



**THE HUMANE SOCIETY**  
OF THE UNITED STATES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **The Humane Society of the United States Offers Reward in Multiple Pikeville, Ky. Cruelty Cases**

### ***Two Dogs Victims of Extreme Abuse***

(Jan 8, 2010) — The Humane Society of the United States is offering a reward of up to \$2,500 for information leading to the identification, arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for injuring two dogs in two recent Pikeville, Ky. animal cruelty cases. One was dog seriously wounded by an arrow and another suffered broken legs in a shotgun blast.

***The Cases:*** *United Rescues of Kentucky and the Shamrock Foundation give the following accounts:* On Jan. 4, a large, black, German shepherd/Labrador retriever-mix was found by the roadside – where she had languished for a week – with two broken legs filled with buckshot. Pikeville authorities contacted United Rescues of Kentucky for assistance with the dog, who is now named Leah. She is in critical condition and will require extensive orthopedic surgery to repair the damage caused by her injuries.

On the same day Leah was found, a large black Labrador retriever was found wandering the streets of Pike County with an arrow through his body. The Shamrock Foundation, a Louisville-based animal rescue organization, learned of the injured dog and rescued him. The dog—now called Aiden—was apparently shot at point-blank range. His underlying muscle tissue was badly damaged, and he suffered a collapsed lung, among other injuries. He is in serious condition.

"Pike County has had its share of horrific animal abuse in the past few weeks. These dogs have suffered a great deal because people can be cruel to animals—the same people who can be cruel to people," said Pamela Rogers, The HSUS' Kentucky state director. "We commend shelter management and the local humane society for reaching out to the Kentucky groups that can help these poor animals."

***Animal Cruelty:*** Getting the serious attention of law enforcement, prosecutors and the community in cases involving allegations of cruelty to animals is an essential step in protecting the community. The connection between animal cruelty and human violence is well documented. Studies show a correlation between animal cruelty and all manner of other crimes, from narcotics and firearms violations to battery and sexual assault.

***The Investigators:*** The Pike County Sheriff's Office is investigating. Anyone with information about the case is asked to call 606-432-6260.

**Resources:** The HSUS Animal Cruelty Campaign raises public awareness and educates communities about the connection between animal cruelty and human violence while providing a variety of resources to law enforcement agencies, social work professionals, educators, legislators and families. The HSUS offers rewards in animal cruelty cases across the country and works to strengthen laws against animal cruelty. To see our journalists' animal cruelty resource guide, which includes information on statistics, trends, laws and animal cruelty categories, go to: [humanesociety.org/crueltyresources](http://humanesociety.org/crueltyresources).

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*Anyone wishing to follow Leah's recovery can visit the United Rescues of Kentucky at [urky.org](http://urky.org) and can learn more about Aidan's progress at [shamrockpets.com](http://shamrockpets.com)*

*The Humane Society of the United States is the nation's largest animal protection organization – backed by 11 million Americans, or one of every 28. For more than a half-century, The HSUS has been fighting for the protection of all animals through advocacy, education and hands-on programs. Celebrating animals and confronting cruelty -- On the web at [humanesociety.org](http://humanesociety.org).*

***The Humane Society of the United States***

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*Celebrating Animals, Confronting Cruelty*