

**RFA Regarding the Fatal Shooting of Jameson the dog in Canoga Park and
the Need for Enhanced De-escalation Training,
Transparency, and Accountability**

The Reseda Neighborhood Council is deeply concerned by the recent LAPD shooting of Jameson, a family dog, during a routine service call within Council District 3. While the facts remain under investigation, this incident has raised serious concerns among residents regarding de-escalation practices, officer training, and the use of nonlethal alternatives when responding to encounters involving domestic animals.

Many residents believe there may have been nonlethal options available, such as creating distance, waiting for the owner to secure Jameson, or using de-escalation techniques such as pepper spray similar to those used by mail carriers in encounters with dogs. For many in our community, the most troubling aspect is not only that a family pet was killed, but how quickly the encounter escalated.

At a time when concerns about animal welfare continue to grow across Los Angeles, residents are troubled by the fact that Jameson lost his life during an encounter with the very department entrusted with protecting our communities. Since this incident occurred, Jameson's owner has filed a lawsuit against the City of Los Angeles and unidentified LAPD officers, further underscoring the seriousness of the concerns raised by this tragedy. Beyond the emotional toll on the family, incidents that result in litigation may also expose the City to significant legal costs and potential financial liability ultimately borne by Los Angeles taxpayers. This reinforces the importance of a thorough and transparent investigation, meaningful accountability, and continued investment in de-escalation training and nonlethal alternatives to help prevent similar incidents in the future.

For these reasons, the Reseda Neighborhood Council calls for a thorough and transparent investigation into this incident, including a review of the actions of the officers involved, with public release of findings and any resulting recommendations. We further encourage the Los Angeles Police Department to evaluate its policies and training regarding encounters with domestic animals, expand the use of de-escalation and nonlethal alternatives whenever feasible, and implement any policy or procedural improvements necessary to help prevent similar tragedies in the future.