



COUNTY OF LAKE
Animal Care & Control

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Stephen L. Carter, Jr.
Interim Animal Care & Control Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Brad Rasmussen, Chair, Lake County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Stephen L. Carter, Jr., Interim Animal Care and Control Director

DATE: January 13, 2026

SUBJECT: Supplemental Response to the 2024-25 Lake County Civil Grand Jury's Report, "Highway Havoc: First Responders' Adaptation During Cattle Truck Overtures"

Lake County Animal Care and Control values the opportunity to provide this Supplemental Response to the Civil Grand Jury's 2024-25 Final Report. Responses to specified Findings are included below.

F9. To date, neither an OES Large Animal Response Annex nor internal policies and procedures addressing livestock animal emergencies has been completed by Animal Care and Control.

AGREE with finding. The Grand Jury's associated Recommendation will be implemented by the end of Fiscal Year 2025-26.

F10. Animal Care and Control currently lacks a veterinarian who could provide necessary assistance to the first responders and the livestock during trailer rollovers.

AGREE with finding. Lake County Animal Care and Control has been grateful for the support of contracted community veterinarians in support of critical veterinary needs and in the event of emergencies. The policies addressed above will further strengthen the Department's capacity to respond.

F11. Animal Care and Control has not reactivated its LEAP animal disaster service that could have responded to the first two rollovers.

DISAGREE with finding.

Explanation: While Animal Care and Control personnel respond to animal-focused emergency needs during disaster events, LEAP is not a County-administered program. Therefore, the Department would not independently reactive LEAP. However, outreach is currently underway to explore restoring availability of LEAP.