



EL SEGUNDO POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Press Release

October 29, 2007

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

PET SAFETY TIPS FOR HALLOWEEN 2007

The El Segundo Police Department reminds everyone that Halloween can be a fun holiday, but it can be potentially dangerous and frightening for pets. Here are some tips to keep your pets safe during Halloween:

- Keep pets indoors in a secure comfortable area with a radio or television playing in the background. Many pets fear the noise from trick-or-treaters.
- Always keep current license and ID tags securely affixed to your pet's collar. A license tag is the only means of identifying your pet if he/she becomes lost.
- Do not leave pets outside unattended. Loud noises frighten pets and they may panic, become confused, and can go through great lengths to escape their enclosures. This can include chewing leashes or breaking fences. If your pet becomes lost or missing, you can contact the police department at (310) 524-2200 to see if it has been located. The department takes lost pets to SPCA (Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) and their phone number is (310) 676-1149.
- Keep pets away from all candy. Chocolate, which contains theobromine, can be poisonous to pets causing nerve damage and even death.
- Properly dispose of all candy wrappers. Tinfoil and cellophane candy wrappers are tempting treats for pets and can cause pets to choke or to have intestinal blocks.

- Keep pumpkins or jack-o-lanterns away from pets. Pets can knock them over which could result in a burn.
- Halloween pet costumes can pose safety hazards for pets. Do not dress them up unless they are used to it and enjoy it. Make sure the costume does not restrict their movement, vision, hearing or the ability to breathe or bark. Halloween pet costumes should not have small or dangling accessories that can be swallowed by your pet.

The El Segundo Police Department hopes everyone has a fun and safe Halloween.