

Save the following questionnaire to your computer as a document.  
Answer all questions and **e-mail it back as an attachment to [bestpaw@bestpaw.com](mailto:bestpaw@bestpaw.com)**  
[Bestpaw@bestpaw.com](mailto:Bestpaw@bestpaw.com) is reserved strictly for communication with students.

**Detouring Doggie Delinquents:  
Preventing & Managing Aggressive or Nervous Displays  
Behavioral History & Information Form**

For **BEST PAW FORWARD, INC.** workshops or for private classes with dogs with social issues  
[www.bestpaw.com](http://www.bestpaw.com)   [bestpaw@bestpaw.com](mailto:bestpaw@bestpaw.com)   407-321-1006   1835 Oak Haven Plantation Road Osteen FL 32764

P.J. Lacette has been training dogs for more than 40 years and specializes in counseling behavior problems and social issues. Her extensive background in changing problems behavior with a gentle approach has developed into a number of special programs for dogs with social issues. Please check the web page or you may also contact her about private work for problem pets.

Member: Association of Professional Dog Trainers (charter member 15), Dog Obedience Clubs of Florida

<b>Private Class Time &amp; Date</b> _____	<b>Seminar/Workshop/Series Date</b> _____
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Each working dog spot in a seminar includes two adult handlers. Growl classes may include family/household member age 16 and older, and require two adult handlers. Private classes require at least one adult handler per dog; families are welcome to attend private sessions though we recommend active participants are all adults and mature teen-agers. Children under the age of 16 are not permitted in the workshops or growl classes.

Completion and submission of this form with payment, and with approval of the instructors, is a commitment to this time slot. There is no refund at that point. If I am unable to attend, I will receive a credit toward an approved Best Paw Forward group, private session or seminar starting in the next 60 days after payment or after the original seminar date.

<b>Owner's/Handler's Name or Names – print below (all participating handlers)</b>
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<b>Address</b>
<b>City/State/Zip Code</b> <b>E-mail address</b>

<b>Telephone numbers (at least two required)</b>		
<b>Home</b> (including area code)	<b>Cell</b>	<b>Work</b> (only for emergencies)

<b>Dog's Name</b> (primary dog of concern)
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<b>Breed/s</b>	<b>Color</b>	<b>Male or Female</b>
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<b>Spayed/Neutered?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Age when altered</b>	<b>Weight:</b>
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**Dog's Date of Birth or Age:**

**Veterinarian's Name or Clinic Name:**

**List any other dogs in the house (include name, breed, sex, weight & age)**

**How did you learn about Best Paw Forward Inc.? Please include name if you recall and circle or underline one or more.**

I am a former/current student      From a former/current student      Breeder  
Veterinary hospital      On-Line      Other (please include details)

## **Mailing your completed form requires extra postage.**

You must read and follow the attendance guidelines on the last few pages, as well as complete the entire multi-page questionnaire that follows, for private sessions or to be accepted into our Detouring Doggie Delinquents workshops or Growl Classes. The questions cover everything from mild nervousness to more serious issues. It is best to be thorough in these cases so we can help you and your dog as much and as quickly as possible.

Circle, mark or underline answers where multiple choices are provided, or delete wrong choices and just leave the correct answers. Changing the color is not sufficient since we usually print out your answers in gray-scale.

**“NA” is not an acceptable for any question. Some people use that to abbreviate “Not Applicable” and others for “Not Available.” “Yes,” “No,” or as many details as are available are better answers so we may best help you and your dog.**

We appreciate the time and effort you put into completing this long list of questions, and we will put the same time and effort into studying your answers. It is important that all questions be answered, even though some questions are repetitive because you may recall more information as you go along. Extensive answers may go on a separate page if you are handwriting responses.

Where did you get this dog? Breeder, rescue group, shelter, friend, pet store, newspaper, other (please specify)

If a rescue, why was the dog originally given up?

If the dog came from a breeder, did the dog's sire and dam (and other known ancestors) have dog show, obedience, rally, agility, Schutzhund, field, tracking, herding, therapy dog, or any other titles?

If the dog came from a breeder, did you meet and pet the sire and dam?

How long has this dog lived with you?  
How old was the dog when you first got it?

Reason for getting this dog:

Describe a typical day in your dog's life.

What type of leash do you use to walk your dog? Nylon, extending (Flexi-Leash), leather, cotton, chain, no leash

What type of collar or harness do you use to walk your dog? snap or buckle collar, harness, anti-pull harness, head collar (Gentle Leader, Halti), choke collar, limited choke collar (martingale).

**Behavior Issue #1: What is your chief issue for consultation?**

How frequent is this behavior?

