

Media Contact: Jim Kiertzner, newsling@wowway.com, 248-765-5742



Protect MI Pet holds first rally for reform

- TODAY at Michigan capitol in Lansing 1pm
- Website <http://protectmipet.com/>
- Statewide petition drive to follow in the weeks ahead

April 11, 2023, Detroit – Today is the day for the “Pet” rally for reform to give a voice to the voiceless. The statewide initiative kicks off today in National Pet Day. Everyone and their pet are invited to attend.

This will be step one to change justice and accountability in animal abuse, torture, and neglect cases. Everyone and their pet are invited to attend this outdoor event on the east side of the Michigan capitol steps. The weather forecast is sunny and in the 70s.

Michigan Pet Alliance, with hundreds of members, is an advisor to this coalition.

Tanya Hilgendorf, CEO of the largest humane society with the highest lifesaving rate in Michigan says that the Humane Society of Huron Valley must hold pets from animal abuse and neglect cases for months, and even years, because of the slow judicial process.

Genesee County Sheriff Chris Swanson started this initiative after seeing several awful cases of animal torture, abuse, and neglect.

They will be joined by several who work in the trenches and see the need for reform now.

WHO WILL BE AT THE RALLY AND AVAILABLE TO THE MEDIA:

- Genesee County Sheriff Chris Swanson
- Troy Goodnough, Monroe County Sheriff
- Brooke Tucker, Chief Legal and Policy Counsel
- Assistant Genesee County Prosecutor Alena Clark
- Richard Angelo, Legislative Attorney for Best Friends Animal Society and Michigan Pet Alliance Board Member
- Tanya Hilgendorf, President and CEO of Humane Society of Huron Valley and Michigan Pet Alliance Vice-Chair
- Oakland County Commissioner, 16th District, Will Miller
- Betsy Felton, Fundraising Chairwoman

ABOUT PROTECT MY PET

The Protect MI Pet 2024 ballot initiative will allow Michigan voters to decide whether to create a public, statewide, searchable registry of convicted animal abusers. If approved, the name of every convicted animal abuser in Michigan will be publicly accessible to everyone, including animal shelters, rescues, law enforcement, breeders and the concerned public. The initiative will also address rescued animals in criminal cases and ownership rights of people convicted.

###