



# DOG FIGHTING IS A FELONY!

## **Dog fighting is a child welfare issue**

- Children present at dog fighting events are exposed to extreme brutality, violence and cruelty.
- Psychiatrists have verified that a past history of cruelty to animals is linked to aggressive behavior directed toward other human beings.

## **Dog fighting effects the community**

- Dog fighting is part of the cycle of violence.
- It breeds contempt for other living creatures and desensitizes children and adults to violence and cruelty.
- Dog fighting is frequently associated with criminal activities including illegal weapons and narcotics as well as other violent crimes including child abuse and domestic violence.

## **Dog fighting is cruelty to animals**

- Dogs are often beaten and severely abused in order to train them for dog fights. They usually spend most of their short lives caged or confined with minimal human interaction or care.
- The injuries sustained by the dogs participating in dog fights are frequently severe, and often fatal.
- Dogs who may survive the fight often die of blood loss, shock, dehydration, exhaustion or infection after experiencing hours or even days of extreme suffering.

## **Dog fighting is a felony offense**

- Those convicted under the state law may be imprisoned for a prison term of 1-3 years and may be fined up to \$50,000.
- Attending a dog fight as a spectator is also a criminal offense.

**Dial 911** if you witness a dog fight in progress.  
**Dial 311** if you suspect dog fights or animal abuse.