

ANIMAL
RESCUE
LEAGUE
of BOSTON



A champion for animals

mspca  **angell**

Kindness and Care for Animals®

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:

Mike DeFina

Media Relations Officer

Animal Rescue League of Boston

617-293-3530

Oxford Animal Control Officer Kathleen Flynn Named “ACO of the Year”

Marlborough, MA – The **Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL)** and the **Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (MSPCA)** are proud to announce that **Oxford Animal Control Officer (ACO) Kathleen “Kelly” Flynn** has been named **Animal Control Officer of the Year**. Flynn received the award during the annual meeting of the Animal Control Officers Association of Massachusetts (ACOAM), which took place on October 19.

ARL and MSPCA established the ACO of the Year award to honor an animal control officer whose efforts in their local community throughout the year have promoted responsible pet ownership by:

- manifesting a dedicated, humane attitude toward the treatment and well-being of all animals
- effectively enforcing pet responsibility laws
- conducting public awareness and humane education programs
- maintaining cooperative working relationships with other agencies involved with animals, such as state and local government departments, other ACOs, and animal protection groups

Officer Flynn has helped animals in need for three decades, and received a number of nominations from members of the community which noted her dedication, commitment and compassion.

Flynn exemplifies the traits the MSPCA and ARL look for each year in an ACO.

“What defines Animal Control Office Kelly Flynn: ACO professional, educator, animal protector and advocate, caring about her own town animals and people and a willingness to always help other communities who ask her for assistance, guidance, especially just having her support and true friendship,” said **Lt. Alan Borgal, ARL Director of Law Enforcement**.

“The numerous ways Kelly fulfilled the criteria came through strongly in the letters we received nominating her. It is clear she goes above and beyond to help animals and the public and to provide education in the community,” stated **Kara Holmquist, Director of Advocacy for the MSPCA**.

Officer Flynn’s nominations for ACO of the Year included a number of accolades, heralding her dedication to animals and community, professionalism, and mentoring and training hundreds of fellow Animal Control Officers throughout the Commonwealth.

“Kelly’s knowledge, experience and compassion for animals and animal related issues are truly valued by our department,” said **Anthony Saad, Oxford Chief of Police**. “Her dedication to her profession is second to none. She is always available no matter what the hour of the day to respond to animal related complaints and to those concerns of the officer in the street.

Photo attached: From L-R: Det. Kevin LeBreton, ACO Kelly Flynn, Lt. William Marcelonis, Police Chief Antony Saad, Selectman Dennis Lemarche

ABOUT THE ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON:

The Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL) is an unwavering champion for animals in need, committed to keeping them safe and healthy in habitats and homes. Founded in 1899, ARL provides high quality veterinary care, adoption, and rescue services; while also confronting the root causes of animal cruelty and neglect through innovative community programs, police investigations, and public advocacy. In 2017, ARL served more than 18,000 animals throughout Massachusetts. ARL is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. We receive no government grants or public funding and rely solely on the generosity of individuals to support programs and services that help animals in need. For more information please visit us online at www.arlboston.org; and be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

ABOUT MSPCA-ANGELL:

The MSPCA-Angell is a national and international leader in animal protection and veterinary medicine and provides direct hands-on care for thousands of animals each year. Founded in 1868, it is the second-oldest humane society in the United States. Services include animal protection and adoption, advocacy, humane education, law enforcement, and world-class veterinary care. The MSPCA-Angell is a private, non-profit organization. It does not receive any government funding nor is it funded or operated by any national humane organization. The MSPCA-Angell relies solely on the support and contributions from individuals who care about animals. Please visit www.mspca.org and like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/mspcaangell

###