



NATIONAL LINK COALITION

Working together to stop violence against people and animals

The LINK-Letter Vol. 5, No. 11 November 2012 *A monthly report of news about the connections between animal abuse and other forms of violence*

www.nationallinkcoalition.org

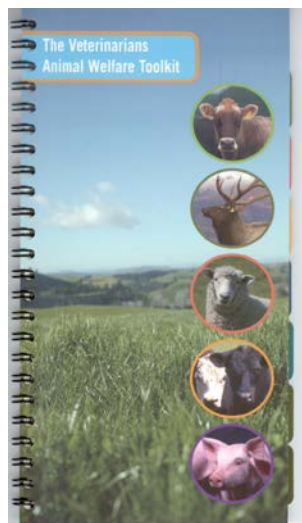
[Phil Arkow](#), Editor



How Should Veterinarians Respond to Suspected Animal Abuse?

Veterinary practitioners, in both large- and small-animal practice, face a confusing array of diagnostic, training, moral, ethical, financial, legal, liability, and practice management issues regarding confronting a client and/or making a cruelty report to appropriate authorities. The development of veterinary forensic techniques and diagnostic indicators for non-accidental injury have helped resolve some dilemmas regarding defining cruelty, abuse or neglect. New statutory laws and professional codes of conduct that permit or mandate such reports with immunity from civil and criminal liability has eased many concerns. And the publication of practice management guidances in the [U.S.](#) and the [U.K.](#) have helped to resolve additional issues for veterinarians and their staffs.

Two resource materials developed in New Zealand help clarify these situations and guide veterinarians with handy, easy-to-follow recommendations. The underlying philosophies behind these resources could readily be adapted for use in other countries.



The Ministry for Primary Industries and the New Zealand Veterinary Association have published a pocket-sized guidebook. The 40-page [Veterinarians' Animal Welfare Toolkit](#) was produced to safeguard both animals and the veterinary profession's reputation by encouraging practitioners to take an approach that is positive rather than intrusive. Designed primarily for large-animal practitioners who may observe animal neglect on farms, the Toolkit is readily applicable to companion animals as well.

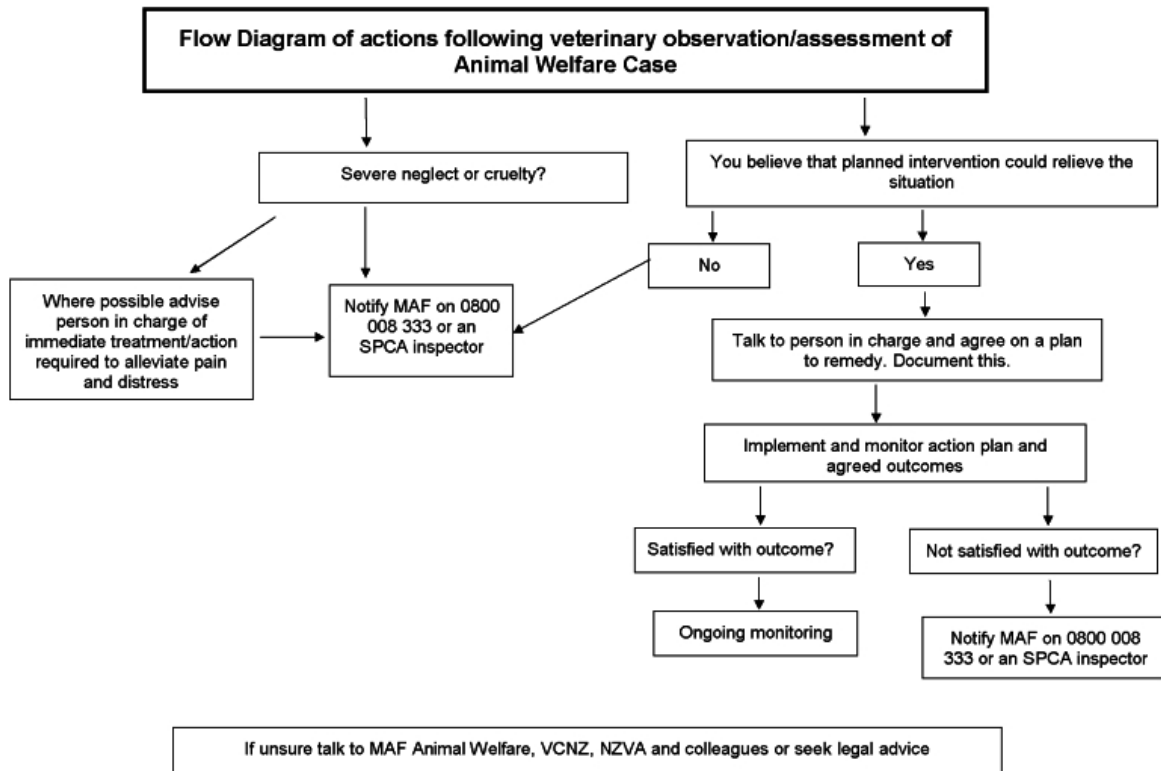
The Toolkit features tabbed sections that address:

