

**EXAMPLE OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN

_____ **AND** _____

This Memorandum of Understanding is made and entered into this _____ day of _____, 199____, by and between _____ [County] and _____ [Organization].

It is necessary that all of the resources and facilities of cooperating agencies be made available to prevent and combat the effect of disasters which may result from such calamities as flood, fire, earthquake, pestilence, war, sabotage, and riot. The parties hereto desire to coordinate a program of disaster relief to ensure preservation of animal life and to protect public health and welfare by providing emergency animal care by means of this Memorandum of Understanding.

Therefore, it is mutually agreed and understood as follows:

Each party shall develop a mutually compatible plan providing for the effective mobilization of all its resources and facilities to cope with any type of disaster.

_____ [Organization] will accept the responsibility for coordinating animal relief efforts in cooperation with the _____ [County] and to assist members of the public needing animal-related services. These efforts will include but are not limited to housing animals, providing emergency veterinary medical care, setting up temporary animal shelters, evacuating, rescuing and capturing animals in distress, caring and feeding for animals left in evacuation sites, providing lost and found information services to the public, euthanizing animals and providing animal food and supplies to the public. Other agencies involved with animal rescue will only be allowed to work under the direction of the _____ [Organization]. The _____ [Organization] will coordinate all other animal rescue groups and individuals and reserves the right to deny assistance from any animal rescue group or individual.

In the event of any situation requiring disaster response, the _____ [Organization] acknowledges they must provide animal relief assistance through the direction of the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS). All actions of the _____ [Organization] will be coordinated with other participating governmental agencies during a disaster.

Attachment I
Example Memorandum of Understanding

Each party agrees to participate without assurance of cost recovery.

The _____ [Organization] agrees to respond to requests for mutual aid in other counties pursuant to the Emergency Services Act, Article 10, Sections 8610 et seq.

Each party agrees to participate in meetings and drills related to disaster relief.

The _____ [Organization] agrees to furnish educational materials and appropriate training relating to dealing with animals in a disaster.