

NEWS ADVISORY/PHOTO OP

CONTACT: Mike DeFina, Media Relations Officer (617) 293-3530 mdefina@arlboston.org

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Cat Abandoned at Sullivan Square T Stop

Heard crying and was found "shoved" underneath a bench

A two-year-old cat is lucky to be alive after being abandoned at an MBTA bus stop in Sullivan Square on Monday, when temperatures in Boston were in the single digits, and below zero with the wind chill. The Animal Rescue League of Boston's (ARL) Law Enforcement Department is asking for the public's help in finding who's responsible.

Media Availability When: Thursday, January 24 @ 11:30 a.m. Where: ARL Boston Shelter, 10 Chandler St., Boston Who: ARL Law Enforcement – Photo opportunity will also be available for the cat

At around 5 p.m. Monday, an unidentified female Good Samaritan heard crying and discovered the cat huddled in a carrier. Along with the frigid temperatures, the carrier the cat was in was reportedly soaked due to melting snow, making for extremely uncomfortable and dangerous conditions for the animal. The woman described the carrier as being "shoved" under the bench, and the carrier also contained a blanket, toys, and perhaps some food.

The woman took the cat, named "Marlee", with her to a local shelter where she is staying, and contacted ARL on Wednesday. ARL picked up Marlee and brought her to ARL's Boston Animal Care and Adoption Center, located at 10 Chandler St.

Marlee was wearing a collar but does not have a microchip, and does not match any missing animal reports. Despite her ordeal she does appear to be healthy and is very friendly.

The animal has yet to undergo a physical examination by ARL's veterinary staff, did not suffer from hypothermia and will likely be available for adoption in the next couple of weeks.

Because ARL continuously sees cases of animals being left to fend for themselves, the organization once again reminds the public that abandonment is NEVER an option – if you are unable to properly care for an animal, they can always be surrendered at any reputable rescue organization. Abandoning an animal is a felony in Massachusetts, punishable by up to 7 years in prison and a \$5,000 fine.

Anyone with information regarding this case is asked to contact ARL Law Enforcement at (617) 426-9170 or email <u>cruelty@arlboston.org</u>.

For photos of Marlee, please click on the Dropbox link below:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/xlvaujm46hna6dw/AAA kPsgJlSh6S VSm74Hqcwa?dl=0

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 <u>www.arlboston.org</u>; and be sure to follow us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>Instagram</u>.

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