- obligations and options when animal welfare issues are identified;
- resolving confrontational conversations with clients;
- practice guidelines for assessment, data collection and record keeping;
- understanding the animal welfare investigation process;
- references and resources; and
- how to respond to media inquiries

“The information provided in the toolkit can be used as the basis for practice policies for how animal welfare issues are managed,” reads the booklet. “The formalization of such policies also demonstrates to farmers and the public a commitment to address issues of animal welfare and encourages veterinarians to be proactive when they come across welfare-compromised animals. Individual veterinarians can then feel supported in their decision to raise welfare concerns with a farmer.”

The Toolkit is available as a pdf download from <http://www.nzva.org.nz/sites/default/files/domain-0/2011%20Vet%20toolkit.pdf>

Meanwhile, the Veterinary Council of New Zealand’s [Code of Professional Conduct](#) has extensive policies and explanatory notes regarding animal welfare. To help practitioners better visualize the processes involved in assessing and responding to suspected animal maltreatment, the Veterinary Council has devised the following [flowchart](#):



(Note: MAF = Ministry of Agriculture & Forestry, now known as the Ministry for Primary Industries. U.S. equivalents might be a state bureau of animal protection or local law enforcement, humane or animal control agency.)

Scottish Veterinarians Engaged in Domestic Violence Initiative



Waiting-room posters such as these are encouraging domestic violence survivors in Scotland to consider their veterinarian as a trusted advisor when trying to leave abusive situations. The [Domestic Abuse Veterinary Initiative](#) (see *LINK-Letter March 2012*) follows on the success of a similar initiative which has trained some 500 Scottish dentists. “Like doctors and dentists, vets often build strong relationships with clients over years of visits,” said Medics Against Violence founder Dr. Christine Goodall. “This makes them ideally placed to spot signs of abuse not only in an animal but also in the owner. Yet on the whole, like dentists, vets are unprepared for this situation. The training we are offering helps them take advantage of a ‘golden moment’ to intervene and help.” British police estimate it takes an average of 35 previous incidents of abuse before a victim feels able to report it: increasing the number of professionals to whom a survivor feels comfortable asking for help should make it easier for domestic violence victims to escape. The initiative is supported by Crimestoppers, OneKind and The Links Group and has been endorsed by the [British Veterinary Association](#).

Pets and People “Paint it Purple” and “Just Say No” to Violence Against Women

Extending the commemoration of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in the U.S., a group called [the Pixel Project](#) has created an annual global campaign to raise the profile of the October events and to draw attention to November 24 – the eve of the International Day of Elimination of Violence Against Women and the start of 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence.



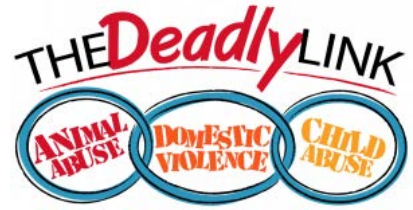
One campaign of the group is [“Paint It Purple,”](#) open to all nonprofits, grassroots groups, bakeries and cupcakeries and individuals working to end violence against women. Materials to help groups add purple logos and designs to their websites and to create purple baked goods for fundraisers will raise funds and awareness for the cause.

A component for 2012 is the [“People and Pets Say NO!” Photo Initiative](#). Citing Link evidence that family pets are frequent victims of domestic violence and the reason why many survivors cannot leave home, the Pixel Project invites anyone with pets to post a photo of themselves and their pet holding up a sign reading, “We say NO!” Dressing in purple is encouraged. Photos will be posted by the Pixel Project’s online gallery.

