



(this is a sample document for text and language review not formatting...a final formatted doc will be sent once text and language is agreeable)

Veterans Supplemental Support Network

Animal Transfer Program

Veterans Supplemental Support Network (VSSN), is a non-profit organization operating an open admission animal rescue and foster care for service connected families and long-term boarding with Adoption Partners. The nonprofit rescue organization is headquartered in Temecula, CA 92590 in Riverside County.

Veterans Supplemental Support Network is committed to the goal that no adoptable or treatable shelter animal should be euthanized if the animal can be adopted into a suitable home or transferred to an approved adoption partner organization (rescue group). VSSN strives to be "rescue friendly" and place animals in military service connected homes for reasons of service support and companionship. However, if a pet is not paired with a service connected family it is VSSN's commitment to locate any suitable home through its network of adoption partners in order to save that animal's life. VSSN recognizes that the organization cannot reduce needless euthanasia of homeless animals alone therefore the assistance and commitment of shelters, rescues and adoption partners are vital to saving lives.

To support VSSN's Barking Angel's placement goals, VSSN created a Rescue Coordinator (RC) position at the beginning of 2017. The Rescue Coordinator serves as a liaison and transfer coordinator between VSSN and "all-pet" and "breed-specific" adoption partners and rescue groups. VSSN may acquire dogs from rescue groups and shelter and collaborate with adoption partners to find suitable homes. During the first 6 months, VSSN goal is to save over 700 animals through this program; however, VSSN believes by focusing its efforts to partner with more shelters, rescue groups, and donors, **together** we will continue to increase the numbers of lives saved.

VSSN welcomes your collaboration as an Adoption Partner. All Adoption and/or Rescue Partners are asked to sign the Adoption Partner Agreement/Application and provide VSSN with a copy of their 501(c) 3 designation letter or the organization must provide a proven history of adoption coordination services for at least 3 years along with zero government enforced citations.

Adoption Partner Agreement

Both the Veterans Supplemental Support Network (VSSN) and the Adoption Partner Organization (APO) or Rescue Group agrees to the following terms:

Definitions:

Adoption Partner Organization is a current non-profit or not-for-profit organization with written proof of State Franchise Tax Board nonprofit designation, and/or an Internal Revenue Service 501(c) 3 status or an organization that has at least 3 years of adoption and rescue documented services to include **zero animal cruelty related citations issued by any local government or state government**. Serve as a role to transfer and provide wellness and/or kennel services to VSSN.

Adoption Partner Coordinator (APC) is a VSSN employee whose primary responsibility is to facilitate the transfer of shelter animals to APOs.

“Rescue or rescue group” may be used interchangeably with Adoption Partner Organization (APO) however role is to serve as a transfer only source to VSSN.

AGREEMENT TERMS

1. The Adoption Partner Organization and Rescue Group understand that the Veterans Supplemental Support Network (VSSN) is a non-profit organization with one of its missions being the direct adoption of shelter or rescue animals to new forever homes. VSSN reserves the right to retain any animal for its adoption program purposes.
2. The APO will provide VSSN with written proof of their non-profit or not-for-profit status or legitimate documentation with the history of rescue and/or adoptions and evidence to include above expected compliances by any local or state government.
3. The APO or rescue must complete VSSN’s “Adoption Partner Agreement” annually. The APO’s or rescue’s director/president or other executive officer of the APO on file must sign the agreement.
4. **Up to six (6)** selected representatives or **“pullers”** will be authorized to obtain animals on behalf of the APO (exceptions may be approved by the VSSN President/CEO or his designee). Each representative is required to provide current government issued identification at the time of transfer of the animals. The APO director/president or other APO officer of record may request to change a representative of their organization by submitting such request to the VSSN Rescue Coordinator.
5. The APO shall provide animals obtained from VSSN with a healthy, clean, and safe environment and shall provide the animals with necessary and prompt veterinary care, nutrition,

and shelter at the APO's expense. The APO shall maintain accurate records of each animal obtained from VSSN. Such records shall include information regarding proof of recommendation of spay/neuter program. Veterinary care and the adopter's information must be submitted to VSSN.

6. VSSN retains the right to inspect the APO's facility and/or request such records for monitoring compliance with State law.

7. VSSN will absorb all upfront or initial costs for impounding, medicating and caring for animals that are eventually transferred to APOs. The accepting APO will reimburse VSSN one hundred percent of all upfront or initial costs.

8. **Any fees** that apply to the APO will be discussed on a case by case basis.

9. VSSN may be able to spay/neuter animals and transfer these fees to be paid for by the APO. The APO must comply with State laws that require all dogs and cats to be altered prior to placement.

CA Food & Ag. § 30503(a)(1) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (b), no public animal control agency or shelter, society for the prevention of cruelty to animals shelter, humane society shelter, or rescue group shall sell or give away to a new owner any dog that has not been spayed or neutered.

CA Food & Ag. § 31751.3(a)(1) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (b), no public animal control agency or shelter, society for the prevention of cruelty to animals shelter, humane society shelter, or rescue group shall sell or give away to a new owner any cat that has not been spayed or neutered.

7. The APO shall encourage the new owner to license animals within the jurisdiction where the owner and animal will reside. Microchips and other forms of identification should also be encouraged.

