Checklist for Factors in the Assessment of Dangerousness in Perpetrators of Animal Cruelty

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1. High victim vulnerability
2. Two or more victims in the same instance
3. More than one instance or attack with 24 hours
4. Injury resulted in death of victim(s)
5. Multiple injuries inflicted on one or more victims
6. Multiple types of injuries inflicted on one or more victims
7. Act involved restraint of or direct contact with victim
8. Victim was bound or otherwise physically incapacitated
9. Use of fire
10. Abuse or injury took place over a relatively long time frame
11. Act was preplanned rather than reactive or opportunistic
12. Act involved overcoming obstacles to initiate or complete the abuse
13. Act was committed with high risk of detection or observation
14. Other illegal acts were committed at the scene of the animal cruelty
15. Individual was the instigator of an act involving multiple perpetrators
16. Animal cruelty was used to threaten, intimidate or coerce a human victim
17. Act of animal cruelty involved hypersensitivity to real or perceived threats or slights.
18. Absence of economic motive
19. Past history of positive interactions with victim
20. Animal victim was subjected to mutilation or postmortem dismemberment
21. Animal victim was sexually assaulted or mutilated in genital areas or perpetrator indicated sexual arousal as a consequence of the abuse
22. Act of cruelty was accompanied by sexual symbolism associated with the victim
23. Perpetrator projected human characteristics onto victim
24. Perpetrator documented the abuse through photographs, video or diary entries
25. Perpetrator returned at least once to scene of the abuse, to relive the experience
26. Perpetrator left messages or threats in association with the act of cruelty
27. Animal victim was posed or otherwise displayed
28. Animal cruelty was accompanied by ritualistic or “satanic” actions
29. Act of abuse involved staging or reenactment of themes from media or fantasy sources
30. Perpetrator reportedly experienced altered consciousness during the violent act
31. Perpetrator reportedly experienced strong positive affective changes during the violent act
32. Perpetrator lacks insight into cause or motivation of the animal abuse
33. Perpetrator sees himself as the victim and/or projects blame onto others

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