



Harris County Resources for Children and Adults (Formerly Harris County Protective Services)

Julie Kuenstle Houston SPCA 713.870.0304 Estella Olguin Harris County Resources 713.410.9773 Roxanne Werner Harris County Attorney's Office 832.544.8045

Houston SPCA Rescue 33 Cats, Four Kittens from Hoarder Home

Partnership With Harris County is Helping Both Vulnerable Adults and Animals in Need of Urgent Care

Hi-Res Images and B-roll Here

HOUSTON (December 15, 2023) – The Houston SPCA worked in conjunction with Harris County Resources for Children and Adults on Thursday afternoon to rescue 37 cats and kittens while the agency provides support services to the adults who were living in deplorable conditions at an apartment near the 14,000 block of Westpark in west Houston.



THE DAILY

Last summer, the Houston SPCA, <u>Harris County Resources for Children and</u> <u>Adults</u> and <u>Harris County Attorney Christian D. Menefee</u> signed a *Letter of Cooperation* to share specialized resources to help when both the county's most vulnerable adults and animals are in dire need of assistance, including animal hoarding cases.



"Collectively, we have additional efficiencies in place for all who are working in the field to expedite the special assistance needed for all involved, and just as important, the continuum of care," said Jay Chase, Chief of Animal Cruelty at the Houston SPCA.



The Houston SPCA's Animal Cruelty Investigations Team share some warning signs of animal hoarding and to report animal cruelty as soon as possible:

•Homeowners who will not open the door for visitors or will step outside to greet them.

- •Homes or apartments where animals are only heard but rarely seen.
- •Homes with strong, persistent odors of waste and decay.

•Windows with the shades always drawn or with flies gathering inside them.

•Multiple cats or dogs and their young that are roaming the property in poor condition.

Report animal cruelty by calling the Houston SPCA at 713.869.7722 or online at HoustonSPCA.org.