8. The APO shall comply with all animal-related laws and regulations, including all applicable zoning laws, and permit requirements. The APO shall not transfer the custody or ownership of any animal obtained from VSSN to any individual or organization when the APO should reasonably know that doing so will violate animal-related laws, regulations, zoning provisions or permit requirements, regardless of jurisdiction.

9. The APO recognizes that the purpose of a rescue is to place the altered animals in good adoptive homes. Warehousing, breeding, or mass kenneling operations, etc., are not deemed to be suitable placements. Any found placements of this type will result in immediate termination of this relationship and VSSN's mandated reporting.

Transfer Process

10. The APO's or rescue's representative shall contact the VSSN Rescue Coordinator and schedule an appointment to select and transfer the animal(s) so that the best possible customer service can be provided. All current medical and history records must be exchanged prior to transfer.

11. Due to the constant flow of lost and unwanted animals into the rescue center, kennel space is always an issue. This agreement allows the APO to offer rented space to VSSN (if space is available) to any of VSSN rescued pets. In the event that the animal transferred to the APO, from a VSSN location that is not a shared space by the APO, the APO should pick the animal up on the same day of the transfer. Animals that are treated or held by a veterinarian or groomer designated by VSSN shall be picked up by the APO at the veterinarian's or groomer's location on the same day of the transfer after the care or service has been rendered.

12. The APO and rescue shall agree to allow inspections of the animals' housing facilities. Such inspections shall be made during reasonable hours at times when the owner or operator of the home/kennel, facility or cattery is present and with such frequency as VSSN deems appropriate. The inspections may, at the discretion of VSSN, be made without prior notice to the owner or operator of the APO or rescue. Willful refusal on the part of the APO or rescue to allow such inspections may result in the cancellation of this agreement in VSSN's sole discretion.

13. The APO and rescue understands information may be shared with other public or contracted agencies for the purpose of protecting the welfare of our community's animals and to assure compliance with this and other agreements.

14. "Rescue Interest Hold" is defined by VSSN in this agreement as a notation on a specific animal's record that a particular APO has an interest in this animal if it is not adopted by the public (usually within 72 hours) or if it has been determined to be unsuitable for adoption. VSSN reserves the right to remove a "Rescue Interest Hold" when a determination is made that the animal is too sick, injured, or a safety liability because of aggressive behavior and/or the animal rescue population is approaching maximum capacity. In the event of such occurrences, VSSN will make one verbal and digital attempt to contact the APO prior to rescinding the hold. VSSN reserves the right to make a decision based on the best interest of the rescue or shelter animals.

15. In an effort to ensure effective customer service and efficiency, the APO and rescue is expected to respect the public right to privacy and not to interfere with the conduct of business between the public and VSSN staff.

16. The animals eligible for transfer from VSSN to the APO may have significant identifiable health conditions or behavior traits. It is likewise possible that other

undiagnosed/un-diagnosable conditions exist in shelter or rescue animals. By accepting animals from VSSN, the APO accepts all legal and financial responsibility regarding the animals and their care.

17. Veterans Supplemental Support Network (herein referred to as VSSN), its Board of Directors, agents, and employees shall not be liable for, or to the Adoption Partner Organization or the Rescue Group (rescue). The Adoption Partner Organization or the Rescue Group (rescue) shall defend, indemnify and hold VSSN harmless from, any and all claims, liability, judgments, fines, losses, damages, expenses, or costs of any kind or character, including attorney's fees and court costs (hereinafter referred to as "Claims"), arising out of, or in any manner either directly or indirectly connected with, any act, error, omission or negligence of APO and/or the Rescue Group or its agents, employees, or volunteers, including, without limitation, Claims caused by the concurrent negligent act, error or omission, whether active or passive, of Veterans Supplemental Support Network, its officers, agents or employees. APO shall have no obligation to indemnify the VETERANS SUPPLEMENTAL SUPPORT NETWORK from a Claim if it is determined by a court of competent jurisdiction that such Claim was caused by the sole active negligence or willful misconduct of VETERANS SUPPLEMENTAL SUPPORT NETWORK, its Board of Directors, agents, or employees.

I have read, understand and have received a copy of this agreement:

Representative Signature of Recipient Rescue/Adoption
Partner: _____

Date: _____

VSSN Veterans Supplemental Support Network

Representative: _____ Date: _____

Adoption Partner Application

Note: Please complete the requested information below and attach a copy of your organization's adoption application, contract and proof of non-profit status, or its documented three year history of adoption and rescue services.

Adoption Partner Information

APO Name: _____
501C3 ID (If Applicable): _____
Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ Alternate Phone: _____ Fax: _____
Email: _____ Website: _____
President/Head of Organization: (Print) _____

Approved Personnel to Remove Animals from Rescue (maximum 6)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

Applications are subject to approval by Veterans Supplemental Support Network

I understand that the Veterans Supplemental Support Network officials have the right to inspect and/or visit the Adoption Partners kennel/property/location(s) at reasonable times. I certify that all information provided is true, complete and correct. I will assure the humane treatment of all Animals released to me or my designee and agree to remain in compliance with all local and state laws as they pertain to code compliance and humane care.

Shelter//Rescue Representative Name: _____

Signed:

Date

Shelter//Rescue Representative Name: _____

Signed:

Date