



# COUNTY OF SONOMA

Released by: **Sonoma County Animal Services**  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Potential Outbreak of Canine Parvovirus at Sonoma County's Animal Shelter

**Santa Rosa, CA – January 23, 2017** – Sonoma County Animal Services reports a possible canine parvovirus outbreak at the County's Animal Shelter located at 1247 Century Court, Santa Rosa. A decontamination of all the kennels is underway at the Shelter. Over the past 10 days, five stray dogs have contracted the parvovirus. These five dogs that were infected with the parvovirus were euthanized. During this time there will be no adoptions available at the Shelter.

An additional two adoptable dogs may have been exposed to the virus and have been moved to the stray side of the Shelter. Only stray dogs identified by their owner will be allowed to leave the shelter. However all dogs removed from the shelter should be seen by their veterinarian for possible exposure to Parvo.

Parvovirus can be common at shelters. Sonoma County Animal Services is taking every precaution to protect the dogs, staff and volunteers during this incident with the decontamination process. During the decontamination process, no volunteers or staff will be walking dogs out of the stray side. Protocols are in place to ensure that the outbreak will be contained. The virus can spread easily from fur or contaminated objects.

American Veterinary Medical Association reports that canine parvovirus is highly contagious and can affect all dogs. Parvo is preventable with the proper vaccination. The virus can be spread from direct contact, but more often it is spread by people petting one dog after another. Parvo adversely impacts a dog's gastrointestinal tracts. Unvaccinated dogs and young puppies are most at risk from the virus. Signs of the virus include: loss of appetite, inactivity, diarrhea, vomiting, low body temperature, and abdominal pain.

Sonoma County Animal Services is investigating how this outbreak occurred and what steps can be taken in the future to prevent another similar incident.

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## Contact Information

### **Office of Communications**

### **Health Services**

County of Sonoma

Business Hours

Monday – Friday

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Contact us by Phone  
Phone: (707) 565-3040

Address

**Health Services Administration**  
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## Page Links

1. Health Services - <https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/Health/Press-Releases/Potential-Outbreak-of-Canine-Parvovirus//Departments-Agencies/Health-Services/>
2. Sign Up for Press Release Updates - [https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CASONOMA/subscriber/new?topic\\_id=CASONOMA\\_197](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CASONOMA/subscriber/new?topic_id=CASONOMA_197)
3. Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Sonoma-County-Department-of-Health-Services/506030742810003>