The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence is a key organizer of the Pixel Project.

Crowd-Sourced Funding Sought for Link Video

The world of crowd-sourcing has met the world of venture-capital fundraising, and an exciting opportunity to promote The Link is now on the verge of fruition through this unique 21st Century phenomenon. [Crone Productions](#), an independent film production company based in Albuquerque, is using a crowd-sourcing partnership with IndieGoGo in an effort to raise \$30,000 in 30 days to create an 80-minute Link documentary. The video will be available as a training tool for social service providers, law enforcement officials, veterinarians and others who can work together to stop violence.



Prominent Link authorities Phil Arkow, Diane Balkin, Tamara Ward, Patricia Norris, Nuria Querol Viñas, and others were interviewed for the film at the recent New Mexico Link Conference. Producer Nina Knapp says the documentary will mix current research with stories of compassion and humanity in order to increase awareness of the Link and aid the search for solutions. She is encouraged that worldwide interest in The Link will make this dream a reality. For details, to see a 4-minute trailer previewing the film, and to contribute to the cause, visit [The Deadly Link site](#) on IndieGoGo.

Syracuse Adds Animal Abuse Police Officer



The city of Syracuse, N.Y. is the latest community to address the increased awareness in prosecuting animal cruelty by assigning a police officer specifically to handle animal abuse cases. Officer Rebecca Thompson told [WSYR-TV](#) that she is ready to end the culture of dog fighting, abuse and neglect in Syracuse.

Syracuse Police Officer

Rebecca Thompson

“I like animals and they’re defenseless. They have nobody to look after them if they’re being abused. They need somebody to be their voice,” she said. “Many of these people think they can get away with it and it’s just not going to happen anymore.”

Like other cities, Syracuse is facing an increase in the number of cruelty cases. After just three weeks on the job, she already has more than 30 cases to follow up on. In the October *LINK-Letter*, we reported on a similar new program in St. Louis, Mo.

Pet Sheltering Group to Aid Domestic Violence Survivors

[Shelter Our Pets](#), an all-volunteer nonprofit corporation based in West Milford, N.J., has been organized to make it easier for survivors of domestic violence to flee abusive situations. The group plans to provide temporary shelter, medical care and behavioral rehabilitation for the animal victims of domestic violence.

“The decision to leave a batterer is extremely difficult, and when the victim considers the only source of comfort – a family pet – may have to be left behind, it only complicates an already emotional decision,” says co-founder Lynn Gregorski-Bosi. “Many domestic violence shelters cannot provide shelter for a family pet as well as the victim. If we can lift this one burden it may encourage the abuse victim to leave the situation, knowing the family pet will be safe.”

