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State of New Hampshire

DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY
JAMES H. HAYES BLDG. 33 HAZEN DR.
CONCORD, N.H. 03305
(603) 271-2791

EDDIE EDWARDS
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

STEVEN R. LAVOIE
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

ROBERT L. QUINN
COMMISSIONER

April 8, 2024

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

The Department of Safety (DOS), Division of Emergency Services and Communications (DESC) respectfully requests approval to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Hero Pups, Inc. of 29 Portsmouth Avenue, Unit 127, Stratham, NH, to establish expectations and responsibilities for the placement of a Hero Pups' comfort dog with the DESC. Effective upon Governor and Executive Council approval.

EXPLANATION

DESC has been working with Hero Pups, Inc. to acquire a donated comfort dog, which was approved by Governor and Executive Council on March 27, 2024, Item #2C. Entering into this MOU with Hero Pups, Inc. will set the expectations and responsibilities for the DESC and Hero Pups, Inc. as we work together during this first year to get the comfort dog and handler, Supervisor Abigail Rider, properly trained and ready for the transfer of ownership to the DESC at the end of this year.

Given the work our telecommunicators do in public safety, the job-related stress, and the emotional trauma that comes from being on the job, both Hero Pups and the DESC feel this will be a great partnership. Having a comfort dog in the agency will be an additional resource that will help improve the mental health of our entire Division. The comfort dog will also assist our telecommunicators as well as other emergency dispatchers throughout the State of New Hampshire.

As part of this MOU, during the first year of the dog's training under their care, Hero Pups, Inc. will cover all veterinary services, training, and care expenses. This includes the cost of the "dog handler" training as outlined in this MOU; there is no cost to the State of our taxpayers. Hero Pups, Inc. and their benefactors will cover all expenses related to this agreement.

Respectfully Submitted,

[Signature]
Robert L. Quinn
Commissioner of Safety

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

**Hero Pups, Inc.**

and

**The Department of Safety, Division of Emergency Services and Communications**

HERO PUPS, INC., ("Hero Pups"), and the STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY, DIVISION OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND COMMUNICATIONS, ("DESC") (collectively, the "Parties") enter into this Memorandum of Understanding to create and implement a plan to place a Hero Pups' comfort dog with DESC, as follows:

**WHEREAS**, Hero Pups is a New Hampshire-based nonprofit organization registered with the State of New Hampshire that places dogs with eligible participants, including veterans and first responders diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, anxiety, or other service-connected challenges. Hero Pups' Comfort Dog Program places comfort dogs (sometimes alternately referred to as facility dogs) with law enforcement and first responder agencies, with the goal of helping first responders and their departments' support staff who encounter job-related stressors;

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Safety is a duly constituted executive branch of the State of New Hampshire;

**WHEREAS**, DESC operates New Hampshire's 911 Emergency System, providing a nationally-accredited, state-of-the-art emergency service response to residents and visitors of the State of New Hampshire. DESC's telecommunicators and dispatchers are first responders who often experience job-related stress and emotional trauma arising from the nature of their work, which can include critical incident stress debriefing;

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Purpose of this MOU is to set forth the expectations and responsibilities of the parties regarding the placement of a Hero Pups' comfort dog with DESC:

1. Hero Pups shall identify, train, and place a comfort dog ("dog" or "comfort dog") with DESC.
2. Hero Pups shall coordinate with professional experts to evaluate and profile comfort dog candidates, which are typically rescue or shelter dogs. Hero Pups

prioritizes identifying a comfort dog that is obedient, steady, stable, and connects with people well.

