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For Immediate Release:

The Seattle Humane Society has not seen the lawsuit and is not named in the lawsuit filed by the King County Officer's Guild and therefore cannot comment on it.

The Seattle Humane Society, along with many other fine shelters and rescue groups in the area, has transferred animals from King County Animal Care and Control (KCACC) to help lower its euthanasia rates. It is unfortunate the Guild has chosen to attack the community partners who have been providing this assistance and are working to save the companion animals who will be left homeless when King County's shelter closes on January 31.

Last year the Seattle Humane Society transferred 463 animals from KCACC, often at considerable expense. Sixty percent of these animals received spay and neuter surgery and all were microchipped, behavior and health checked, and each dog's adoption included six weeks of training classes. We are a private nonprofit and receive no government assistance. Our adoption fees are nominal. Our generous donors make these life-saving services possible. We do not "profit" from these adoptions.

Here are just two examples of the animals transferred from King County Animal Care and Control:

- Benson, a Poodle, shivering in the corner of a KCACC kennel, was covered in poop and water that was sprayed on him while the cage was being cleaned. We were told he was ill and was going to be euthanized. We brought him back to the Seattle Humane Society and treated him for pneumonia, a painful dental condition that required removing several teeth, and surgery to remove tumors. After receiving treatment, Benson lived with a loving foster care family to recover. He spent a month there and was adopted soon afterward.
- Bruno, a Rottweiler, was transferred to the Seattle Humane from KCACC. Our veterinarians neutered him and performed surgery to remove several masses on his face. While the vets had him under anesthesia they found he had actually been shot and had BBs embedded in the tender skin around his eyes. After surgery, Bruno went to foster care for recovery and is now in a happy home of his own.

Our mission is saving lives, and bringing people and pets together. We have done this successfully for 112 years.

The Seattle Humane Society and other rescue groups are currently in negotiations with King County and area cities to provide shelter to the animals when King County shuts its facility in Kent on Jan. 31. These negotiations are ongoing. Working in collaboration with other groups, we hope to reach a solution that is best for the animals.

Seattle Humane Society has been awarded the coveted 4-star rating by Charity Navigator, America's largest independent charity evaluator. Founded in 1897 to bring people and pets together, Seattle Humane Society provides incredible companion animals for adoption 7 days a week, pet workshops and training, a pet food bank, a low-fee spay/neuter surgery program, humane teen club, a visiting pets program and more. Seattle Humane Society is located in Bellevue, at 13212 SE Eastgate Way. For directions and more information, visit www.seattlehumane.org or call (425) 641-0080.