

**Human Society of the United States president resigns amid harassment claims
(February 5, 2018 Statement)**

AWA Statement:

Like many of you, we at AWA were surprised to hear of the allegations of sexual misconduct by the CEO of the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS). The Animal Welfare Association (AWA) is an independent nonprofit organization with no financial or leadership affiliations with HSUS, or any other national or state organizations.

We acknowledge the impact well-funded national organizations make in the lives of animals. AWA staff members have worked hand-in-hand with HSUS's field staff during emergency responses. Yet, we feel it is important to articulate that AWA believes people must respect people as much as animals and this includes valuing and respecting the people on our teams. The animal welfare movement AWA has advanced in South Jersey for the past 70 years is based on trust, integrity, respect and transparency.

We thank you for supporting our local organization each year as we save pets and help people right here in your backyard. To learn more about Animal Welfare Association and to review our core values, please visit our website, www.awanj.org.

Thank you,
Maya Richmond
Executive Director