## Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Los Angeles

## News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 1, 2013

## HOLDING OUT FOR A HERO

Calls for spcaLA's National Hero Dog Award™ Nominations for Courageous Acts Occurring in 2012

Los Angeles, CA – Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Los Angeles is currently seeking nominations for the 31st Annual spcaLA National Hero Dog Award™. This national award celebrates heroic acts performed by ordinary dogs that have gone to extraordinary lengths to save or protect a human. The winning dog and his or her human companion will be flown to Los Angeles for the official ceremony. Nominations must be from calendar year 2012.

Any dog that is a companion animal and not formally trained for rescues or as a police dog is eligible for this award. spcaLA accepts nominations from anyone who has or knows of a canine deserving of such an honor. spcaLA Hero  $Dog^{TM}$  nominations may be sent to info@spcaLA.com.

To nominate a spcaLA National Hero Dog<sup>™</sup> send a description of the heroic act that occurred in the year 2012 with a name, address, and daytime telephone number. Heroic acts must be verifiable (newspaper clippings, police report, etc). Nominations must be submitted by April 12, 2012.

Past spcaLA National Hero Dog Award™ winners include Shannon, a Golden Retriever/Border Collie mix who led her owner to her husband who was trapped under a tractor; Shadow, a German Shepherd mix who fought off a grizzly bear that was attacking his owner; Miley a Terrier mix who roused her owner as poisonous carbon monoxide gas filled her home; Ronnie, a Wire Fox Terrier who defended his human and canine companion against a coyote intruder; Diamond, a Pit Bull Terrier who alerted her family when their home caught on fire and shielded one of her human companions from flames, injuring herself in the process; and last year's spcaLA National Hero Dog™ Bear, a 5 year-old Shiloh German Shepherd from Milsap, Texas ran for help when her companion suffered a seizure.

For more information or to schedule an interview, please contact Ana Bustilloz at (323) 730-5300 x252, (323) 707-1271 cell or by email at abustilloz@spcaLA.com.

## About spcaLA

spcaLA is an independent, nonprofit animal welfare organization serving Southern California since 1877. There is no national SPCA, parent organization, or umbrella group that provides financial support to spcaLA. Donations run programs and services including Cruelty Investigation, Disaster Animal Response Team, Humane Education, and a variety of shelter services.

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