3. Hero Pups makes every effort to ensure that a dog will weigh eighty (80) pounds or less upon maturity and will rely on DNA/genetic testing in an effort to confirm this.
4. Hero Pups shall perform initial DNA and genetic testing for the identified comfort dog. Hero Pups shall provide the test results to DESC upon transfer of ownership.
5. Hero Pups shall ensure that the comfort dog shall be spayed/altered prior to transfer of ownership. Use of Hero Pups' comfort dog for breeding purposes is strictly forbidden.
6. Hero Pups makes every effort to ensure that the dog is in good health upon transfer of ownership. All age-appropriate vaccines and preventatives shall be administered at Hero Pups' expense prior to transfer of ownership to the DESC. Vaccine and treatment records shall be provided to DESC upon transfer of ownership.
7. In the event that either Hero Pups or DESC becomes aware of possible health risks, behavioral issue or temperament concerns with the comfort dog, the other party shall be notified immediately. DESC and Hero Pups shall coordinate on a treatment plan and determine together how or when to disclose the matter to the public.
8. Hero Pups encourages DESC involvement in the comfort dog training at the earliest possible juncture, beginning as soon as a comfort dog candidate is identified by Hero Pups. Hero Pups shall assign an individual to act as primary point of contact for DESC. Upon commencement of training, DESC shall identify one primary DESC handler and primary point of contact.
9. The individual identified as the DESC primary point of contact and handler shall participate in the initial training sessions with Hero Pups. DESC may opt to identify a second individual to act as handler, and shall coordinate with Hero Pups to add a second handler to the comfort dog's training. DESC shall ensure that the identified handler(s) have not been convicted of any animal welfare law violations, such as neglect, cruelty, or abandonment.
10. It is expected that transfer of ownership to DESC will occur when the dog reaches approximately one (1) year of age. The Parties shall coordinate on the training schedule and timeline for transfer of ownership.

11. Transport of the dog during training shall be split between Hero Pups and the DESC to enable training to happen in multiple situations, environments, and with various interactions. Hero Pups and the DESC handler will coordinate transportation prior to events. On some instances, the handler may need to pick the dog up at Hero Pups or meet at a mutually agreed upon location to transfer the dog from Hero Pups to the DESC handler.
12. Prior to transfer of ownership, the comfort dog will be housed with Hero Pups. When appropriate and indicated by the dog's training, DESC's handler may take the comfort dog for an overnight visit, in order to acclimate the dog and the handler. Such overnight visit(s) will occur by agreement of the parties.
13. Prior to transfer of ownership, the DESC handler's time involved during training can be estimated at three (3) hours per month, and which will include event visits and overnight visits with the dog, as appropriate. Additional training time is offered and encouraged by Hero Pups, at DESC and the handler's discretion.
14. Hero Pups shall assume all direct costs of the dog up until transfer including but not limited to: veterinary care, food, grooming, preventative care, vaccinations, collars, leashes, harnesses, bedding, crates, and Hero Pups transportation. DESC will NOT be responsible for any direct expenses for care of the dog prior to the transfer of ownership.
15. Hero Pups shall transfer ownership of the dog to DESC. Transfer will not be made to any individual.
16. DESC shall identify a licensed veterinarian prior to transfer of ownership. Upon transfer, DESC shall ensure that the dog receives all required and/or needed veterinary care, including: rabies shots, regular vaccines and boosters, preventative treatment for heartworm, fleas, and ticks, and shall engage prompt treatment by a licensed veterinarian for any illness or injury incurred by the dog. Hero Pups shall require that all preventatives recommended by the DESC's selected veterinarian be administered – even if it is not in agreement with the handler(s). This is a non-negotiable requirement set forth by Hero Pups in an effort to minimize health risks to the dog.
17. DESC shall ensure that the dog is licensed by the municipality where the dog resides. DESC will ensure ongoing compliance with all applicable local and state laws for pet ownership.
18. After transfer of ownership, DESC shall secure American Kennel Club (AKC) Canine Good Citizen certification. This certification is assigned to the handler and the dog, which is why it must be obtained after ownership transfer to the DESC.

Hero Pups will assume all necessary costs for the certification and shall coordinate with the DESC to ensure completion.