Cross-Reporting Wallet Cards Designed

<p>For URGENT/IMMEDIATE response to a dog attack, dog bite, or life-threatening situation for human or animal:</p> <p>CALL 911</p> <p>Be sure to cite the NM Animal Cruelty statute (§ 30-18-1 through 30-18-15 NMSA 1978) or your local ordinance* when making a cruelty report.</p> <p>*www.apnm.org/publications/animal_law</p>		<p>ADDITIONAL RESOURCES</p> <p><i>Albuquerque only, Dial 311</i> – for local Animal Control number.</p> <p>www.nmlbonline.com – NM Livestock Board for Equine and other Livestock concerns. 505-841-6161</p> <p>www.NMANiCare.com – info & referrals for therapists and social workers trained in specialized counseling for animal abusers.</p> <p>Animals & Society Institute – www.animalsandsociety.org. Founder of AniCare Approach: research, education, and training.</p> <p>Animal Protection of New Mexico is a statewide, non-profit organization working for the humane treatment of all animals in New Mexico since 1979.</p>	<p>When animals are abused, PEOPLE ARE AT RISK.</p> <p>When people are abused, ANIMALS ARE AT RISK.</p> <p>A QUICK RESOURCE GUIDE for Social Workers, Parole & Probation Officers, Caseworkers, and others who, in the field during a client interview, observe or become aware of potential or actual animal cruelty or neglect. For more info, contact Animal Protection of New Mexico: 505-265-2322 www.APNM.org</p>
<p>To report any ANIMAL ABUSE or NEGLECT, contact:</p> <p>Your municipal or county Animal Control Officer (ACO)* or Police Dispatch or</p> <p>NM Animal Cruelty Hotline:** 1-877-5-HUMANE (1-877-548-6263)</p> <p><small>*See APNM's New Mexico Animal Resource Guide for ACO contact info: www.apnm.org/publications/nmarmg.</small></p> <p><small>**Sponsored by the NM Attorney General's Animal Cruelty Task Force and operated by Animal Protection of New Mexico (APNM).</small></p>	<p>For DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (DV) involving human and/or animal victims:</p> <p>Call the Statewide DV Hotline: 1-800-773-3645</p> <p>Victims of domestic violence can ask about a referral from the CARE (Companion Animal Rescue Effort) Network if temporary shelter is needed for their companion animals.</p> <p>Children, Youth & Families Department (CYFD) Statewide Central Intake: 505-841-6100</p>	<p>NEW MEXICO LAW & ANIMALS</p> <p>Criminal Offenses Against Animals § 30-18-1 through 30-18-15 NMSA 1978</p> <p>Cruelty to Animals: negligently mistreating, injuring, killing without jurisdiction, or tormenting an animal; abandonment or failing to provide necessary sustenance (misdemeanor; upon 4th conviction – 4th degree felony).</p> <p>Extreme Cruelty: intentionally or maliciously torturing, mutilating, maiming or poisoning an animal; maliciously killing an animal (4th degree felony).</p> <p>Dangerous Dog Act § 77-1A-1 through 77-1A-6 NMSA 1978: Holds dog owners criminally and civilly accountable if their dogs cause harm and prescribes ways to identify, register, handle and house dangerous or potentially dangerous dogs that pose a threat to public safety.</p>	

Animal Protection of New Mexico, whose programs include the Companion Animal Rescue Effort (CARE) to provide protective care for animals of domestic violence victims, has produced a handy wallet-sized card to make it easier for caseworkers in any agency to report suspected animal abuse, domestic violence or child maltreatment. The two-sided cards are printed 10-1/2" x 2", then folded down into a convenient wallet-sized 3-1/2" x 2". The cards highlight key New Mexico animal cruelty laws, phone numbers for animal cruelty, domestic violence and child welfare hotlines, and additional resources. The format can easily be adapted for use in other communities utilizing their own details.

The Link in the Literature

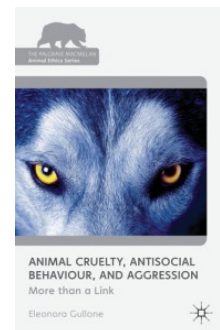
Animal Cruelty, Antisocial Behaviour and Aggression: More Than a Link

Animal crimes should be treated as seriously as crimes against humans, argues psychologist Eleonora Gullone in her pioneering Link book that argues that animal cruelty is an antisocial behavior that co-occurs with human aggression and violence.

“Almost without exception, the perpetrators of animal cruelty crimes are the same individuals who carry out aggressive and violent acts including assault, partner and child abuse. Thus, animal cruelty crimes should be treated with the same seriousness as crimes against humans. Moreover, the punishments should reflect their severity,” claims Gullone, Associate Professor at Monash University in Australia. “By enacting adequate laws that properly indicate the seriousness of the animal cruelty crime committed, future violence toward both human and animal victims can be prevented.”

National Link Coordinator Phil Arkow wrote the Foreword, observing that whether one blames it on “speciesism” or animals’ lacking legal “standing,” the denigration of animals’ interests is widespread and insidious. “By positioning acts of animal abuse within the continuum of other antisocial behaviors rather than as isolated incidents or acceptable childhood rites of passage, we can gain not only more progress in reducing animal abuse but also in improving human safety and lowering tolerance for all acts of aggression,” he writes.

Animal Cruelty, Antisocial Behaviour, and Aggression: More Than A Link is being published by [Palgrave Macmillan](http://www.palgrave.com) in October in the U.K. and November in the U.S.



News from the Coalitions

First Strike New Zealand Links Multiple Agencies

Introduced to New Zealand in 2003 following similar programs in the U.S., Scotland, England, and Canada, First Strike New Zealand is a national campaign encouraging public and professional awareness of the Link and the sharing of information across professional bodies to create the most effective response to family violence issues. Members include representatives from Child Youth & Family, the New Zealand Veterinary Association, NZ Police, Child Matters, Canterbury University, Ministry of Social Development, NZ Companion Animal Council, Women's Refuge, the Royal New Zealand SPCA, SPCA Auckland, SPCA Wairarapa, Unitec, and others who meet regularly to discuss common cases.



