

# Animal Fighting: Conduit for Gambling, Drugs and Weapons

The popularity of animal fighting in the United States has grown over the past several years. This is especially true among street gang members and narcotics traffickers who often characterize dog fighting as their "sport" of choice. Law enforcement officials nationwide have documented the strong connection between animal fighting and the large-scale manufacture and distribution of illegal drugs and firearms.

Officers routinely encounter pit bulls during criminal investigations but are unfamiliar with the signs of animal fighting. This introductory workshop will provide information on the background of animal fighting, relevant laws, associated crimes, and successful investigative techniques, use of informants, undercover operations and search warrants.

## Course Topics

The agenda for this 7.5-hour illegal animal fighting investigations training includes:

- History of animal fighting
- Instruction on the categories of animal fighting
- Review of animal fighting paraphernalia
- Matters concerning search warrants, performing investigations, and recognizing and logging evidence at an arrest or raid
- Disposition of confiscated animals
- Dealing with the media
- Preparing a case for court
- Recognizing street fighting and the best means for making an arrest
- Animal fighting connection to other felony crimes
- Knowing, interpreting, and applying the law

- Investigative techniques, internet investigation
- Search warrant and raid responsibilities
- Common injuries and telltale scars (this covers forensic veterinary aspects)
- The gamecock, the participants, fight preparation, how cockfights are conducted, investigative techniques, search warrants, and raid responsibilities
- Legal interpretations / DA's policy / instructions to local agencies (prosecutor)

## Seminar Leaders

- **Chris Sanford, Special Investigator**  
The Humane Society of the United States  
Sacramento, California
- Prosecutor to be added
- **Scott Wilson, State Program Coordinator**  
HSUS Central States Regional Office  
Des Moines, IA

## Who Should Attend

- \_ Law Enforcement Officers
- \_ Prosecutors and Judges
- \_ Probation Officers
- \_ Animal Control Officers
- \_ Humane Investigators
- \_ Veterinarians

## Registration Fees

**Before June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006 - \$40.00**

**After June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006 - \$60.00**

**Register early - Space is limited.**

**Cancellations accepted by June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2006.**

## When and Where:

Thursday, June 15, 2006  
8:30am – 5:00pm  
Registration begins at 8:00am

### LUNCH PROVIDED

Rochester Elks Lodge  
917 15<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE  
Rochester, MN 55904

***Due to the confidential nature of the material presented in the class, enrollment is restricted to law enforcement officers; prosecutors and judges; probation officers; and animal control/humane investigators/veterinarians if employed or contracted with a government agency (sheriff's department, police department, health department, etc.).***

***Walk-in registrations will NOT be allowed.***

## Accommodations

Sgt. Kevin Torgerson at (507) 285-8500 or [torgerson.kevin@co.olmsted.mn.us](mailto:torgerson.kevin@co.olmsted.mn.us)  
or Denise Haefner  
[haefner.denise@co.olmsted.mn.us](mailto:haefner.denise@co.olmsted.mn.us)

## For More Information

Please contact Jenny Brown at (630) 357-7015 or [jbrown@hsus.org](mailto:jbrown@hsus.org), or Sgt. Kevin Torgerson at (507) 285-8500 or [torgerson.kevin@co.olmsted.mn.us](mailto:torgerson.kevin@co.olmsted.mn.us)

# Registration Form

Must be received by June 1, 2006.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

JOB TITLE \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANIZATION \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/ STATE/ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

DAYTIME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

FAX \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

## Payment enclosed:

Before June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006

\_\_\_\_\_ At \$40/each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

After June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006

\_\_\_\_\_ At \$60/each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## LUNCH PROVIDED

Please send check or money order (payable to Olmsted County Sheriffs Office) to:

**Olmsted County Sheriff's Office**  
**Attn: Training Division**  
**101 4<sup>th</sup> St. SE**  
**Rochester MN 55904**

Cancellations accepted by June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

Olmsted County Sheriffs Office  
Attn: Training Division  
101 4<sup>th</sup> St. SE  
Rochester MN 55904

# ILLEGAL

# ANIMAL FIGHTING INVESTIGATIONS

*Presented by*

**THE HUMANE SOCIETY  
OF THE UNITED STATES.**

*Co-sponsored by*



**Olmsted County Sheriff's  
Office**

**June 15, 2006  
Rochester MN**