



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Van Buren County Animal Control Joins Forces With Pets for Patriots to Adopt Pets to U.S. Military Veterans and Gold Star Families**

*Partnership will enhance the wellbeing of veterans, military families, and the most overlooked homeless pets in Van Buren County.*

12/01/2025 – Van Buren County Animal Control has joined forces with Pets for Patriots to improve the welfare of its shelter animals by adoption to veterans and Gold Star families in Van Buren County. This partnership aligns with Van Buren County Animal Control's values to get dogs into loving homes.

By joining Pets for Patriots' nationwide shelter partner program Van Buren County Animal Control will give local veterans and Gold Star spouses the enduring love of a shelter dog or cat. Veterans from WWII to active duty are eligible to apply to Pets for Patriots, which offers a range of benefits to make pet adoption more affordable for our nation's heroes and reduce pet surrender.

Gold Star spouses—husbands and wives of service members killed or declared mission in action—are now eligible to apply thanks to a major new program expansion offered by Pets for Patriots. In time, the nationally operating nonprofit plans to include Gold Star parents, siblings, and adult children.

Van Buren County Animal Control will offer adoption rates of \$50.00 to Pets for Patriots members who adopt eligible companion pets. These include dogs and cats who are adult, special needs, and long term homeless, and dogs 40+ pounds at the time of their adoption.

"Partnering with Pets for Patriots is an excellent way to match pets with persons to create a strong bond meant to last for years. These dogs need strong camaraderie



and who knows that better than a veteran. No one should feel alone, including shelter dogs.” says Magen Spiece, Kennel Director.

“Our mission is all about unleashing hope for our nation’s heroes and hero families,” says Beth Zimmerman, founder and executive director of Pets for Patriots. “At the same time we’re saving the most overlooked shelter animals, giving them what may be their last chance at a second chance at life—and making room in shelters for other animals to be saved. Everybody wins.”

Veterans and Gold Star spouses must first apply to Pets for Patriots online and provide relevant eligibility documents. Approval typically takes no more than two business days, after which approved members can visit Van Buren County Animal Control to find their new best friends.

For more information about Van Buren County Animal Control visit <https://vanburencountymi.gov/departments/sheriff/divisions/animal-control/pet-adoptions/>

For learn about Pets for Patriots, visit <https://petsforpatriots.org>.

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### **About Van Buren County Animal Control**

Van Buren County Animal Control partners with local rescues to support our community. Our goal is to raise public awareness and encourage community cooperation. Animal Control is not the last resort for animals. We actively work with rescues to find forever homes.

### **About Pets for Patriots**

Pets for Patriots is unleashing hope™ for veterans, military families, and shelter animals through companion pet adoption. Pets for Patriots partners with animal welfare and veterinary networks, military and veteran organizations, and the public to value and enhance the physical and emotional wellbeing of our nation’s heroes and hero families while saving the most overlooked homeless animals. Pets for Patriots holds a Four Star Charity Navigator rating and is a nationally operating 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, EIN 27-108220. To learn more, apply, or donate, visit <https://petsforpatriots.org>.