

Honorable Chris Sununu  
Office of the Governor  
State House  
107 North Main Street  
Concord, NH 03301

## **Executive Summary of the Governor's Commission on the Humane Treatment of Animals (2018)**

In 2018, in accordance with our Executive Order, eight (8) Commission meetings were held at the LOB in Concord, N.H. Quorum was obtained at each meetings. The majority of the meetings had members of the public attend, including lobbyists, Commissioners, N.H. residents, and the press.

The Chair assigned each Commission member a portion of our the Manual - Cruelty Investigation and Prosecution: A User Manual for N.H. Law Enforcement. Endorsed by the Attorney General. Initially published in 2012, and updated (references/appendix) in 2017. With recent changes in cruelty laws, the Commission needs to update the Manual. Our proposed updates will be sent to the Attorney General's office for their support/endorsement.

The Commission was divided into three subcommittees: each one to focus on a specific charge contained in our Executive Order.

### **1) Animal Cruelty Cases & Conviction Tracking**

- a) Reached out to the County Attorneys to obtain information and related documents for any animal cruelty cases in their county for 2016 and 2017.
- b) Secured a legal intern from UNH Law who researched court cases and outcomes related to animal cruelty.
- c) Obtained the NIMS report from the FBI – identifying animal cruelty complaints in N.H.
- d) Drafted the attached report: final version to be adopted by the Commission in January 2019.

### **2) Legislative Subcommittee**

- a) Monthly indepth discussion on current legislation before the House and the Senate. The Commission testified (via Chair Patricia Morris) in favor of HB-569. This subcommittee prepared a summary list of those bills in the Commission's purview, stating the Commission's position on each one.

b) In 2019, in addition to the summary page, the Commission will prepare short majority and minority reports on cruelty-related proposed legislation.

**3) Training & Funding**

a) Training and Funding: Updated our Care Pamphlets- downloadable on our webpage ([www.nh.gov/humane](http://www.nh.gov/humane))

Commission Member Changes:

N.H. Sheriff's Association: Brian Valentino resigned, Michael Moyers appointed

In process: HSUS representative Lindsay Hamrick stepping down, Julia Seeley replacing her.

Vacancy: UNH Extension due to suddenly and sad passing of Dot Perkins

Meetings will resume in Fall 2019 (as the Commission does not meet in the Summer)

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Morris, Esq.

Chair