



## COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

PIMA COUNTY GOVERNMENTAL CENTER  
130 W. CONGRESS, FLOOR 10, TUCSON, AZ 85701-1317  
(520) 724-8661 FAX (520) 724-8171

C.H. HUCKELBERRY  
County Administrator

October 23, 2014

Jack Neuman, Chairman  
Pima County Animal Care Advisory Committee  
4000 N. Silverbell Road  
Tucson, Arizona 85745

**Re: Your September 26, 2014 Letter Regarding Four Additional Field Officers to be Included in the Fiscal Year 2015/16 Budget**

Dear Mr. Neuman:

I appreciate the request and the justification provided by the Animal Care Advisory Committee (ACAC) for additional field officers. I value the opinion and recommendations of the ACAC.

As you know, over the last several years, the County has made significant investments to alter the outcomes of animals that enter the Pima Animal Care Center. Unfortunately, these programs have recently come under criticism by our jurisdictional partners due to increased costs. It is my opinion, and continues to be my recommendation to the Board of Supervisors, that all of these costs are fully justified and are necessary to support our transition from a euthanasia shelter to one that promotes adoption. The County will not retreat from this operational model; however, the concerns raised by municipalities regarding costs do require that we take your request to the various jurisdictions to determine if they are willing to pay their fair and appropriate share of the cost to provide four additional field officers.

We clearly understand the statistics in this matter and understand the municipalities will be the primary beneficiary of additional field officers, but they will also have to pay a proportional share of the cost. Hopefully, their response will be a positive one. However, given the concerns they have raised regarding operating a more humane shelter, I cannot be assured of such an outcome.

Mr. Neuman

Re: **Your September 26, 2014 Letter Regarding Four Additional Field Officers to be Included  
in the Fiscal Year 2015/16 Budget**

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I greatly appreciate the efforts of the ACAC. Your guidance has been instrumental in our transition of care for the homeless animals within this community.

Sincerely,



C.H. Huckelberry  
County Administrator

CHH/anc

Enclosure

c: The Honorable Chair and Members, Pima County Board of Supervisors  
Jan Leshner, Deputy County Administrator for Medical and Health Services  
Dr. Francisco Garcia, Director, Health Department  
Kim Janes, Manager, Pima Animal Care Center  
Jose Ocaño, Shelter Manager, Pima Animal Care Center



**PIMA COUNTY ANIMAL CARE CENTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
4000 N. SILVERBELL RD TUCSON, AZ 85745  
(520) 243-5909 FAX (520) 243-5954  
[www.pimaanimalcare.org](http://www.pimaanimalcare.org)

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September 26, 2014

The Honorable Chair and Members  
Pima County Board of Supervisors  
130 W. Congress, Eleventh Floor  
Tucson, Arizona 85701

Dear Chair and Members:

The Pima County Animal Care Advisory Committee strongly urges the Board of Health and Board of Supervisors to support the Pima Animal Care Center's request for four additional Field Officers.

As you know, from the Six City & County review, our organization is severely understaffed and over-utilized. Our Field Officers cover the second largest physical area of the six communities reviewed at 9200 Square Miles. The largest in size is Maricopa County at 9224 square miles. Pima County only has 25 field officers to serve this large area, compared to the 30 Field Officers in Maricopa County. The Pima County Field Officers responded to 29,079 calls with the 25 Field Officers, while the Maricopa County 30 Field Officers respond to only 21,368 calls.

Our Officers respond to all calls ranging from nuisance calls, animal waste calls, strays, wildlife issues, welfare and neglect issues and animal bites. The other respondents answer a variety of calls but delegate many of these calls to other agencies.

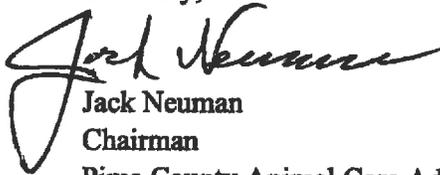
There are several examples of the disparity in responsibilities and manpower of the Pima County Field officers compared to those of the other locations in the study. First, Maricopa & Clark Counties refer wildlife issues to their State's Game and Fish departments, while San Antonio refers these calls to Texas Wildlife and Fish. Pima County Field Officers answer wild animal calls. Further, Welfare and Neglect cases are referred to Law Enforcement in Maricopa County, and their Field Officers are only called if animals need to be transported to the Humane Society for sheltering. Pima County Field Officers handle the welfare and neglect calls, only calling law enforcement when back up is needed. Finally, Animal Waste issues are handled by zoning departments in Maricopa County as well as in San Antonio and Austin, Texas. These issues are also handled by our understaffed field officers in Pima County.

At this time the citizens of Pima county are considering a 22 million dollar Bond to rebuild the Pima Animal Care Center. Unfortunately many people in the county do not understand how hard the staff at PACC work. Unless they come to the Center, they do not see the hard working staff who are trying to save and rehabilitate

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as many animals as possible, to then adopt them into good homes. The most publicly visible representatives of Pima County's efforts on the behalf of pets are the Field Officers on the street. These officers often times come to community events to educate the public on the services that PACC provides for the county, in addition to all the other service calls they make. But with only 25 Officers available, dispatch must tell many callers that they will have to wait, or that the officer cannot attend the issue at this time, but will come as soon as possible. Our Field Officers would be able to better serve the community, and demonstrate to the public the progress that Pima County has made with regard to animal welfare, if there were more of them. As it is now, our Officers are spread too thin and stretched to the breaking point. They need help and we urge you to approve the funds for the four extra officers we need.

