FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Animal Services Department Contact: Lori Baxter, Enforcement Supervisor

Telephone: 910-321-6903

Nov. 2, 2009

## Horses To Be Auctioned: Animal Services Will Award to Highest Bidders

FAYETTEVILLE – Cumberland County's Animal Services Department has eight horses that it will auction off to the highest bidder at 9 a.m. on Nov. 21. The animals were seized by Animal Services enforcement officers in October for being a public hazard after repeated calls that they were roaming loose. The horses belonged to a Cumberland County resident.

The auction will be at the Animal Services facility, 4704 Corporation Dr., Fayetteville. Registration will begin at 8 a.m., and the sale at 9 a.m.

The horses can be viewed at Animal Services during the hours of 9-11 a.m. and 3-5 p.m. Monday - Friday and 9-11 a.m. on Saturdays.

"We do not have the proper facilities to house this many horses, and the amount of money that it takes to feed and care for eight horses has put a burden on the Animal Services budget," said Scottie Harris, Animal Services Director.

Animal Services enforcement officers responded numerous times at all hours of the day and night regarding the horses being loose.

"We could not allow these animals to roam freely and possibly cause an automobile accident," Harris said. "Warnings were given, citations were issued, and the problems were not corrected."

Since the owner has failed to pay the fines and reclaim the horses, the department is following a state statute that requires the animals be sold at public auction rather than allowing them to be adopted according to procedures in place for other animals, such as dogs and cats. N.C. General Statute 68-20 states that stray livestock that is not reclaimed by the owner must be sold at public auction.

All of the horses have had Coggins testing for Equine Infectious Anemia, and all came back negative. This paperwork will be provided to new owners. No other vet care has been provided while in the custody of Animal Services, with the exception of treatment of one horse for a leg laceration, which is healing.

For more information, call Animal Services at 910-321-6827.

Here's a list of the horses available for auction. Photos are also attached.

"Shadow"	Appaloosa Pony	4 years old	Gelding	Red Roan
"Rebel"	Paint	2½ years old	Gelding	Tri-Color
"Comet"	Arabian	3 years old	Mare	Gray
"Haley"	Quarter Horse	6 years old	Mare	Sorrel
"Thunder"	Appaloosa	9 years old	Gelding	Black w/ White Blanket
"Cheyenne"	Quarter Horse	4 years old	Mare	Palomino
"Dream"	Morgan Cross	7 years old	Gelding	Bay
"Sugar"	Shetland Pony	10 years old	Mare	Brown

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## PUBLIC AUCTION HORSES

Cumberland County Animal Services will auction off eight horses pursuant to NCGS 68-20 on

Saturday, November 21, 2009 Registration Starts at 8 a.m. Sale at 9:00 a.m.

## **Cumberland County Animal Services 4704 Corporation Dr., Fayetteville, NC 28306**

Horses may be viewed at Animal Services Monday – Saturday 9-11 a.m. and Monday – Friday 3-5 p.m.

Cash or checks only will be accepted.



"Dream," Morgan Cross, 7-year-old Gelding



"Rebel," Paint, 2 ½ -year-old Gelding



"Sugar," Shetland Pony, 10-year-old Mare



"Cheyenne," Quarter Horse, 4-year-old Mare



"Thunder," Appaloosa, 9-year-old Gelding



"Haley," Quarter Horse, 6-year-old Mare

Not Pictured:

"Shadow," Appaloosa Pony of America, 4-year-old Gelding
"Comet," Arabian, 3-year-old Mare