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Obamas Honor Washington Humane Society

Sunny joins the First Family, Obamas make gift to Washington Humane Society

Washington, DC – It was the bark heard around the world. Yesterday, the First Family welcomed a new member into their family, Sunny, as a canine companion for First Dog Bo.

In honor of Sunny, the Obamas made a donation to the Washington Humane Society (WHS). WHS President & CEO, Lisa LaFontaine issued the following response:

“We’re honored that President Obama and his family have once again recognized the Washington Humane Society as the leading voice for animals and are grateful for their generous gift. We hope others are inspired to add to their family, and see the value in having multiple pets. The companionship of another dog for Bo will certainly benefit him in ways that people can’t emulate. In honor of Sunny being added to the Presidential family, WHS will be offering a 25% discount for anyone adopting an additional pet into their family for the rest of August.”

On the same day, the White House issued a groundbreaking response to a public petition asking for a ban on Breed Specific Legislation, simply and powerfully stating, “We don’t support breed-specific legislation – research shows that bans on certain types of dogs are largely ineffective and often a waste of public resources.” (petitions.whitehouse.gov)

LaFontaine added, “We are pleased that the White House agrees with our position on the issue of Breed Specific Legislation. Science and experience has proven these laws ineffective, and there is no place for discrimination of dogs based on their appearance in an enlightened and compassionate society. Because WHS celebrates all animals, the generous contribution of the First Family will be used to help find homes for dogs who might otherwise be affected by breed discrimination.”

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The Washington Humane Society (WHS) is the Congressionally-chartered animal welfare agency in the United States and has been the leading voice for animals in the District of Columbia since 1870. WHS provides protection and care to nearly 30,000 animals each year through its broad range of programs and services including: sheltering, adoption, humane law enforcement, spay and neuter, humane education, human – animal rehabilitation programs, and lost and found services. For more information, please visit www.washhumane.org.