



# KNOW THE SIGNS OF AN ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIP INVOLVING PETS OR OTHER ANIMALS

## Has someone in the home...

**THREATENED** your client, you, or the pet? to get rid of, hurt, neglect, kill or euthanize the pet?

**NEGLECTED HARMED or FORCED SOMEONE ELSE TO HARM** a pet or other companion animal?

Neglect or harm in an abusive relationship may present in the following ways:

- The history, as presented by the client, is inconsistent with the nature of the injuries, or no explanation is offered for the injury
- Family members present changing or discrepant histories
- Client repeatedly fails to follow-up on the treatment of serious medical conditions
- Unexplained delay in seeking medical attention
- A previous injury or death has occurred in another animal in the same household, or belonging to the same owner
- Injuries presenting at different stages of healing, repetitive injuries
- The lodger/neighbor/stranger may be blamed
- Owners self-treating injuries to their animals when unrelated to financial hardship

If you feel your client may be experiencing abuse and is unable to leave their situation because of concern for their pets or other companion animals, share with them the website [SafePlaceforPets.org](https://SafePlaceforPets.org).