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**HAVE YOU CREATED A #TRUST FOR YOUR
BFF— YOUR #DOG, #CAT OR OTHER #PET?**

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HAVE YOU CREATED A #TRUST FOR YOUR BFF— YOUR #DOG, #CAT, OR OTHER #PET?

The horrible truth: It is estimated that a large percentage of the 4-6 million #dogs and #cats that are “put to sleep” each year are #euthanized only because their humans have died or have become disabled and failed to provide for them in their #estate plans. Most such pets are healthy and otherwise might have had more years of good life ahead of them.

PETS DON’T HAVE TO DIE BEFORE THEIR TIME!

WHAT CAN HAPPEN TO A PET IF HIS OWNER DIES OR BECOMES DISABLED AND HAS NOT CREATED A PLAN FOR HIS CARE?

- A pet faces the risk of being mistreated, used in scientific experiments, or, as we have seen, euthanized, even if it is still in good health.
- Probate law treats a pet like a sofa or a chair or any other object.
- An owner can’t rely on friends or family to provide the proper level of care for his pet without special advance planning.
- Pets are not legal beneficiaries, so they can’t inherit money.
- Pets can’t enforce their rights in court.
- Wills alone are not sufficient to protect a pet.
- Who cares for the pet while the owner’s estate is being probated?

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- Once the owner's estate is closed, there is no mechanism to care for the pet or reason to keep it alive.

FORTUNATELY THERE IS A LEGAL SOLUTION!

A #PET TRUST

An Owner can create a special trust to protect his beloved buddy in the event of his death or disability. The owner may specify:

- The level of care he wants his pet to receive.
- Caretakers and trustees for the pet, including successor caretakers and trustees.
- Money for the pet's support and desired level of care.
- Successor beneficiaries who will receive any money left in the trust after the pet passes away.
- The Vet whom the owner and the pet know and trust and who has the pet's medical history.
- Favorite food.

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- **Favorite treats.**
- **Foods that the pet should NOT be given.**
- **Favorite toys.**
- **Physical challenges.**
- **Pet's temperament.**
- **Pet's habits.**
- **Amount and kind of exercise.**
- **Favorite kinds of playtime.**
- **Medications.**
- **Circumstances under which the pet may be euthanized.**
- **Provisions for the burial/cremation of the pet's remains.**
- **Any other instructions for the pet's care.**

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HAVE YOU CREATED A #TRUST FOR YOUR BEFF— YOUR #DOG, #CAT, OR OTHER #PET?

Remember: Your Pet depends on you. If you are gone or disabled such that you cannot care for him, he faces an uncertain future. He has given you lots and lots of unconditional love. A Pet Trust is the most humane and loving gift you can give him.

As an Attorney in Park Ridge, Illinois, I have created many Pet Trusts. I have counseled owners on the best way to make sure their BFF receives the proper level of care if they become disabled or if they pass away and the pet survives them. I would be happy to meet with you and help you provide for your pet in the best way the law allows.

Please contact me. And let's work together to protect your pet.

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VIRTUAL APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE!

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