

SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS



2 May 2014

I refer to the case of the businessman, Mr Lim Soo Seng, who was sentenced to a fine of \$10,000 on 24 April 2014, for having committed animal cruelty.

While the SPCA recognises that this is the first time the maximum fine has been given, we believe that this is insufficient for such an extreme and torturous act of neglect and cruelty against an innocent and defenceless animal. Given that this is one of the most severe cases of animal neglect and cruelty in recent years, a jail term, in addition to the fine, would provide a stronger deterrent, especially for offenders who can afford to pay even the maximum fine.

The dog, which was adopted from the SPCA, had suffered a protracted ordeal that could have been avoided had its owners brought it to the vet. Mr Lim had failed to provide proper care for the dog despite his domestic helper having brought to his attention the animal's deteriorating condition, a month prior to its death. The AVA's assessment after the necropsy post-mortem examination found that the dog was in an exceedingly emaciated state with consequent multi-organ dysfunction.

Further, the SPCA notes that Mr Lim has three other toy dogs and is of the opinion that they should be removed from the offender's care. We urge the relevant authority to look into this urgently.

A message must be sent out that perpetrators of such cruel acts of animal neglect will be severely dealt with.

Corinne Fong
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