Sincerely,



Jack Neuman  
Chairman  
Pima County Animal Care Advisory Committee

cc: President and Members, Pima County Board of Health  
C.H. Huckelberry, Pima County Administrator  
Jan Leshner, Deputy Pima County Administrator, Medical and Health Services  
Francisco Garcia, MD, MPH, Director, Pima County Health Department

PIMA ANIMAL CARE CENTER  
 ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
 JUNE 2014 OPERATIONAL REPORT

SHELTER OPERATIONS	THIS MONTH			THIS YEAR TO DATE			LAST YEAR TO DATE			YEAR TO YEAR DELTA % +/-
	TUCSON	COUNTY	TOTAL	TUCSON	COUNTY	TOTAL	TUCSON	COUNTY	TOTAL	
<b>ALL ANIMALS HANDLED</b>										
DOGS	736	589	1,325	8,220	7,314	15,534	8,586	7,816	16,402	
CATS	457	277	734	4,923	3,128	8,051	5,963	3,456	9,419	
OTHERS	43	32	75	308	439	747	243	529	772	
<b>TOTAL ANIMALS HANDLED</b>	<b>1,236</b>	<b>898</b>	<b>2,134</b>	<b>13,451</b>	<b>10,881</b>	<b>24,332</b>	<b>14,792</b>	<b>11,801</b>	<b>26,593</b>	<b>-2261 -9%</b>
Live Animals Handled	1,128	837	1,965	11,998	9,813	21,811	13,160	10,484	23,644	<b>-1833 -8%</b>
<b>ADOPTED</b>										
DOGS	292	277	569	2,883	2,582	5,465	2,387	2,271	4,658	
CATS	202	92	294	1,243	905	2,148	872	617	1,489	
OTHER	9	0	9	43	14	57	30	3	33	
<b>TOTAL ADOPTED</b>	<b>503</b>	<b>369</b>	<b>872</b>	<b>4,169</b>	<b>3,501</b>	<b>7,670</b>	<b>3,289</b>	<b>2,891</b>	<b>6,180</b>	<b>1490 24%</b>
<b>RETURNED TO OWNER</b>										
DOGS	75	46	121	880	665	1,545	960	847	1,807	
CATS	6	2	8	73	61	134	93	69	162	
OTHER	0	0	0	7	13	20	4	9	13	
<b>TOTAL RETURNED</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>960</b>	<b>739</b>	<b>1,699</b>	<b>1,057</b>	<b>925</b>	<b>1,982</b>	<b>-283 -14%</b>
<b>RESCUED</b>										
DOGS	67	54	121	1,171	1,360	2,531	1,338	1,165	2,503	
CATS	65	40	105	1,072	665	1,737	1,110	577	1,687	
OTHER	1	3	4	67	48	115	9	43	52	
<b>TOTAL RESCUED</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>2,310</b>	<b>2,073</b>	<b>4,383</b>	<b>2,457</b>	<b>1,785</b>	<b>4,242</b>	<b>141 3%</b>
<b>*TOTAL LIVE RELEASES</b>	<b>717</b>	<b>514</b>	<b>1,231</b>	<b>7,439</b>	<b>6,313</b>	<b>13,752</b>	<b>6,803</b>	<b>5,601</b>	<b>12,404</b>	<b>1348 11%</b>
<b>**TOTAL LIVE RELEASE RATE</b>			<b>80%</b>			<b>78%</b>			<b>64%</b>	
<b>EUTHANIZED</b>										
DOGS	137	119	256	1,915	1,724	3,639	2,783	2,503	5,286	
CATS	106	71	177	1,532	1,009	2,541	2,909	1,774	4,683	
OTHER	3	7	10	37	78	115	54	84	138	
<b>TOTAL EUTHANIZED</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>443</b>	<b>3,484</b>	<b>2,811</b>	<b>6,295</b>	<b>5,746</b>	<b>4,361</b>	<b>10,107</b>	<b>-3812 -38%</b>
(-)Owner Requested Euthanasia			142			2,047			3,084	
Adjusted Total Euthanasia			301			4,248			7,023	
<b>***EUTHANASIA RATE</b>			<b>20%</b>			<b>24%</b>			<b>36%</b>	
<b>OTHER</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>659</b>	<b>1,720</b>	<b>1,260</b>	<b>2,980</b>	<b>1,840</b>	<b>1,488</b>	<b>3,328</b>	<b>-348 -10%</b>
<b>ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS</b>										
Welfare Responses	268	114	382	2562	1170	3732	3173	1514	4687	<b>-965 -21%</b>
<b>ENFORCEMENT CALLS FOR SERVICE</b>	<b>1,410</b>	<b>844</b>	<b>2,254</b>	<b>17,853</b>	<b>11,075</b>	<b>28,928</b>	<b>19,438</b>	<b>12,300</b>	<b>31,738</b>	<b>-2,810 -9%</b>
<b>LICENSING OPERATIONS</b>										
ALTERED	3,856	4,296	8,152	43,226	54,787	98,013	44,072	57,294	101,366	
UNALTERED	284	305	569	2,947	3,882	6,829	3,387	4,496	7,883	
OTHER	89	93	182	860	1,169	2,029	1,099	1,333	2,432	
<b>TOTAL SOLD</b>	<b>4,209</b>	<b>4,694</b>	<b>8,903</b>	<b>47,033</b>	<b>59,838</b>	<b>106,871</b>	<b>48,558</b>	<b>63,123</b>	<b>111,681</b>	<b>-4,810 -4%</b>

\*Total Live Releases(TLR)=Total Adopted+Total Returned+Total Rescued  
 \*\*Live Release Rate=TLR/(TLR+Adjusted Total Euthanasia)  
 \*\*\*Euthanasia Rate=(Adjusted Total Euthanasia)/(TLR+Adjusted Total Euthanasia)