

**For Immediate Release**  
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### **CAT NEEDS LIFE-SAVING SURGERY DUE TO GUNSHOT WOUND**

*A cat needs lifesaving surgery after being shot by a 22-caliber gun, and is the third cat to be brought to the shelter with a gunshot wound in the last five months.*

TACOMA, WA – On July 28, Tacoma Animal Control brought a cat with a gunshot wound to the Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County after being found in the Tacoma area.



The 9-month-old cat, now named Pearl, has a 22-caliber bullet lodged in her chest, which severed a nerve and immobilized her front right limb.

Pearl is the third cat to be brought to the shelter in need of urgent medical care due to a gunshot wound in the last five months. In April 2023, a cat was brought to the shelter after being shot in the leg, which shattered her right femur. A few weeks later, another cat was brought to the shelter after being shot in the head with a BB gun, causing irreparable damage to his eye.

The shelter's veterinary team was able to treat both cats. However, due to the severity of the injury and permanent damage, Pearl is now in urgent need of an amputation to prevent further injury and lifelong pain.

*Pearl with immobilized front right limb.*

Donations from the community are urgently needed to help Pearl get the surgery she needs. Donations are being accepted on the shelter's website at: [www.thehumanesociety.org/day-of-giving](http://www.thehumanesociety.org/day-of-giving).

In order for donations to go further for animals like Pearl, Petco Love is matching donations for the shelter's Day of Giving event, by quadrupling every donation up to \$75,000. That means a donation for Pearl and other abused animals will go four times as far to save even more pets in urgent need.

### **About the Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County**

As one of the oldest animal welfare organizations in the nation, the Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County cares for around 10,000 animals every year and maintains multiple humane programs. Dedicated to "Making Happy Happen," the Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County works tirelessly to protect animals, support pet owners, and enhance relationships between animals and people. Learn more at [www.thehumanesociety.org](http://www.thehumanesociety.org).



*X-ray image shows 22-caliber bullet lodged in cat's chest.*

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**Media Contact:**

Ashley Taulbee  
Chief Philanthropy Officer  
Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County  
(253) 284-5833  
[publicrelations@thehumanesociety.org](mailto:publicrelations@thehumanesociety.org)