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Other (specify)

How often does the behavior occur when the dog is in the specific situation (i.e. does the jumping dog jump on all people, some people, or only at certain times)?

- Always
- Sometimes
- Seldom
- Unpredictable

When did the behavior start?

Has the behavior intensified or increased in frequency since it started? If so, how and when?

Have you sought medical attention for this issue? When and what was the result?

Do littermates and/or housemates engage in this behavior?

What specifically has been done to correct or change the behavior?

**Behavior Issue #2: Name any other social issue that causes you concern.**

How frequent is this behavior?

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Other (specify)

How often does the behavior occur when the dog is in the specific situation (i.e. does the jumping dog jump on all people, some people, or only at certain times)

- Always
- Sometimes
- Seldom
- Unpredictable

Has the behavior intensified or increased in frequency since it started? If so, how and when?

Have you sought medical attention for this issue? When and what was the result?

Do littermates and/or housemates engage in this behavior?

What specifically has been done to correct or change the behavior?

**General Pet Information**

Where at your home does your dog stay when you are at work, shopping or out for an evening?

Where does the dog stay when you are at home?

What is the longest period of time your dog spends alone?

How many times a day does someone play games with the dog?

What games are played? How long is each play session?

How many times a day do you engage the dog in a training session? How long is each session?

How many walks does your pet take each day?

For eliminating:

For exercise:

How many people play with or train the dog each day? Who?

What kind of places do you like to go to with your dog?

Where is your dog when you are at home watching television?

Where is your dog when you are having dinner?

Where does your dog sleep at night?

Does he sleep through the night or is he restless?

Do you trust your dog loose indoors, unsupervised? If no, why not?

What methods were used to house-train your dog?

Does he ever have any house-training accidents? Does he "mark" in the house by urinating or defecating?

How does your dog tell you he needs to go outside or to an indoor potty area to urinate or defecate?

Does your dog growl, bark, whine or snarl? If so, when?

Have you ever used a crate for your dog? When & why or why not?

If you use a crate, where is it kept?

Do you trust your dog outside unsupervised? If no, why not?

What type of indoor confinement do you have available if you are not using a crate?

If you have a fence what type is it? wood , chain link, vinyl, wrought iron, electric collar, other (please specify)

Does your dog exhibit mounting behaviors?

If so, does he mount other dogs, people, and/or inanimate objects? Please specify.

Has your dog received obedience or other training? Private or group class? Where?

If yes, for how long and what training methods and training collars were used.

What commands does your dog know?

Does this dog go to the dog park, dog events, dog shows or dog performance events such as agility or obedience trials, Schutzhund trials etc.?

## Household Information

Does your dog act aggressive or timid with other dogs?

Does your dog act aggressive or timid with other animals?

What other types of animals besides dogs have lived with your dog? (Please include sex, species, spayed/neutered, etc.)

Please describe how they got along.

Does your dog: ignore, play with, or exhibit bossy behavior with other pets?

Does your dog spend time unsupervised with these pets?

What types of animals has your dog visited/played with?

When is your dog not good with other animals?

What are your dog's shining qualities?

How would you describe your dog's personality?

List 5 things that your dog loves to eat.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

List 5 activities that your dog loves.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Please describe what daily exercise your dog gets.

What is your occupation? How does it affect your dog's schedule?

How often do you and how does your dog act when you:  
Bathe your dog?

Trim nails?

Take him to a groomer?

Does your dog travel well in the car?

Where does your dog stay when you go on vacation?

## Children

Has your dog lived with children? What ages?

Has your dog visited with children? What ages?

Is there a time when your dog is not good with children?

Does your dog like small children? If yes, how many small children has he met? Under what circumstances?

Has he ever had a bad experience with a small child?

With children he is: playful friendly tolerant afraid  
shy rough not around children?

Any comments about your dog with children?

## Health

List any known medical conditions (including allergies, hip dysplasia, low thyroid or other breed-specific issues), injuries or current physical limits:

Has your dog been vaccinated within the last year?

Which vaccinations has he had?

Does your dog have a current rabies vaccination?

Have titer checks been done if vaccinations are not done on a standard schedule? (Titers are a way to monitor antibodies to see if optional vaccines are needed.)

Is your dog receiving any form of flea control? What kind? How often?

Is your dog on heartworm preventative? What kind?

Is your dog taking any medications or has he recently been on any? Which ones?

Does he seem uncomfortable if anyone touches his rear, ears or any other area of his body?

Have your dog's sleeping or eating habits changed?

## Dog/People Social Skills

What is your dog's reaction to visitors at the door?

Does he chase?: adults kids squirrels  
cats bicycles other

Does he react to doorbells (or doorbells on TV)? If so, how?

