OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF



COLLIN COUNTY, TEXAS

JIM SKINNER, SHERIFF

Date:

April 3, 2023

To:

Commissioners Court

From:

Sheriff Jim Skinner

Re:

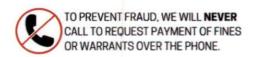
Donation Acceptance from Operation Mutt22

The Collin County Sheriff's Office Detention Center is being offered the donation of one (1) Golden Retriever Dog and the accompanying training from Operation Mutt 22. Operation Mutt 22 is a local, veteran-owned and operated company whose primary focus is on improving the quality of life for our returning combat veterans by providing and training service dogs. President and Co-Founder, Justin Rie, a member of the International Association of Canine Professionals and certified AKC evaluator and therapy dog evaluator, has offered the dog and the training services at an estimated value of \$3,000.

Upon acceptance of the donation, the Sheriff's Office intends to use the dog to positively impact the behavioral and mental health of incarcerated individuals within the Collin County Sheriff's Office Detention Center. The included training includes human and animal socialization skills, crate training, and obedience training. Specialized training includes advanced human socialization and companionship similar to that of a psychiatric service dog used in senior living facilities and children's hospitals.

Policy and procedures have been developed to implement the dog's use and research methods have been established to track cross-sectional and longitudinal data for future use. Local Government Code Sec. § 81.032, states:

- (a) The Commissioners Court may accept a donation of labor or services, gift, grant, donation, bequest, or devise of money or other property on behalf of the county, including a donation under Chapter 38, Government Code, for the purpose of performing a function conferred by law on the county or a county officer.
- (b) The Commissioners Court may not accept a donation described in Subsection (a) of over \$1,000 for use in administering elections without the written consent of the secretary of state.
- (c) The secretary of state may grant consent under Subsection (b) only if:
 - (1) the secretary consults with the governor, the lieutenant governor, and the speaker of the house of representatives on the proposed donation; and
 - (2) the governor, the lieutenant governor, and the speaker of the house of representatives unanimously agree to the secretary's grant of consent.



Since the dog is primarily for the social and rehabilitative needs of inmates, associated costs including food, veterinary care, and training are eligible for use of commissary funds under Local Government Code Sec. § 351.0415(c), which states:

- (1) fund, staff, and equip a program addressing the social needs of the inmates, including an educational or recreational program and religious or rehabilitative counseling;
- (2) supply inmates with clothing, writing materials, and hygiene supplies;
- (3) establish, staff, and equip the commissary operation and fund the salaries of staff responsible for managing the inmates' commissary accounts;
- (4) fund, staff, and equip both an educational and a law library for the educational use of inmates; or
- (5) fund physical plant improvements, technology, equipment, programs, services, and activities that provide for the well-being, health, safety, and security of the inmates and the facility.

Therefore, The Collin County Sheriff's Office is respectfully requesting Commissioners Court consideration and approval to accept a donation of one (1) dog, valued at approximately \$3,000.00, from Operation Mutt22 for use within the Detention Facility.

JOS/cs