

NORTH CAROLINA C.A.R.E.S:

*A Dogfighting Investigations
and Response Workshop*

Comprehensive Animal Cruelty Response, Education, and Support



Day 1 Agenda: October 1

(Law Enforcement/ACOs/Prosecutors - All Other Attendees Optional)

AGENDA ITEM	DESCRIPTION
Dogfighting Challenges and Successes	Attendees will have an opportunity to share their experiences, challenges, and successes with dogfighting cases and investigations.
Law and Procedure	Attendees will learn about the elements of the crime of dogfighting; how to lawfully seize animals in a dogfighting case; how to obtain timely legal disposition of the animals post-seizure; and how North Carolina's dangerous dog law plays into the placement of dogs from dogfighting cases.
Scenario and Property Visit	Attendees will conduct a virtual property visit where they will apply observation skills to collect intelligence for a suspected dogfighting case and begin developing an investigative theory and plan for case strategy.
Dogfighting Investigative Tips and Documentation Overview	Attendees will apply investigative skills to develop probable cause for a dogfighting search warrant and discuss best practices for documenting dogfighting observations. Additionally, attendees will learn about the role that behavior exams can play in dogfighting cases and how the results of behavior evaluations can be used to support the prosecution of the case.
Interview Skills	Participants will conduct a mock interview of a dogfighting suspect to collect facts necessary for building probable cause and developing a case strategy.
Testimony Workshop	Attendees will learn tips for preparing for testimony and engage in a mock cross-examination in a dogfighting case.

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Day 2 Agenda: October 2 (All Attendees)

AGENDA ITEM	DESCRIPTION
Operational Planning and Removal for Dogfighting Cases	Attendees will examine the unique complexities in dogfighting field operations and explore the necessary safety precautions that should be implemented into a removal plan for dogfighting cases.
Transport in Dogfighting Cases	Attendees will learn how to safely transport suspected dogfighting dogs from a scene to a veterinarian or shelter and how to outfit a vehicle with supplies that will make handling these animals safe for staff and other animals in the vehicle.
Leveraging Cases for Change	Attendees will discuss how best to message animal related cases to advocate for resources, policy and legal changes, and how to create community awareness to identify and prevent dogfighting.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Crime Scene and Live Animal Documentation Workshop	Law Enforcement attendees will process a dogfighting scene and document evidence common in dogfighting investigations.
Clinical Forensic Exam of Fighting Dogs	Veterinarians will learn how to conduct a clinical forensic exam of fighting dogs; recognize the pattern of injury consistent with organized dogfighting; and summarize and document the common physical exam, diagnostic and imaging findings associated with dogs that have been or are intended to be fought.
Intake and Sheltering Best Practices for Dogfighting Cases	Shelter and Rescue Professionals will learn how to create an intake plan and apply an integrated care approach to sheltering dogs from a dogfighting case.
Pathway Planning and Placement for Dogfighting Cases	Shelter and Rescue Professionals will delve into the pathway planning process for dogs from a dogfighting case; learn pathway planning essentials for organizations of different sizes; and explore how outcomes and pathways can differ for criminal case animals, specifically dogfighting populations.