Is your dog protective of his?: food, home, yard, family, bed, car, toys? If yes, how does he exhibit this?

How long does it take him to calm down when someone comes to the house).

How does your dog react while on leash around? People:

Does your dog mouth anyone or anything?

Dogs:

Is he better or worse with particular people or children?

Other animals (squirrels, cats, livestock):

Has your dog done anything for which you have had to physically discipline him?

How does your dog react while off leash around People?

Dogs?

Other animals (squirrels, cats, livestock)

## Feeding/Chew Toys

What **type** (dry, canned, home-cooked, raw) and **brand** of dog food do you feed your dog?

Can you safely put your hand in your dog's dish while he is eating? If not, what is your dog's reaction?

How much and when?

Can you take trash or food out of your dog's mouth if he has something you don't want him to have? If you cannot, what is his reaction? Can anyone else safely do this? Who?

How long is the food bowl left out while it contains food?

Have you ever petted or approached your dog while he is eating? If yes, what is the response? Can you safely remove the food bowl from the dog when he is eating? If not, what is your dog's reaction?

How do you retrieve objects/toys that your dog has in his mouth?

Are there any toys/objects your dog will not give up to you without showing signs of displeasure?

## Dog/People Social Skills

Are there any activities your dog will not allow you to perform (nail cutting, grooming, examinations) without showing signs of displeasure?

How does your dog show/tell you he doesn't like any of these activities (i.e. moves away, runs away, bares teeth, snarls, growls, snaps, bites). Please be as specific as possible.

Are there any parts of your dog's body he does not like having touched?

How does your dog greet visitors to your home?

How does your dog greet strangers away from home, on a walk or at the veterinary office?

Has the dog ever bitten you? Or other family/household members?

How many times has your dog nipped or snapped at neighbors, visitors or other people? Please explain the circumstance of any nips or snaps.

How many times has your dog bitten hard enough to draw blood from people? Please

explain the circumstances of each bite that caused a mark but did not require medical attention.

Has he ever caused an injury to a person that required medical attention? If yes, please explain circumstances of all bites and note severity of injury.

Do you, the groomer, or the veterinary staff need to use a muzzle to groom or handle your dog?

## **Dog/Animal Social Skills**

When passing or meeting other dogs, does your dog have any issues while leashed?

Has your dog ever had a significant fight with another dog? If yes, please briefly describe.

Has your dog bitten and drawn blood on another dog or animal? If yes, on a separate page, please briefly provide details of each incident and the animal on which it occurred.

How many times has your dog drawn blood from other animals?

Has he ever caused an injury to an animal that required medical attention? If yes, on a separate page, please briefly provide details of each incident and the animal on which it occurred.

Has your dog ever killed a cat or any other animal? If yes, please briefly describe.

Was he ever attacked by or injured by another dog? If yes, please briefly describe.

## **Please closely read and keep a copy of the following guidelines to prepare to attend your training program or private class.**

For a private class or workshop with any dog with social issues, please withhold food for 24 hours before we meet. Of course your pet may have all the water he likes. Bring great soft treats (as boneless chicken, hot dogs and cheese are good choices) that are easily broken into small pieces. No dog treats are banned for a first session unless you get advance approval from your instructor – we need him to be very excited about the new yummys! His treats for this work must be exciting food he does not get at home.

Bring printed vaccine or titer records (no fax) for distemper, adenovirus, parainfluenza, parvovirus, rabies and leptospirosis. Bordetella and canine influenza are recommended.

For dogs on restricted diets you may cook up the main protein source in the dog's food for extra delicious treats which may be mixed with some of his dog food. In other words, if he is on a chicken-based

diet bring some boneless chicken breast. An easy-to-use treat bag or carpenter apron will also be useful during the program. Treats need to go directly into the treat bag or apron, and not be separated into small plastic bags, so a washable bag would be a good idea.

If your dog has any medical condition that requires regular meals or is on medication that requires administering with food, cut the amount of food down to miniscule portions (from 1/10 to ¼ of his regular size meal) on the day before his class. Free feeding your dog (leaving food down all the time) is not recommended for health and behavioral reasons, especially for dogs with social issues.

You must bring your dog on equipment that will control him physically and gently. For dogs with social issues, a **Gentle Leader** (preferably with a buckle-type fastener) or **Snoot Loop** and **leather leash** of appropriate weight (5/8" wide for most medium to large dogs) are recommended. Wider leashes can be hard to handle, and nylon leashes are not usually permitted because they burn the hands if a strong dog pulls.

Dogs that require other equipment, such as breeds with short muzzles, or dogs with good people skills attending private classes may sometimes attend on very **snug-fitting nylon limited slip collars or nylon slip collars, or even snug buckle or snap collars** as long as the owner can safely hold on no matter how hard the dog pulls on leash.