19. Following transfer of ownership, the parties shall continue comfort dog training as directed by Hero Pups for up to three (3) hours per month. This training will continue for as long as needed, as agreed by the parties. In the event that additional standards or regulations applicable to the parties or this MOU are adopted by the State of New Hampshire, the parties shall coordinate to engage in additional training, as needed.
20. Hero Pups recommends that the vehicle used by DESC to transport the Hero Pup be equipped with a "crash crate" and a remote vehicle temperature sensor. These provisions shall be at the sole discretion and cost of DESC. K9 transport vehicle up-fitting, as for law enforcement purposes, is NOT required due to the nature of the work a comfort dog does.
21. DESC shall provide ID and/or patches that may be attached to the dog's collar, harness, or vest and which will identify the comfort dog and its relationship to DESC. The dog shall only wear the ID and/or patches when the dog is accompanied by its DESC handler.
22. The dog will never wear or display any "advertisements" identifying businesses, individuals, or sponsors.
23. The New Hampshire Governor and Council has authorized DESC to accept the donation of a comfort dog, pursuant to RSA 4:8, Gifts to the State. March 27, 2024, Item No. 2C.
24. Hero Pups encourages DESC to promote their participation in the Comfort Dog Program publicly and on social media, as benefits to DESC can include: public engagement, community service, employee retention, employee stress reduction, and comfort during critical incidents or traumatic events.
25. The parties agree to collaborate on any press releases about the program. Press releases will not be made without approval by both Hero Pups and the Department of Safety prior to publication. DESC shall tag Hero Pups in all posts pertaining to the dog until ownership is transferred to DESC.
26. The Parties agree that Hero Pups trainers, officials, and volunteers are not employees or agents of the State of New Hampshire or the Department of Safety for any purpose, including Worker's Compensation or employee benefit programs.

27. Nothing herein shall be deemed to create an agency, joint venture, franchise, or partnership relation between the parties.
28. Statement of confidentiality: the parties agree not to directly or indirectly divulge or disclose for any purpose any confidential information that has been obtained or disclosed as a result of this Memorandum of Understanding and relationship except as required by law. Notwithstanding, the parties acknowledge that the Department of Safety is a public entity governed by RSA 91-A, and other laws governing public disclosure.
29. This MOU shall be effective upon its approval by the parties hereto.
30. This MOU may be amended by a written instrument signed by the Parties provided that the amendment does not involve a State expenditure, the receipt of funds, or the creation of an enforceable agreement.
31. Either party may terminate this MOU by providing written notice to the other party at least thirty (30) days prior to termination.
32. Notice of early termination and all official correspondence shall be sent to the other party at their mailing address, as given below:

Laura Barker  
Hero Pups, Inc.  
20 Portsmouth Ave, No, 127  
Stratham, NH 03883

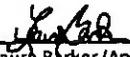
Office of the Director  
Division of Emergency Services and Communications  
110 Smokey Bear Boulevard  
Concord, NH 03305

33. Disputes arising under this MOU should be resolved by agreement between the Parties to the extent possible. In the event that the Parties are not able to resolve any such disputes to the satisfaction of the Parties, either Party may terminate this MOU in the manner set forth in paragraph 31.

34. The Parties agree that the obligations, agreements and promises made under this Memorandum of Understanding are not intended to be legally binding upon the Parties and are not legally enforceable. Additionally, the obligations, agreements, and promise made by the Parties in this Memorandum of Understanding shall not compromise a standard of care to third parties.
35. This MOU shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New Hampshire.
36. The parties do not intend to benefit any third parties and this MOU shall not be construed to confer any such benefit.
37. In the event any of the provisions of this MOU are held to be contrary to any state or federal law, the remaining provisions of this MOU will remain in full force and effect.
38. This MOU, which may be executed in a number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, constitutes the entire MOU and understandings between the parties, and supersedes all prior MOUs and understandings relating hereto.
39. Nothing herein shall be construed as a waiver of sovereign immunity, such immunity being hereby specifically preserved.

Acknowledged by:

**HERO PUPS, INC.**

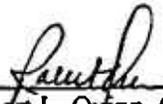
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Laura Barker (Apr 1, 2024 14:22 EDT)

Laura Barker  
Hero Pups, Inc.  
Duly Authorized Signatory

Apr 1, 2024

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY  
DIVISION OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND COMMUNICATIONS**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert L. Quinn, Commissioner  
Department of Safety

4/9/24  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**GOVERNOR AND EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
APPROVAL:**

On: \_\_\_\_\_, 2024 Item Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of State

