

**Lesson Title:** NDATF CERTIFIED ANIMAL CRUELTY INVESTIGATOR

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**Presentation Guide**

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**NDATF CERTIFIED ANIMAL CRUELTY INVESTIGATOR  
LESSON PLAN**

**Course Title** NDATF CERTIFIED ANIMAL CRUELTY INVESTIGATOR

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**Instructor(s)** SUBJECT MATTER EXPERTS

**Prepared by** NDATF Training Division **Date Prepared** January 2005

**Total Training Slides**

Total: 1 to 108

**Hours**

Total: 16

**Target Population:**

Animal Control Officers, Animal Cruelty Investigators, Code Enforcement, Humane Law Enforcement Officers, Police Officers, Sheriff Deputies, Prosecutors and any other Public Safety Officials.

**Number of Students**

30

**Introduction and Overview:**

This course of study entitled “Certified Animal Cruelty Investigations” is divided into two (2) component parts; how to investigate animal cruelty and animal care standards.

In accordance with this detailed training, the officer will understand and learn the following:

**How to Investigate Animal Cruelty**

- Abuse
  - Assessing the Scene
  - Seize and Impound the Animal
  - Medical Care / Treatment by Veterinarian
  - Chain of Custody Collection, Preserving and Documenting Evidence
  - Collecting Evidence
  - Getting Warrants for Arrest or Evidence
  - Unacceptable Defense to Abuse
  - Viable Defense to Abuse

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- Neglect
  - Neglect is Cruelty and a Crime
  - Here are Some Examples of Neglect
  - Look for Actual Symptoms on the Animals
  - Willful Neglect
  - Unacceptable Defenses to Neglect
  - Viable Defenses to Neglect
  - If you Suspect the Caretaker is the Cause of the Animal Suffering, then
- Abandonment
- Legal Issues Facing Investigators
  - Probable Cause
  - Trespassing on Private or Public Property
  - Seizure and Asking for Restitution for the Care of Animal

**Animal Care Standards**

- Dogs
  - Terminology
  - Basic Animal Care Standards for Dogs
  - Problems Associated with Constant Tethering
  - Additional Recommendation for Dogs
  - Signs of Neglect or Cruelty – What to Look For
- Cats
  - Terminology
  - Basic Animal Care Standards for Cats
  - Additional Recommendations for Cats
  - Signs of Neglect or Cruelty – What to Look For
- Horses
  - Terminology
  - Basic Animal Care Standards for Horses
  - Should be Fed as Follows
  - Additional Recommendations for Horses
  - Signs of Neglect or Cruelty – What to Look For
  - Behavior of Horse
- Cattle
  - Terminology
  - Basic Animal Care Standards for Cattle
  - Additional Recommendations for Cattle
  - Signs of Neglect or Cruelty – What to Look For
- Sheep
  - Terminology
  - Basic Animal Care Standards for Sheep
  - Additional Recommendations for Sheep
  - Signs of Neglect or Cruelty – What to Look For
- Goats
  - Terminology
  - Basic Animal Care Standards for Goats
  - Additional Recommendations for Goats
  - Signs of Neglect or Cruelty – What to Look For

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- Pigs
  - Terminology
  - Basic Animal Care Standards for Pigs
  - Additional Recommendation for Pigs
  - Signs of Neglect or Cruelty – What to Look For
- Rabbits
  - Terminology
  - Basic Animal Care Standards for Rabbits
  - Signs of Neglect or Cruelty – What to Look For
- Birds
  - Terminology
  - Basic Animal Care Standards for Birds
  - Additional Recommendations for Birds
  - Signs of Neglect or Cruelty – What to Look For
- Chicken, Ducks and Geese
  - Terminology
  - Basic Animal Care Standards for Chicken, Ducks and Geese
  - Additional Recommendations for Chicken, Ducks and Geese
  - Signs of Neglect or Cruelty – What to Look For