“Animal abuse and child abuse run side by side,” chair [Arnja Dale](#) told the 23rd New Zealand Companion Animal Conference. “And animal welfare is part of the welfare of a community.”

CYF and the RNZSPCA have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to begin cross-reporting between animal welfare and child welfare. A similar MOU is planned for the RNZSPCA and women's refuges.

Other First Strike activities have included:

- submitting recommendations to a proposed reform of governmental programs and action plans for vulnerable children;
- asking that The Link be reflected in policy and intervention strategies;
- requesting that grassroots Link programs are enhanced by policy that encourages and permits information-sharing across organizations;
- recommending that child welfare and family violence systems personnel take an inclusive rather than an exclusive view to include animal welfare professionals in a coordinated community response to all family violence;
- promoting early animal-themed intervention and awareness programs through policy that reflects the importance of this step in breaking the cycle of violence; and
- getting agencies to consider animal abuse as a part of family violence.

Dale observed that child protection and animal welfare agencies have similar risk-assessment systems and can learn much from each other. They should drop their anxiety about sharing information and begin to talk to each other. Child protection workers in New Zealand are already receiving training in animal welfare issues, and the family group decision-making processes widely used in New Zealand child protection already work from a model of sharing rather than confidentiality.

“Pets are pawns in family violence but they can also be great healers for the effects of family violence,” said First Strike member Peggy Link. “We all have to step up and work together.”



National Link Coalition Coordinator Phil Arkow (far left) and Auckland SPCA Executive Director Bob Kerridge discuss Link programs at the 23rd New Zealand Companion Animal Conference. At right, Nerys Lewis and Norm Hewitt review the RNZSPCA's “One Of the Family” anti-violence campaign aimed at young boys. Hewitt, a former All-Blacks rugby star, is a hero to youth and empathy educator for the SPCA.



Link Partnership Shelters Domestic Violence Pet Survivors in Madison, Wisc.

The [Sheltering Animals of Abuse Victims](#) (SAAV) program has been operational in Dane County, Wis., since it was started by two law students in 2001 as a collaboration between Domestic Abuse Intervention Services and the Dane County Humane Society. The all-volunteer nonprofit, based in Madison, provides confidential temporary foster housing and care for the animals of domestic violence survivors leaving abusive relationships. President [Megan A. Senatori](#) reports the group also raises community awareness about The Link. Clients using the service must renew their participation every 30 days up to a maximum of 90 days. Some 86 animals, including dogs, cats, iguanas, turkeys, turtles, birds, horses, goats, and hamsters, have been housed since its inception.



York County Linkage Coalition Educates and Empowers Maine Communities



Established in 2010, the [York County Linkage Coalition](#) serves 12 towns along the southwestern Maine coast, joining a wide range of organizations and individuals that recognize The Link between animal abuse and interpersonal violence. Founding members included representatives from the York County Child Abuse and Prevention Council, Kids Free to Grow, Caring Unlimited, the Animal Welfare Society, and the county's Domestic Violence Program.

Gail Crowell, Animal Welfare Society Program coordinator, reports that the coalition's mission is to educate the community about the correlation between animal cruelty, child abuse, domestic violence, elder abuse, and other forms of interpersonal violence. The coalition also empowers all members of the community to recognize and respond effectively when they suspect violence by directing them to programs and agencies that can help. PowerPoint presentations are available to school and civic groups.

Central Virginia Link Coalition

The [Central Virginia Link Coalition](#) held its first meeting on October 20 with an all-day Link training. Phil Arkow gave an overview on a community approach to breaking the cycle of violence. Clif Flynn, Ph.D., presented a sociological view of animal abuse. Allie Phillips described programs to care for the animal victims of domestic violence. Participants began to identify organizations in the Charlottesville area that could be engaged in a multi-disciplinary local coalition against violence. Participants are beginning to make contact with local groups and organizer [Julie Palais](#) plans a follow-up meeting in the near future.



Clif Flynn described a sociological look at why animal issues should be important for human services personnel.



Allie Phillips described SAF-T (Sheltering Animals and Families Together) and models for domestic violence animal housing.

