



Upstate New York Animal Rescue Association
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The following are suggested communication messages/talking points that will address the alleged embezzlement and animal neglect from an employee at the Upstate New York Animal Rescue Association.

- We would like to publicly extend an apology to our staff, volunteers, animals and adopters on behalf of Upstate New York Animal Rescue Association.
- Hannah Gates has been appointed as interim director of the Upstate New York Animal Rescue Association while the investigation continues.
 - Gates is the former director of the Central New York SPCA.
- The previous executive director of Upstate New York Animal Rescue Association has been arrested for allegedly embezzling over \$150,000 from the organization over the past two years.
- We are fully cooperating with the investigation and the Town of Dewitt Police Department.
- Several adopters reported unusual medical problems in dogs and cats, including lack of critical medical care and insufficient food.
 - We have a list of adopters of animals who had medical issues for reimbursements.
- Animals that are currently in the shelter are getting immediate care from our veterinarian.
- We have the responsibility to our staff and animals to ensure a safe environment that helps cats and dogs find their forever homes.

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