

# NEWS

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SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY  
**AT YOUR SERVICE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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For more information, contact  
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## Free pet adoptions for veterans at county shelters

As part of its ongoing successful effort to place the county's homeless pets with loving families, county Animal Care and Control is proudly participating in the Pets to Patriots program providing free adoptions to U.S. military veterans. Pets to Patriots is a Los Angeles Animal Alliance program supported by a generous donation from the Jason Debus Heigl Foundation.

Between now and the end of January 2012, any U.S. military veteran can adopt an animal from one of the county's three animal shelters completely free of charge.

"This is a wonderful opportunity to match pets who need homes with deserving military veterans who would appreciate companionship," said county Animal Care and Control director Brian Cronin. "The holidays are the perfect time to make that bond."

The Los Angeles Animal Alliance, which operates the Pets to Patriots program at selected shelters throughout Southern California, will be providing a portion of the funding required to pay for each pet adoption to a qualified veteran. The remaining fees will be donated by the county's own Animals aRe First Fund (ARFF), a charitable organization that uses 100 percent of its funding to assist animals in need in San Bernardino County.

To participate, veterans need to provide a participating shelter with one form of valid military identification. Identification includes a Veterans Identification Card (VIC), VA Health Card, Department of Defense/Uniformed Services ID Card, Disabled American Veterans Life Member ID Card, American Legion ID Card, DD-214 form, a Disabled Veteran California State Park and Recreation Pass or a letter from the San Bernardino County Office of Veterans Affairs confirming former or present military service.

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The three County of San Bernardino shelters participating in the program are:

- The County's Animal Shelter in Devore, 19777 Shelter Way, (909) 887-8055. The shelter is open seven days a week at 10 a.m. and closes on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 6:30 p.m., on Wednesdays at 7 p.m., and on Saturday and Sunday at 5 p.m.
- The Big Bear Animal Shelter, 42080 Northshore Drive, Big Bear City, (909) 866-4943. This shelter is open on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Wednesdays from noon to 7 p.m. The shelter is closed on Sundays.
- The Dog's Day Inn, 19575 Bear Valley Rd, Apple Valley, (760) 961-7535. This shelter is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., on Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., and on Sundays from 7 a.m. until noon.

All shelters will be closed on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve, and New Year's Day.

More information on the program is available by calling San Bernardino County Animal Care and Control toll-free at 1-800-472-5609.