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RABIES ALERT: HEALTH DEPARTMENT SEEKS ADDITIONAL CONTACTS TO RABID CAT IN YONKERS

Residents Who Dropped Off Injured Cat Identified and Found Not Exposed

(White Plains, NY) – The Westchester County Department of Health is urging anyone who may have had contact with a rabid black kitten near Locust Hill Avenue and Overlook Terrace in Yonkers on December 12 to contact the Health Department immediately at (914) 813-5000.

The individuals who dropped the injured cat off at Yonkers Animal Hospital on December 12 returned to check on the animal. Health Department staff spoke with the man and woman, and nurses confirmed that they were not exposed to rabies and do not require post-exposure treatment. The pair reported finding the kitten on the sidewalk at the intersection of Locust Hill Avenue and Overlook Terrace.

Rabies is a fatal disease, and anyone who had direct contact with the kitten should call the Health Department to assess their potential exposure and need for treatment. Notices have been posted in the area to alert the community.

Residents are also reminded of the importance of keeping pet rabies vaccinations up to date, as required by New York State law. Dogs, cats and ferrets must receive rabies vaccinations and regular booster shots to protect against this deadly disease.

For more information about rabies and vaccination requirements, visit <u>www.westchestergov.com/health</u> or call the Rabies Infoline at (914) 813-5010.

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