Remember

- Important to recognize animal cruelty case in and of itself
- The animal cruelty case can be a key to a different case
- DV/Child Abuse/Child Neglect Cases
- Necropsy
- Freezer v. Fridge
- Get vet involved!!!

CASES

Arson/Animal Cruelty Case

Animal Cruelty/DV

- James Holmes
  - Psychiatrist

Animal Cruelty/DV

- Jeb R. G.

- 911 call
- Almost killed dog
- Choked to point of defecation
- Black eyes, bruises and lacerations to victim

At the time of this investigation, my body worn camera was activated and my contact while on scene was both audio and video recorded. A Copy of the recording was later uploaded as evidence.

1. Has your partner ever threatened used a weapon against you? NO

2. Has your partner ever threatened to kill you, your children or pets? YES
My dog, before she is in secure and I am always putting the dog first. "I'm gonna turn that dog into a pudding."

3. Has your partner ever tried to choke you? NO

4. Does your partner have a gun or can they get one? NO

5. Is your partner jealous or do they try to control you? YES

6. Has your partner ever tried to commit suicide? No

7. Has your partner ever forced you to have sex when you didn't want to? No

8. Do you feel like the violence against you is escalating in severity? Yes
Gone from verbal to physical, very hurtful and hearing my dog.

9. Do you think your partner may try to kill you? Yes

I don't know. That's the craziest party, I don't know

10. Is your partner drunk, high on drugs on a frequent basis? No

Animal Cruelty/Child Neglect

- Melissa Chamblee
  - Animal and child neglect

- A year prior . . .

Animal Cruelty/DV

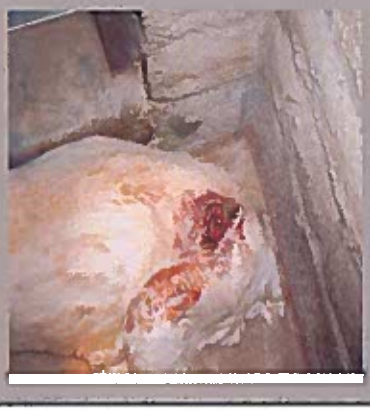
The Evidence and the Scene

Evidence can be subtle or profound.

- Weapon
- Property Damage
- Photos

Animals or Children at the Scene

- Injuries or Illness
- Behavior
  - Towards Family
  - Towards Strangers
- Environment
  - Food
  - Water
  - Shelter
- Hygiene



What ELSE does the scene tell you?

- **Verify or deny**
- **Change in interviewing direction**
- **Photos**

Injuries are not always obvious

- Need for medical exam?
- Photograph injuries
  - At the time of the incident
  - Several days later
- Repeat interview

ACT Point of View

- Education, enforcement, awareness
- First victim of domestic violence may be the animals in the household
- Victimization prevention may begin with competent animal cruelty investigation

Animal Cruelty/DV

- Richard Cleary
  - 10/27/2006
  - Toffee
  - DV too?
  - EMT

Neglect

- Avela Mendoza
  - Neglect
  - Failure to provide medical care

- Sentence???

Lethality Assessments – Important Tool

1 Has your partner ever threatened to kill you, your children or pets? YES
He told her he was going to use a gun and shoot her

2 Has your partner ever threatened to kill you, your children or pets? YES
He kill her and her kitten. She has no children

3 Has your partner ever tried to choke you? YES
With his hands but he left no marks.

4 Does your partner have a gun or can they get one? No
but he could get one

5 Is your partner jealous or do they try to control you? YES
When they were together he did both

6 Has your partner ever tried to commit suicide? NO

7 Has your partner ever forced you to have sex when you didn't want to? NO

8 Do you feel like the violence against you is escalating in severity? YES
Started with grabbing her arm and eventually he started saying he was going to kill her

9 Do you think your partner may try to kill you? YES
Because of his threats to do so

10 Is your partner drunk high on drugs on a frequent basis? YES
He smokes marijuana and gets drunk a lot

- Mason Davis Case

Cases

- State v. John Aaron Fields

Cases

Cases

- Valerie Luna
  - Boxer skin and bones
  - Walking over Coco as she lay in the back yard
  - Charged A.R.S. 13-2910(A)(8) cruel neglect or abandonment that results in serious physical injury
  - A.R.S. 13-2910(A)(2): fail to provide medical attention necessary to prevent protracted suffering

- Valerie Luna continued
  - CR2008-180736

- Sadie Madrid
  - What NOT to do during an investigation
  - Should have been felony but due to investigation filed as misdemeanor

Cadie

HOARDING

- HOARDING IS DEFINED AS "TO ACCUMULATE AND HIDE, TO STORE AWAY."
- -SERIOUS PROBLEM

HOARDING

- CAN INVOLVE ALL TYPES OF ANIMALS.
- CASES HAVE INCLUDED:
- DOGS
- CATS
- HORSES
- FARM ANIMALS
- EXOTIC ANIMALS

HOARDING

STUDY BY THE HUMANE SOCIETY SHOWN THAT:

WITHOUT A LONG TERM PLAN AND SUPPORT FOR THE HOARDER EVIDENCE SUGGESTS RECIDIVISM RATES REACH 100 PERCENT.

HOARDING

- PSYCHOLOGICAL ISSUE
  - FOCAL DELUSION
  - ADDICTION
  - OBSESSIVE COMPULSIVE DISORDER
  - ZOOPHILIA
  - DEMENTIA

HOARDING CLUES

- COMPLAINTS OF STENCH (AMMONIA OR FECES)
- LARGE AMOUNT OF ANIMALS CONGREGATING AROUND A HOME
- SUSPECT IS USUALLY UNKEMPT
- TYPICAL HOARDER IS MIDDLE AGED, OR OLDER. USUSALLY FEMALE AND ARE OFTEN DISABLED, UNEMPLOYED, OR RETIRED.
- STEREOTYPE DOES NOT APPLY TO ALL SITUATIONS.

- Gilbert Hoarding Case
  - Started with nuisance complaint
  - Warrant for nuisance
  - Amended to cruelty

Our Role

- Take charge!!!
- Take it seriously and take on the role!!!!
- Review relevant animal cruelty and agricultural laws and definitions in your jurisdiction
- Identify resources on this connection in your community (humane agents, animal control officers, veterinary professionals, social service agencies)
- Require therapeutic evaluations and interventions
- Be receptive to outreach from animal protection professionals/Prevention Program
- Create or support cruelty taskforce

Outdated Excuses for Behavior

- DUI – "It's only a joyride."
- Domestic Violence – "It's only a family matter."
- Animal Cruelty – "It's only an animal, boys will be boys."

TASK FORCES

- Southern Arizona Animal Cruelty Task Force
- Arizona Professionals' Animal Cruelty Task Force

- Photos of serial killers from Randall Lockwood's presentation (VP/Research and Educational Outreach Humane Society of the United States)
- Statistics from ACT and The Humane LINK