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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 12, 2019 **CONTACT**: Captain Roger Antonio (843) 554-2444 pio@charlestoncounty.org **CONTACT**: Kay Hyman (843) 224-0899 khyman@charlestonanimalsociety.org

Six Horses Removed from Home in Charleston County

Charleston County Sheriff's Office transported six horses to Charleston Animal Society for rescue.

(Meggett, SC) On February 12, 2019, six horses are on their way to new homes after their owner voluntarily surrendered them to the Charleston Animal Society for proper care. The horses were transported from the 4500 block of Flounder Lake Drive in Meggett, SC to the Charleston Animal Society for rescue, where they will be cared for and attended to until they can be adopted.

The voluntary surrender came after numerous calls and complaints from neighbors about the condition of several horses, leading to an impending court order. One horse was soon re-homed, while another six horses were voluntarily transferred to the Charleston Animal Society before deputies intervened with their court ordered transfer.

Each of the six horses received a health check-up and veterinary certificate at the end of January, clearing them for transport.

One of the horses is a Shackelford pony, which was originally adopted from North Carolina. Plans are in the works to return the pony to that rescue if possible. One of the horses is a stallion that will be gelded (neutered) in the near future.

"The bottom line is we are resolving this situation in the best interest of all of the animals involved," said Sgt. David Willis, supervisor over the Animal Control Unit of the Charleston County Sheriff's Office. "This particular owner was overwhelmed by the number of animals she had and this will help her with animals she continues to care for."

The owner was allowed to keep four horses and several other animals, which were all in good condition.

"The Animal Society started 145 years ago rescuing horses and has continued working in partnership with law enforcement during crises to care for these wonderful animals," said Charleston Animal Society President and CEO Joe Elmore.