## Animalvictory.org



## dgerbo@da.lacounty.gov

Dear District Attorney Daniel Gerbo,

We are Janelle Babington and Penny Eims, animal welfare petitioners with AnimalVictory.org. Attached you will find a petition which we created after learning that 24-year-old Brandon Jerold Smith set his dog, Hennessy, on fire.

We, and our supporters, are shocked and dismayed by Smith's depraved acts on August 22. It is our understanding that this man hung his dog from a fence, doused her in an accelerant, and then set her on fire.

Hennessy was taken under the wing of A Purposeful Rescue, which did its utmost to save her life. Tragically, Hennessy suffered burns on nearly every portion of her body and those severe injuries proved to be too significant for her to survive. Carrie-Lynn Neales, a volunteer with the rescue group, said, "I've never witnessed something that horrific."

This innocent dog suffered horribly before finally passing away. We, and nearly 24,000 of our supporters, want to see Brandon Jerold Smith face the maximum sentence for his felony count of cruelty to animals and charge for arson of property of another. This was a despicable act of cruelty that deserves a significant sentence, rather than a plea deal.

We are hopeful you will find our petition useful in court, and we thank you for your hard work on this case. We look forward to a favorable update from your office.

Sincerely,

Janelle Babington and Penny Eims

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