



## Animal Rescue Group's 'Non-Profit' Status Questioned

By [Eric Rasmussen](#), KTVU.com | November 7, 2013

**ANTIOCH, Calif.** — Former donors and officials with Animal Services in Antioch are asking questions about a local animal rescue group that has been soliciting on-line donations from around the country.

Records with the California Attorney General's Office show Last Chance Critter Rescue in Antioch is not registered as a charity with the state.

The group lists itself as a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization on its Facebook page, which has more than 87,000 "likes." The Facebook page and the group's website seek donations to help rehabilitate and care for cats and dogs with special needs.

KTVU first began looking into Last Chance Critter Rescue after being contacted by former donor, Theo Chen.

"The more I dug, the more suspicious I got," said Chen.

Chen says he asked the rescue group to refund his \$100 donation when he could not find any record of its non-profit status.

"They're very good about asking for money. They're not very good about showing what they're doing with the money that they are collecting," said Chen.

Susie Rae Ray, founder of Last Chance Critter Rescue, insisted her group's non-profit status was up to date when KTVU reached her at her home in Antioch.

When KTVU asked Ray to explain what her organization does, she declined.

"You can go on my website and see what my rescue group does," said Ray.

KTVU offered to speak with Ray again later Thursday evening but she again declined.

Antioch Animal Services confirmed it has received complaints about Last Chance Critter Rescue. Animal Services Supervisor, Monika Helgemo, told KTVU the group has been unable to provide any documentation confirming its status as a non-profit.

Animal Services also cited Ray \$600 for not caring for an injured cat. Ray says the animal did not belong to her.

"We do not utilize her," said Helgemo. "We have never sent an animal to her or has she come in to rescue any of our animals or asked to rescue an animal."

<http://www.ktvu.com/news/news/local-govt-politics/animal-rescue-groups-non-profit-status-questioned/nbmlj/>