with the California Department of Fish and Game to investigate if the owner has the proper licensing.

Due to continued community concern, the El Monte Police Department (EMPD) and the Los Angeles County Animal Control also conducted independent diligent investigations, which included interviewing neighbors. All three independent investigations by the City Animal Control Division, EMPD and Los Angeles County Animal Control, concluded that the dog was healthy and free from injuries and signs of abuse. Based on the investigations, there was no immediate cause to remove the dog from the property.

The City of El Monte values community concerns and engagement for the safety and well-being of animals in our community. The City is investigating the conditions shown in the photo and will continue to monitor the case.

## **Photos**

**El Monte Addresses Alleged Animal Abuse:** The El Monte Animal Control Division, Police Department and Los Angeles County Animal Control conduct diligent, independent investigations on a complaint of animal abuse. The three departments conclude that the dog appears to be in good health and is free from injuries.

###

**The City of El Monte,** located in Southern California, is committed to improving the quality of life for its citizens and strives to provide its community personalized service, uncompromising commitment, and individualized accountability. For information on the City of El Monte, please call 626-580-2001 or visit <a href="www.elmonteca.gov">www.elmonteca.gov</a>.