Leashes are available for purchase here at Best Paw Forward. You are not required to purchase your training equipment here but our prices are very competitive.

**In order to become acclimated the dog must periodically wear the Gentle Leader for at least 1 week prior to a seminar or series.** Some advance work on getting the dog used to a head collar will make your training experience much more pleasant. We have a hand-out on our webpage or we are glad to mail you a copy to help you and your dog with the process.

We will show you how to fit the Gentle Leader properly. Make sure his current collar piece is tight enough and secure enough that it cannot come off unexpectedly.

Prong collars are prohibited for nervous, shy and aggressive dogs. If you do not have access to the recommended equipment or if you are unsure about how to use it effectively, we can help you control your dog physically without a prong collar.

**Your fee for private classes goes directly to your instructor, so we try to avoid the complication of charge card payments for those. Please bring a check or cash for any private session. Of course you may still use your Visa, MasterCard or Discover for purchases, workshops, group classes etc.**

### **Release and Waive Liability, Indemnify and Assumption of Risk and Hold Harmless**

I hereby waive and release Best Paw Forward Inc., its employees, officers, members and agents from any and all liability of any nature, for injury or damage which I or my dog may suffer from the action of any dog including my own. I expressly assume the risk of such damage or injury while attending any training sessions, or any other function, or while on the Best Paw Forward Inc. training grounds or in the surrounding area.

I understand that I may be excused from the training event(s) by P.J. Lacette, Best Paw Forward Inc., and its agents for any reason, including, but not limited to: failure to follow the event or training grounds and facility rules, consistent unsafe handling, not following direction, the use of profanity, disorderly conduct, animal or people abuse or disrespect, extreme aggression or an uncontrollable dog. I understand



that there is *no refund is available once I or anyone with me receives the class or seminar materials.*

I understand that classes, seminars, training sessions and other events may be photographed and recorded for educational and promotional use, and grant my permission for any resulting photographs or video of my animal, myself and anyone attending with me or for me to be used for advertising or educational material, understanding that the resulting photographs or videos are the sole property of P.J. Lacette and Best Paw Forward Inc. I hereby apply for enrollment in this training event understanding that this is a condition of enrollment.

I understand that attendance in a dog training event(s) is not without risk and hazards to myself, members of my family, guests who may attend, my dog, other participants and other dogs. I understand that the risks, hazards and potential dangers include, without limitations, risk of physical injury, mental injury, emotional distress, trauma, death and contact with other participants and dogs. I acknowledge that I am voluntarily applying to participate in dog training events and I am not relying on P.J. Lacette or Best Paw Forward Inc. to prevent such occurrences.

I assume sole risk and sole financial responsibility of all occurrences and hereby waive any and all claims I, my guardians, representatives or assigns may have and release P.J. Lacette, Best Paw Forward Inc. and its agents from any and all liability of any nature for myself, my dog, and children in my charge.

I am solely responsible for injury and damage which I, my dog, my family and my guests may suffer or cause, including specifically, but not without limitation, any injury or damage resulting from the action of any dog, and I expressly assume ALL risk and financial responsibility of any such damage or injury caused directly or indirectly while attending any training event or function, or while on the training grounds or surrounding area.

In consideration of and inducement to the acceptance of my application for training in this event(s), I hereby agree to indemnify and hold harmless P.J. Lacette, Best Paw Forward Inc. and its agents from any claims, or claims by any member of my family and other person accompanying me to any training session or function of the training event(s) or while on the grounds or surrounding area thereto as a result of any action by any dog, including my own, or any person.

By signing below, I hereby state that I have fully read, understand and agree to the above terms and conditions of my own free will in consideration for ALL services provided by P.J. Lacette, Best Paw Forward Inc. and its agents. I understand that any legal expenses incurred in defense or enforcement of this contract are my sole responsibility. Any dispute of the stipulations of this contract will be settled by mediation in Volusia County, Florida.

My computer-generated and dated signature constitutes my legal signature. Parent/legal guardian must sign for instructor-approved minors – advance permission required for underage participants
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\_\_\_\_\_ **Printed Names**

**Signatures of all attending adults      Date**

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**THIS SECTION FOR OFFICE USE ONLY**

**Amount**\_\_\_\_\_ **Cash** \_\_\_ **Check #**\_\_\_\_\_

MasterCard/VISA/Discover

Date paid\_\_\_\_\_

Staff member taking payment\_\_\_\_\_

Shots: (Initial, date received)\_\_\_\_\_

**Date approved for workshop attendance:**\_\_\_\_\_

Receipt/directions sent\_\_\_\_\_