The Link in the News

Man Arrested on Child Pornography and Bestiality Charges



Ricky Lewis

Child crisis detectives arrested Ricky Lewis, 29, of Tulsa, Okla., on complaints of manufacturing child pornography and “crimes against nature” for allegedly engaging in sex acts with dogs. Investigators were said to have uncovered more than 17,000 pornographic images, several thousand of which appeared to be child pornography and of Lewis having sex with dogs, on Lewis’ cell phone and computer. The [Tulsa World](#) reported that Lewis has a young son who is in his mother’s custody.

Child welfare, domestic dispute linked in animal cruelty case

A Corning, N.Y. woman who said she was tired of her dog’s defecating in the house was charged with gruesomely slitting the pit bull’s throat and stabbing it repeatedly while her children were at home. [According to police](#), Gaylynn Taylor, 32, admitted the incident and was charged with aggravated cruelty to animals, a Class E felony. Three children were turned over to an aunt and uncle and Child Protective Services is involved in the case, according to police. [Another newspaper report](#) said the incident followed a heated domestic dispute between Taylor and her husband, who was not at home during the attack.



Gaylynn Taylor

Animal Cruelty Suspect Charged with Elder Abuse



Janice Susan Deutsch

to [newspaper accounts](#).

A Riverside County, Calif. woman charged with animal cruelty after more than a dozen emaciated horses were seized from her property has now been charged with mistreating her elderly mother. Janice Susan Deutsch, 47, of Murrieta, was charged on Oct. 3 with felony counts of causing great bodily injury on an elderly person. Arraignment is scheduled for Nov. 29. Sheriff’s deputies began investigating Deutsch after she brought her 86-year-old mother, covered in urine and feces, to a Mission Viejo hospital. The mother also had bleeding bedsores, legs locked in a bent position, dehydration, extensive sunburn, and feces under her fingernails, according

The case began in 2010 when animal control officials began receiving reports that the horses were neglected and not being fed properly. After she failed to heed warnings for many months, animal control officials searched Deutsch’s property on Sept. 22, 2011, confiscated the emaciated horses and charged her with felony animal cruelty, later reduced to a misdemeanor. During the 2011 seizure, an Adult Protective Services agent also inspected the house. Deutsch has pleaded innocent to the animal cruelty charge and is awaiting trial in that case.

Woman Sentenced to 60 Days in Child Endangerment/Animal Hoarding Case

Traci K. Murray, of Menifee, Calif., was [sentenced to 60 days in jail](#) on Oct. 9 in connection with an animal hoarding case that also endangered her daughter. Judge Albert J. Wojcik ordered Murray to have no “negative contact” with her daughter because Murray’s hoarding of 26 animals had put the daughter “in such a filthy condition that it could affect her health.” Wojcik also ordered Murray to not possess any animals during a four-year probation term.

Woman Gets 4-8 Years in Domestic Violence Retaliation Case

While most cases of domestic violence animal abuse, in which the animal is harmed to intimidate or retaliate against an intimate partner, involve a male batterer, some incidents are perpetrated by women (*See LINK-Letter, October 2012*). Such was the case in Brentwood, N.H., where Jamie Labbe was sentenced to 4 - 8 years in prison. Rockingham County Superior Court Judge Marguerite Wageling, calling it the worst animal abuse she had ever seen in 27 years on the bench, described Labbe as a danger to the community.



Jamie Labbe

Labbe was [convicted](#) for seeking revenge against her boyfriend by forcing metal objects, including a cigarette lighter, a shower head, a 4" metal bolt, a metal clamp, and a 6" pipe, down the throats of two dogs, one of which died. Her crime was "intended to manipulate and terrorize and was premeditated," said Deputy County Attorney Thomas Reid.

LINK TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Coming Soon to a City or Computer Near You...

Nov. 13 – (online): Clifton Flynn will present a free webinar on "Understanding Animal Abuse – A Sociological Analysis" in a [webinar series](#) presented by the National Center for Prosecution of Animal Abuse, a program of the National District Attorneys Association, in partnership with the ASPCA and the Animal Legal Defense Fund.

Nov. 14-17 – Chicago, IL: Nuria Querol i Vinas will present on "Cruelty to Animals and Antisocial Personality Disorders: Criminological and Forensic Correlations" at the [American Society of Criminology](#) conference.

