



## **NEWS RELEASE**

City of Los Angeles Department of Animal Services 221 N. Figueroa Street, Suite 500, Los Angeles, California 90012 / www.LAAnimalServices.com

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 22, 2008

## LA Animal Services Announces Home for the Holidays Adoption Campaign!

## Silent Santa to pay all Fees for 300 Pet Adoptions!

Los Angeles – YES, VIRGINIA, THERE IS A SANTA "PAWS". A benefactor, wishing to remain anonymous, pledged to pay all adoption fees for 300 pets adopted between now and Christmas at any LA Animal Services Center. Santa stated, "I hope this offer will help empty the kennels and cages and gives these pets a real home for Christmas." Santa had one request of those adopting a pet; that they write a letter to LA Animal Services explaining how adopting the pet changed their lives.

"We are awed by this compassionate and generous gift that will bring so much joy to so many families", said Ed Boks, general manager of LA Animal Services. "We are immensely grateful to our Silent Santa for exemplifying the true spirit of the season by giving so deeply to help those who need it the most – our homeless pets. Happiness is an empty animal shelter on Christmas morning."

The offer could not have come at a more perfect time. LA Animal Services has experienced a 20% increase in the number of owners surrendering their pets due to the foreclosure crisis. Santa has reversed the fortune of these newly homeless animals.

In light of this amazing offer, both the East and West Valley Animal Care Centers will be open today, Monday, December 22, from noon to 5 P.M. (All Centers are normally closed on Monday.) All six LA Animal Care Centers will be open from 8 A.M. to 7 P.M. Tuesday and from 8 A.M. to 5 P.M. Wednesday, Christmas Eve.

"We urge all those who hear about this exceedingly generous offer to paws to seriously contemplate the long term commitment needed to adopt a pet," Boks added. "Decisions should not be made lightly and LA Animal Services reserves the right to refuse an adoption when we believe the welfare of the animal is not improved by the adoption. This offer is for individuals and families ready to make a 10-15 year financial and emotional commitment to a pet."

Pet adoptions include the spay/neuter surgery, microchip, vaccinations and in the case of a dog a license. You can find your true love at any one of the following locations:

North Central 3201 Lacy Street Los Angeles, CA 90031

South LA 3612 11th Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90018 West LA 11361 West Pico Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90025 Harbor 957 N. Gaffey Street San Pedro, CA 90731

**East Valley** 14409 VanOwen St. Van Nuys, CA 91405

West Valley 20655 Plummer Street Chatsworth, CA 91311

For more information or assistance call LA Animal Services at

1-888-452LA-PET1/1-888-452-7381

(TTY Hearing impaired: 877-875-8205) or visit the website at www.LAAnimalServices.com.

We create happiness by bringing pets and people together!