PRESS RELEASE

Contact Person: Captain Larry Cecchettini

Date: March 12, 2014

Subject: Sheriff Helps Family in Crisis Find Shelter

03/12/14 - Sheriff Ed Prieto helped a woman with three young children and two small dogs in need of a place to stay away from the threat of family related violence.

A woman and three young children facing threats from another family member arrived at Animal Services yesterday under the understanding they would have to surrender the family’s two small dogs in order for them to have emergency housing in a shelter. The dogs are medically prescribed as emotional support dogs for the two youngest children.

Animal Services staff referred the mother of the family to places who may have been able to find emergency shelter, but none was available. When Sheriff Prieto learned of this, he made arrangements for the family to be put up in a hotel for a few days and be provided meal and travel money at his own personal expense. He also made arrangements for shelter staff to provide animal crates for the dogs so they would be accepted at the hotel. The hotel kindly accepted the family and their dogs.

“Once I learned of this family in crisis, I could not turn my back” said Sheriff Prieto. “They didn’t deserve the issues they are being forced to deal with. I’m only grateful that I was made aware of this family’s situation and that I was in a position to help them”.

“SERVICE WITHOUT LIMITATIONS”