# DESC\_Hero\_Pups\_MOU\_Final

Final Audit Report

2024-04-01

Created:	2024-04-01
By:	Brandon McGorry (brandon.j.mcgorry@desc.nh.gov)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAZabtyvh_iQqqHgeLFFpiyFFxOeGnrJt-

## "DESC\_Hero\_Pups\_MOU\_Final" History

-  Document created by Brandon McGorry (brandon.j.mcgorry@desc.nh.gov)  
2024-04-01 - 5:33:09 PM GMT
-  Document emailed to Laura Barker (heropupsinc@yahoo.com) for signature  
2024-04-01 - 5:33:14 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Laura Barker (heropupsinc@yahoo.com)  
2024-04-01 - 6:21:13 PM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Laura Barker (heropupsinc@yahoo.com)  
Signature Date: 2024-04-01 - 6:22:14 PM GMT - Time Source: server
-  Agreement completed.  
2024-04-01 - 6:22:14 PM GMT

# State of New Hampshire

## Department of State

### CERTIFICATE

I, David M. Scanlan, Secretary of State of the State of New Hampshire, do hereby certify that HERO PUPS, INC. is a New Hampshire Nonprofit Corporation registered to transact business in New Hampshire on May 24, 2016. I further certify that all fees and documents required by the Secretary of State's office have been received and is in good standing as far as this office is concerned.

Business ID: 745838

Certificate Number: 0006671996



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF,  
I hereto set my hand and cause to be affixed  
the Seal of the State of New Hampshire,  
this 19th day of April A.D. 2024.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David M. Scanlan".

David M. Scanlan  
Secretary of State

**Certificate of Authority # 1**

*(Corporation, Non-Profit Corporation)*

**Corporate Resolution**

I, Heather Allard, hereby certify that I am duly elected Clerk/Secretary/Officer of  
*(Name)*  
Hero Pups Inc. I hereby certify the following is a true copy of a vote taken at  
*(Name of Corporation)*

a meeting of the Board of Directors/shareholders, duly called and held on 4/18, 2024,  
at which a quorum of the Directors/shareholders were present and voting.

**VOTED:** That Laura Barker, Board President (may list more than one person) is  
*(Name and Title)*

duly authorized to enter into contracts or agreements on behalf of

Hero Pups Inc. with the State of New Hampshire and any of  
*(Name of Corporation )*

its agencies or departments and further is authorized to execute any documents  
which may in his/her judgment be desirable or necessary to effect the purpose of  
this vote.

I hereby certify that said vote has not been amended or repealed and remains in full force  
and effect as of the date of the contract to which this certificate is attached. This authority  
**remains valid for thirty (30) days** from the date of this Corporate Resolution. I further certify  
that it is understood that the State of New Hampshire will rely on this certificate as evidence that  
the person(s) listed above currently occupy the position(s) indicated and that they have full  
authority to bind the corporation. To the extent that there are any limits on the authority of any  
listed individual to bind the corporation in contracts with the State of New Hampshire, all such  
limitations are expressly stated herein.

**DATED:** 4/18/2024

**ATTEST:** Heather Allard, Board Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name  
&  
Title)



# CERTIFICATE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE

DATE (MM/DD/YYYY)  
04/18/2024

THIS CERTIFICATE IS ISSUED AS A MATTER OF INFORMATION ONLY AND CONFERS NO RIGHTS UPON THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER. THIS CERTIFICATE DOES NOT AFFIRMATIVELY OR NEGATIVELY AMEND, EXTEND OR ALTER THE COVERAGE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES BELOW. THIS CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE ISSUING INSURER(S), AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OR PRODUCER, AND THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER.

**IMPORTANT:** If the certificate holder is an ADDITIONAL INSURED, the policy(ies) must have ADDITIONAL INSURED provisions or be endorsed. If SUBROGATION IS WAIVED, subject to the terms and conditions of the policy, certain policies may require an endorsement. A statement on this certificate does not confer rights to the certificate holder in lieu of such endorsement(s).

