



# HUMANE SOCIETY OF KENT COUNTY

3077 Wilson NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49534 ▪ (616) 453-8900 ▪ [www.hskc.org](http://www.hskc.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – July 10, 2009**

**CONTACT:**

Karen Terpstra  
Executive Director  
(616) 791-8222  
(616) 446-4328 – cell  
[karen@hskc.org](mailto:karen@hskc.org)  
[www.hskc.org](http://www.hskc.org)

Meahgan Pear  
Marketing and Events Manager  
(616) 791-8088  
[meahgan@hskc.org](mailto:meahgan@hskc.org)

## **REWARD FOR INFORMATION ABOUT CAT SET ON FIRE INCREASES TO \$5,500**

(Grand Rapids, Mich. – July 10, 2009) --- The Humane Society of Kent County, PETA and The Humane Society of the United States are offering a \$5,500 reward for any information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for setting a cat on fire.

Hadley, a 1 ½ year old cat was brought to the Humane Society of Kent County on July 3 with third degree burns over his ears, neck, back and legs after what looked like someone soaked him in an accelerant and lit him on fire.

“The community response to Hadley has been great. We have raised well over \$1,000 to help with his medical care and individuals keep lending their support” said Karen Terpstra, executive director at the Humane Society of Kent County. “But, we are still looking for information on who might have done this to him. If anyone has any information, we hope they will come forward.”

The Humane Society of Kent County was initially offering a \$1,500 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible for this act of cruelty. After hearing about the case, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) and The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) came forward to contribute to the reward fund.

“We’re grateful to have these two national animal welfare organizations involved,” said Terpstra. “As a community, we have to take animal cruelty and abuse seriously. Oftentimes it is committed by someone who is also being cruel or violent toward humans.”

Hadley is currently under veterinary care at the Humane Society of Kent County and being treated for his burns, pain and infection. He underwent his first physical rehabilitation session yesterday. His physical condition seems to be improving and he continues normal body functions and interactions with people.

**Individuals with information regarding Hadley’s case can call the Humane Society of Kent County at (616) 791-8218 or leave an anonymous tip by calling (616) 453-8900 extension 302.** The incident took place somewhere around Turner Ave NW, between Ann and Leonard Streets between June 26 and July 1, 2009.

-- MORE --

Individuals can also make a donation to help cover Hadley's medical care by calling (616) 791-8222.

For more information or updates on Hadley please visit the Humane Society's web site, [www.hskc.org](http://www.hskc.org). Founded in 1883, the Humane Society of Kent County is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the humane treatment and responsible care of animals in West Michigan through education, example, placement and protection.

###