



# NEWS RELEASE

City of Los Angeles □ Department of Animal Services  
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## LA ANIMAL SERVICES SETS ADOPTION RECORDS

***The Department has the most adoptions for a single month in December and a 21 percent increase in adoptions for 2008 – the highest in its history***

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**Los Angeles** – LA Animal Services today announced a 21 percent increase in adoptions in 2008, the highest number of adoptions in the Department's history. Over 26,000 dogs and cats were adopted into loving families in 2008, compared to fewer than 22,000 in 2007.

"We had an amazing year in 2008 and set a record number of adoptions," said Ed Boks, general manager of LA Animal Services. "LA Animal Services' staff and volunteers deserve much recognition for their hard work and efforts to find homes for the thousands and thousands of animals that enter into our shelter system every year."

Additionally, in December of 2008, LA Animal Services had the highest number of adoptions for a single month in its entire history with 2,212 pet adoptions.

"December was an amazing month for many reasons," said Boks. "In the final few days before Christmas, 'Santa Paws' strolled into our West Valley Care Center and pledged to pay for all the adoptions for the balance of the day. Within a few hours, he had increased his generous offer to fund 340 total adoptions! The following week, another Silent Santa walked into North Central Care Center and told staff how the story had inspired him to fund \$500 worth of adoptions."

With the help of these two marvelous acts coupled with a tremendous effort from the staff at each care center, LA Animal Services broke a record for the number of adoptions completed in a month. The previous record was set in July 2008 when LA Animal Services completed 2,206 adoptions.

Meanwhile, LA Animal Services is seeing a 20 percent increase in animal intakes due mainly to the housing foreclosure crisis. The Department has seen the lowest euthanasia rates in its history during the past three years.

"We remain committed to increasing adoption rates within the City of Los Angeles especially during tough economic times and encourage residents to always save lives by adopting," said Boks.

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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](http://www.LAAnimalServices.com).

***We create happiness by bringing pets and people together!***