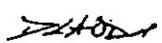
<b>PRODUCER</b> Avery Insurance 21 South Main Street PO Box 1510 Wolfeboro NH 03894-1510	<b>CONTACT NAME:</b> Karyn Vander Hey <b>PHONE (A/C, No, Ext):</b> (603) 569-2515 <b>FAX (A/C, No):</b> (603) 569-4266 <b>E-MAIL ADDRESS:</b> karyng@averyinsurance.net																				
	<table border="1"> <tr> <th colspan="2">INSURER(S) AFFORDING COVERAGE</th> <th>NAIC #</th> </tr> <tr> <td>INSURER A:</td> <td>Burlington Insurance Company</td> <td>23620</td> </tr> <tr> <td>INSURER B:</td> <td>Eastern Alliance Insurance Group</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>INSURER C:</td> <td>Mt Vernon Fire Ins Co</td> <td>26522</td> </tr> <tr> <td>INSURER D:</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>INSURER E:</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>INSURER F:</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	INSURER(S) AFFORDING COVERAGE		NAIC #	INSURER A:	Burlington Insurance Company	23620	INSURER B:	Eastern Alliance Insurance Group		INSURER C:	Mt Vernon Fire Ins Co	26522	INSURER D:			INSURER E:			INSURER F:	
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INSURER E:																					
INSURER F:																					
<b>INSURED</b> Hero Pups, Inc 20 Portsmouth Ave #127 Stratham NH 03885																					

**COVERAGES** CERTIFICATE NUMBER: 23-24 MASTER REVISION NUMBER:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE POLICIES OF INSURANCE LISTED BELOW HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO THE INSURED NAMED ABOVE FOR THE POLICY PERIOD INDICATED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY REQUIREMENT, TERM OR CONDITION OF ANY CONTRACT OR OTHER DOCUMENT WITH RESPECT TO WHICH THIS CERTIFICATION MAY BE ISSUED OR MAY PERTAIN, THE INSURANCE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES DESCRIBED HEREIN IS SUBJECT TO ALL THE TERMS, EXCLUSIONS AND CONDITIONS OF SUCH POLICIES. LIMITS SHOWN MAY HAVE BEEN REDUCED BY PAID CLAIMS.

INSR LTR	TYPE OF INSURANCE	ADOL INSD	SUBR WVD	POLICY NUMBER	POLICY EFF (MM/DD/YYYY)	POLICY EXP (MM/DD/YYYY)	LIMITS
A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> CLAIMS-MADE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUR GEN'L AGGREGATE LIMIT APPLIES PER: <input type="checkbox"/> POLICY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PROJECT <input type="checkbox"/> LOC OTHER:			948B001843	12/10/2023	12/10/2024	EACH OCCURRENCE \$ 1,000,000 DAMAGE TO RENTED PREMISES (Ea occurrence) \$ 50,000 MED EXP (Any one person) \$ 5,000 PERSONAL & ADV INJURY \$ 1,000,000 GENERAL AGGREGATE \$ 2,000,000 PRODUCTS - COMP/OP AGG \$ 2,000,000 Blanket AI \$
	AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> ANY AUTO <input type="checkbox"/> OWNED AUTOS ONLY <input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULED AUTOS <input type="checkbox"/> HIRED AUTOS ONLY <input type="checkbox"/> NON-OWNED AUTOS ONLY						COMBINED SINGLE LIMIT (Ea accident) \$ BODILY INJURY (Per person) \$ BODILY INJURY (Per accident) \$ PROPERTY DAMAGE (Per accident) \$
	<input type="checkbox"/> UMBRELLA LIAB <input type="checkbox"/> OCCUR <input type="checkbox"/> EXCESS LIAB <input type="checkbox"/> CLAIMS-MADE DED RETENTION \$						EACH OCCURRENCE \$ AGGREGATE \$
B	WORKERS COMPENSATION AND EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ANY PROPRIETOR/PARTNER/EXECUTIVE OFFICER/MEMBER EXCLUDED? (Mandatory in NH) If yes, describe under DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS below		Y/N Y	0000604399	05/01/2023	05/01/2024	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PER STATUTE <input type="checkbox"/> OTH-ER E.L. EACH ACCIDENT \$ 500,000 E.L. DISEASE - EA EMPLOYEE \$ 500,000 E.L. DISEASE - POLICY LIMIT \$ 500,000
C	Directors and Officers			NDO2557636E	10/02/2023	10/02/2024	General Aggregate \$1,000,000 Each Occurrence \$1,000,000

DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS / LOCATIONS / VEHICLES (ACORD 101, Additional Remarks Schedule, may be attached if more space is required)  
Coverage as per terms and conditions of policy. DESC is an additional insured if required by written contract.

