

# MEDIA ADVISORY- Presser Wed, April 19, 1 pm ET, on Beshear, cockfighting in KY

*Wayne Pacelle of Animal Wellness Action, others to call on governor to crack down on animal fighting*

LOUISVILLE, KY, UNITED STATES, April 19, 2023 /EINPresswire.com/ --

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## WHAT

More than 50 animal welfare groups call out Governor Andy Beshear's administration for failing to act on dozens of details tips leading to major cockfighting events throughout the state over the last few years. Showing Animals Respect and Kindness ([SHARK](#)) has penetrated the network of dozens of illegal cockfighting operations in the state and provided granular details at fighting arenas in the state, mainly in the eastern third of Kentucky.



Drone footage shows a cockfighting pit on the day of a "derby." Kentucky must do more to enforce its laws to combat this scourge.

Several Kentucky State Policy posts have consistently ignored credible, reliable tips and failed to stop these fights. Some KSP posts have been more diligent and treated the matter with the seriousness it deserves. Meanwhile, the federal government has taken action in a number of cases, shutting down one major pit and bringing multiples charges against cockfighting operators in the state, including a recent bribery case.ck the clock and to reward cockfighting criminals for breaking the law.

- SHARK will release a detailed log of cases presented to KSP that saw no enforcement action.
- SHARK will show evidence of children attending fights.
- In 2014, in the run-up to his primary challenge to Senator Mitch McConnell, Matt Bevin attended a cockfighting rally, and walked it back after his appearance was exposed. Governor Beshear has not attended any cockfighting rallies but his inattention to this issue is allowing cockfighting to flourish.
- SHARK and [Animal Wellness Action](#) are providing a roadmap for enforcement. What's needed



More than 50 animal welfare groups call out Gov. Beshear's administration for failing to act on dozens of tips about major cockfighting events throughout the state over the last few years."

*Wayne Pacelle, president,  
Animal Wellness Action*

is a commitment from Governor Beshear and the Attorney General to enforce the laws of Kentucky with robustness and without fear of or favor.

Animal Wellness Action has noted that cockfighting threatens to extend the duration and physical geography of the High Pathogenic Avian Influenza outbreak that is driving up the price of eggs nationwide.

WHO

- Steve Hindi, president, Showing Animals Respect and Kindness (SHARK)
- Wayne Pacelle, president, Animal Wellness Action and

the Center for a Humane Economy

- Dr. Thomas Pool, D.V.M, MPH, Dipl. ACVPM, senior veterinarian for Animal Wellness Action

WHEN

1 p.m ET, Wednesday, April 19, 2023

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Animal Wellness Action is a Washington, D.C.-based 501(c)(4) working to help animals by promoting laws and regulations at federal, state and local levels that forbid cruelty.

Joseph Grove

ANIMAL WELLNESS ACTION

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