

TARA'S HOUSE ANIMAL RESCUE, INC.

P.O. Box 2127

Columbia, MD 21045

www.tarashouse.net | info@tarashouse.net

ADOPTION CONTRACT

Date of Adoption: _____

Pet Name: _____

The adoption fee is: **\$ 250 for dogs 6 months old and over; \$270 for puppies under 6 months old and for purebred dogs. \$50 for kittens or cats.**

This ADOPTION CONTRACT is entered into this date by and between Tara's House Animal Rescue, Inc. ("Tara's House"), a Maryland 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation, and the applicant and co-applicant (if appropriate) identified in the adoption application, hereinafter the ADOPTER, for the adoption of the above-identified pet.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. The adopter agrees to provide the pet with a good and safe home indoors, with proper care and attention.
2. All pets adopted from Tara's House will be spayed or neutered prior to adoption, except in the case of a puppy or kitten that is not of suitable age to be altered at the time of adoption. A puppy adopted from Tara's House **MUST BE** spayed or neutered as soon as it is medically practicable. The adopter must provide Tara's House with evidence of spay/neuter via documentation or veterinary confirmation within 30 days of spay/ neuter or immediately upon request by a representative of Tara's House.
3. The adopter agrees that this pet will be examined by a licensed veterinarian at least once each year and will receive adequate vaccinations and treatments to ensure good health, including heart worm preventive.
4. When the pet is outdoors, it shall be provided appropriate protection from the elements. It is further agreed that the pet shall be provided with shade from the sun, and adequate food and water.
5. In the event Tara's House discovers the inhumane treatment of this pet or breach of this Adoption Contract, it is agreed that Tara's House has the right to immediately take possession of the pet upon written notice to the adopter at the residence of the pet. It is understood and accepted by the adopter that home visits may be conducted by a person representing Tara's House to check on the welfare of the above-named pet at any time during the lifetime of the pet.

6. Tara's House makes no warranties or statements regarding the pet's health, medical status or temperament. Adopter understands that the pet may have been rescued from an animal shelter and may have been exposed to communicable disease(s) and that it is critical that the pet be examined promptly by a licensed veterinarian as soon as practicable. Accordingly, adopter agrees to take the pet to a licensed veterinarian within 14 days of the date of this Adoption Contract for an examination. Because all of our pets come from shelters, many in rural areas, they often require multiple dewormings, following a fecal test. We provide one or two dewormings in our care, but our dogs will often require three or four dewormings to fully clear their systems. When taking your new pet to the veterinarian within 14 days following adoption, you must request a fecal exam and agree to permit further deworming, as necessary.

Pets of suitable age are current on heartworm prevention, and Adopter agrees to continue this prevention year round. It is understood that environmental changes may affect and change the temperament of the above-named pet and that Tara's House has no liability or responsibility of any nature regarding defects with the pet, or injuries or damage to any person or property that may be caused by the pet. The adopter agrees to indemnify and hold harmless Tara's House and its members or representatives against any and all claims for any injury or property damage to the adopter or anyone else.

7. If it is determined by either a Tara's House representative or the adopter that the pet should not remain with the adopter, it is agreed the adopter will first contact Tara's House about return of the pet. The pet may not be transferred to another owner without express written consent of Tara's House

8. Adoption Donation Refund Policy: If for any reason you choose not to keep the pet you adopted, you must notify Tara's House immediately. If you notify Tara's House and return the pet within 7 days of adoption, you will receive a replacement certificate for a comparable pet, valid for 90 days from date of return. This certificate may be redeemed only by you and it is not transferable. We are unable to refund adoption donations under any circumstances, but the donations are tax deductible.

Tara's House is available for consultation, advice, and assistance in areas pertaining to the health, training, compatibility, etc. of the adopted pet during the pet's lifetime. **ADOPTER UNDERSTANDS THAT TARA'S HOUSE HAS INVESTED A GREAT DEAL OF FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCES INTO THE CARE, TREATMENT AND PLACEMENT OF THE PET, THAT TARA'S HOUSE MAKES A COMMITMENT TO THE PET FOR LIFE AND THAT THE ACTUAL DAMAGES ACCRUING TO TARA'S HOUSE IN THE EVENT ADOPTER FAILS TO COMPLY WITH THE RETURN PROVISIONS SET FORTH IN THIS PARAGRAPH WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO PROVE WITH CERTAINTY. ACCORDINGLY, THE PARTIES HAVE AGREED THAT IN THE EVENT OF A BREACH OF THIS PARAGRAPH 7 OF THE ADOPTION CONTRACT, ADOPTER SHALL PAY LIQUIDATED DAMAGES TO TARA'S HOUSE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500.00, NOT AS A PENALTY, BUT AS A REASONABLE ESTIMATE BY THE PARTIES AS TO THE DAMAGES RESULTING FROM THE BREACH OF THIS PROVISION.**