<b>CERTIFICATE HOLDER</b> Division of Emergency Services and Communications 110 Smokey Bear Boulevard Concord NH 03305	<b>CANCELLATION</b> SHOULD ANY OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED POLICIES BE CANCELLED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE THEREOF, NOTICE WILL BE DELIVERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICY PROVISIONS. AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE 
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ROBERT L. QUINN  
COMMISSIONER

## State of New Hampshire

DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY  
JAMES H. HAYES BLDG. 33 HAZEN DR.  
CONCORD, N.H. 03305  
(603) 271-2791

EDDIE EDWARDS  
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

STEVEN R. LAVOIE  
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

March 11, 2024

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu  
and the Honorable Council,  
State House  
Concord, New Hampshire, 03301

G&C #2C  
03/27/2024

Approved

### REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to the provisions of NH RSA 4:8, Gifts to the State, authorize the Department of Safety (DOS), Division of Emergency Services and Communications (DESC), to accept the donation of a comfort dog valued at approximately \$7,000.00 from Hero Pups, LLC, of Stratham, NH. Effective upon Governor and Council approval.

### EXPLANATION

The Division of Emergency Services and Communications has been offered the opportunity to acquire a comfort dog from Hero Pups, LLC, to help frontline first responders working in our E911 Emergency Communications Centers cope with job-related stress. One of our employees at DESC took on the task of researching the feasibility of having a comfort dog for the department. When conducting the research, the employee spoke with several public safety partners throughout New Hampshire who already have comfort dogs in their departments, many of which received their donated comfort dog from Hero Pups, LLC, including Franklin Police, Manchester Police, Salem Police, Claremont Police, and Concord Police.

Given the work our telecommunicators do in public safety, the job-related stress, and the emotional trauma that comes from being on the job, both Hero Pups and DESC feel this will be a great partnership. This generous donation will help improve the mental health of our entire Division. Additionally, the donated comfort dog will be an added resource that can be used to assist other emergency telecommunicators and dispatchers around the State of New Hampshire when the DOS Peer Support Team is called upon to assist with a critical incident stress debriefing (CISD).

As part of the donation, for the first year, while the dog is in their car undergoing training, all veterinary services, training, and provided care for the dog are covered by Hero Pups, LLC. There is no cost to the State or our taxpayers for "dog handler" training, this will be provided for free. Abigail Rider, one of our E911 Telecommunications Supervisors, will serve as the comfort dogs' handler. Upon the canine's retirement, it will be relinquished to live out its years as Abigail's family pet.

After the transfer of ownership to the DESC, costs related to the care of the dog will come from the Division's budget using the Enhanced 911 Surcharge Funds. Funds are available in SFY2025 and contingent upon the availability and continued appropriations, there will be no impact from the States' General Funds for the comfort dog program through the DESC.

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu  
and the Honorable Council  
March 11, 2024  
Page 2 of 2

If this donation request is approved by the Governor and Executive Council, ownership of the dog will be transferred to the DOS DESC around November or December 2024, assuming all dog and handler training is successful.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert L. Quinn  
Commissioner of Safety

## Hero Pups

20 Portsmouth Ave #127  
Stratham, NH 03883  
603-397-7444  
www.HeroPups.com  
HeroPupsInc@yahoo.com  
Tax ID # 81-2599629



February 6, 2024

To whom it may concern:

Hero Pups is seeking to donate a comfort dog to the Division of Emergency Services and Communications. We will provide all training, veterinary services and provide care for the dog while it is in training with us. Handler training will also be provided at no cost to the state. We hope that this dog will be an asset to the Division by reducing job-related stress for staff doing such important work.

We look forward to contributing in this way pending your approval.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laura Barker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Laura Barker, Founder/Board President