Nov. 23 – Edmonton, AB, Canada: Tim Battle will speak on "Helping Human and Animal Victims of Domestic Violence" at [Diverse Voices](#), the Alberta provincial Domestic Violence Prevention Conference

Nov. 25 – Tokyo, Japan: Dr. Toshiro Sugiyama, Dr. Chizuko Yamaguchi, and Noriko Yabuki will present on the implications of animal abuse on human health at the [Japanese Coalition for Animal Welfare](#) seminar on the association between interpersonal violence and animal cruelty. For details please contact [Sakiko Yamazaki](#).

Dec. 5 – Lawrenceville, NJ: Phil Arkow will train [New Jersey Child Assault Prevention Project](#) representatives on "The Links between Child Assault and Animal Abuse."

Dec. 5 (online): Lorna Grande and Sherry Ramsey will lead a [webinar for veterinarians](#) on "What to Expect if You Report Animal Abuse or Neglect: Demystifying the Legal Process."

Dec. 7 – Tampa, FL: Maya Gupta and Nancy Bell will [train](#) on AniCare assessment and treatment of animal cruelty offenders to interrupt the cycle of animal abuse and violence towards humans.

Dec. 11 – Apr. 2 – Barcelona, Spain: Nuria Querol Vinas will teach a [course](#) on "Psychopathic Personality and Violent Crimes," with a focus on animal abuse in the context of violent criminals and family violence, at the University of Barcelona School of Law.

Dec. 12-13 – Surfers Paradise, Qld., Australia: Catherine Tiplady and two roundtable discussions will consider the Link between domestic violence and animal abuse at the [Australian Veterinary Forensics, Law and Animal Conference](#).

Dec. 13 – (online): Allie Phillips will present a free webinar on “Handling Community Reaction to Animal Abuse” in a [webinar series](#) presented by the National Center for Prosecution of Animal Abuse, a program of the National District Attorneys Association, in partnership with the ASPCA and the Animal Legal Defense Fund.

Jan. 28, 2013 – San Diego, CA: Allie Phillips will present on “Caught in the Cross Fire: When the Abuse of Animals Co-occurs with Family-Violence” at the 27th Annual [San Diego International Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment](#).

Feb. 3, 2013 – Indianapolis, IN: Phil Arkow will present “Practical Guidance for Veterinarians and Their Staffs for an Effective Response to Suspected Animal Cruelty, Abuse and Neglect” at the [Indiana Veterinary Medical Association](#) Annual Meeting.

Feb. 7, 2013 – Boise, ID: Allie Phillips will train on “Effectively handling and responding to animal abuse cases” at the [Idaho Prosecuting Attorneys Association](#)’s annual winter conference.

Feb. 21-23, 2013 – Kansas City, MO: Phil Arkow will present a program on The Link, and Maya Gupta and Nancy Bell will train on AniCare and AniCare Child, for the [KC-CAN Link Coalition](#)’s meeting on “Protecting People – Protecting Pets – Protecting Society.”

April 1-30, 2012 – various locations: April is [Child Abuse Prevention Month](#), proclaimed in 1983 and coordinated nationally by the U.S. Children’s Bureau’s Office of Child Abuse and Neglect.

April 4-6, 2013 – Virginia Beach, VA: Phil Arkow will conduct Link training at the Virginia Federation of Humane Societies annual conference. For details contact [Virginia Kilmer](#).

April 9-10, 2013 – Knoxville, TN: Elizabeth Strand and Nancy Bell will [train](#) on the AniCare Approach of assessment and treatment of animal cruelty offenders to interrupt the cycle of animal abuse and violence towards humans.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL LINK COALITION



The National Link Coalition is an informal, multi-disciplinary collaborative network of individuals and organizations in human services and animal welfare who address the intersections between animal abuse, domestic violence, child maltreatment and elder abuse through research, public policy, programming and community awareness. We believe that human and animal well-being are inextricably intertwined and that the prevention of family and community violence can best be achieved through partnerships representing multi-species perspectives.

OUR VISION: The Link between violence against humans and violence against animals is widely known and understood. We believe that through the recognition and integration of this understanding into policies and practices nationwide, humans and animals will be measurably safer.

To subscribe to The Link-Letter – Just send an e-mail to Coordinator Phil Arkow (arkowpets@snip.net)

and tell us what organization you’re with and where you’re located.

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