





## **City of Chino Hills Joint Press Release**

## PR18-095

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**DATE:** August 31, 2018

## AGENCIES SEEK THE PUBLICS ASSISTANCE LOCATING STOLEN VICIOUS PIT BULL





Chino Hills, CA – A vicious dog was stolen from the Inland Valley Humane Society, 500 Humane Way, Pomona, CA on August 21, 2018. According to the Inland Valley Humane Society, the dog was taken from a kennel in an isolation area where the dog, a male pit bull by the name of "Kow" was being kept. Suspects likely climbed over the fence on Mission Boulevard to access the kennels. Because of the dog's aggressive demeanor, the suspect(s) were likely known to the dog. The dog has not been located since. The dog is a 5-year-old brown and white pit bull.

The dog was originally impounded from its owner by the Inland Valley Humane Society, after two reports of the dog biting persons, once on Bird Farm Road in Chino Hills in March 2018, and then again in April 2018 in the City of Corona.

The dog was being held at the Inland Valley Humane Society, while the City of Chino Hills obtained a court order to destroy the dog. The San Bernardino County Superior Court declared

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the dog vicious on August 24, 2018, ordered that he be put down, and prohibited his owner, Michael James Smithling, from owning, controlling or having custody of a dog for a period of three years. Judge Barry Plotkin determined that "releasing the dog would create a significant threat to the public health, safety, and welfare." According to City Attorney Mark Hensley, "The City is very concerned that the dog is missing and that he could be free to attack and bite another victim."

Pomona and Chino Hills Police are currently looking for the vicious dog and so far have been unable to locate him. Although the animal may look friendly, the public should consider this dog as vicious and not approach the animal, but instead call the Inland Valley Humane Society 24-Hour Emergency Line at (909) 594-9858 or at (909) 623-9777. Anyone with information regarding this incident or anyone who may know of the dog's location is also urged to contact the Inland Valley Humane Society, or Chino Hills Police Department Detective Andrew McCoy at (909) 364-2088. Callers wishing to remain anonymous may contact the We-Tip Hotline at 1-800-78CRIME(24763), or you may leave information on the We-Tip website at <a href="https://www.wetip.com">www.wetip.com</a>. Inland Valley Humane Society, the City of Chino Hills, and Chino Hills Police have released two photographs of the pit bull dog.

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