

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**

## **Milton Animal Control Officer Nancy Bersani Named “ACO of the Year”**

**Milton, 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 **Milton Animal Control Officer (ACO) Nancy Bersani** has been named **Animal Control Officer of the Year**. Bersani received the award during the recent annual meeting of the Animal Control Officers Association of Massachusetts (ACOAM).

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 Bersani has been Milton’s ACO since 2011, and her love for animals was instilled by her parents, who were volunteers at the Milton Animal League Animal Shelter. Bersani began volunteering there in the mid-1990s and attended the ACOAM Academy in 2005. She still volunteers at Milton’s shelter on weekends today!

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

“I have had the honor of working with ACO Nancy Bersani on animal cruelty investigations, animals that needed to be rescued that were hurt, injured or trapped and just finding animals their forever homes,” said **Lt. Alan Borgal, ARL Director of Law Enforcement**. “ACO Bersani is a true professional in her ACO Field and the Milton Community nominated her for true kindness and love of animals. It was my pleasure to be able to personally present her with this award, she is very deserving of this career accomplishment.”

“The numerous ways Nancy 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 Bersani’s nominations for ACO of the Year included a number of accolades, heralding her dedication to animals and community, professionalism, and compassion.

From those who nominated her:

- “Nancy is renowned in Milton for her tireless work and efforts on behalf of the town residents and the animals she helps. She’s a treasure to our town.”

- “Nancy helps strays, reunites found pets with their families, and attends to wildlife issues...often imparting nuggets of important information about the proper way to manage pets, or the legality around certain animal issues. We are all better for having Nancy as our ACO.”
- “She responds to requests at all hours, knows her job and the laws extremely well, and shows extreme care, compassion, and knowledge of the animals she defends, guides, and protects.”

**Photo attached: From L-R: Milton Deputy Police Chief James O’Neil, Milton ACO Nancy Bersani, Milton Police Chief John King**

**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 2018, ARL served 17,000 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](http://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](http://www.mspca.org) and like us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/mspcaangell](http://www.facebook.com/mspcaangell)

###