

Because of the Struggling Economy Our Four-Legged Heroes Need Your Help More than Ever

Through good times and bad, Paws of Honor's mission remains the same: to serve the hero dogs, and their handlers and families, who served us without question when our country needed them most.

The retired military and law enforcement K9s we support stepped up when our country asked them to, serving in war zones, protecting the president, or chasing dangerous criminals without fear for themselves.

And that's why we here at Paws of Honor are eternally grateful to the selfless men and women --patriotic, dog-loving donors -- who give faithfully and generously to support our heroes.

This past year has been a challenging one, both for donors and for Paws of Honor. It's always hard to raise money in an election year. And rising costs across the country have hit many families hard.

That includes the families of the hero dogs Paws of Honor cares for, who are also facing rising costs in their household budgets -- and on necessities like dog food. Did you know that, in most cases,



"Hi! I'm K9 Flex. I attended Patrol, Narcotics and Urban Tracking school, and had many accomplishments during my three-year career with La Paz County Sheriff's Office in Arizona -- including apprehending a suspect who shot at me and my handler."

a handler will adopt his or her K9 partner upon retirement? That means that, in addition to helping our K9 heroes, you're supporting an American military servicemember or law enforcement officer who needs a helping hand.

This year Paws of Honor has seen tremendous growth, with many new dogs joining in recent months, and the addition of new veterinary partners to provide care.

So now, with over 200 hero dogs in our program, we're counting on our donors' help more than ever.

It's our joy and privilege to help these hero dogs, who gave so much during their lives to defend our country and protect our communities.

They deserve only the best in their sunset years in return for their service and commitment to our country!

And that's why we here at Paws of Honor are so grateful for our donors, sponsors, veterinarians, and staff members -- because without YOU, none of this would be possible.



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Meet These K9 Heroes NEW to Paws of Honor!

Paws of Honor now has OVER 200 retired K9s in the Paws of Honor family! These hero dogs span 27 states, represent 75 different departments/agencies, and had over 898 veterinary visits totaling \$618,369 in 2021. Your support -- which makes it all possible! -- is greatly appreciated by their handlers and families, as well as everyone at Paws of Honor.

Hi! I'm Dual-Purpose Explosive Detection & Patrol K9 Lili!



I was assigned to the **Broward Sheriff's Office**

Narcotics Interdiction Task Force where I was trained to detect bulk currency. The coolest thing I did at work was finding \$1.9 million in a tractor trailer! Now I enjoy relaxing and snacking on anything I can find.

Hi! I'm Narcotics Detection K9 Packer!



I served the **United States Air Force** for five years as a Dual-Purpose Explosive Detection and Patrol canine. I worked at Fairchild Air Force Base and deployed to Qatar and Canada and did missions for the United States Secret Service. I have a rare eye condition, which requires me to wear goggles anytime I am exposed to sunlight. I enjoy hiking, traveling, lots of playtime and relaxing on the couch.

Hi! I'm Explosive Detection K9 Bax!

I served as an Explosive Detection dog for seven years providing protection to the **U.S. Department of Defense**. I conducted sweeps for the 2016 Presidential Inauguration and got to travel to Hawaii! In April 2021, I was diagnosed with Inflammatory Bowel Disease and then emerging Small Cell Lymphoma. Since retirement, I have learned to swim and enjoy going to the beach.



Hi! I'm Patrol & Explosive Detection K9 Reno!



I am an eight-year-old German Shepherd who served seven years with the **U.S. Navy** as a Dual-Purpose Patrol and Explosive Detection canine. I was assigned to Naval District Washington HQ where I provided base security and anti-terrorism force protection postures for eight installations in the National Capital Region. I performed numerous missions throughout my career and was deployed to Saudi Arabia, as well as Qatar. In April 2022, I was medically retired due to joint and neurological issues of my spine, hips, and back legs. I am currently loving my newfound retired life and am told I am a sweet, gentle soul.

Hi! I'm Patrol, Explosives & Tracking K9 Rock!

I was a Dual-Purpose Patrol, Explosives and Tracking dog and served the **Tampa Police Department** for eight years. During my career, I was responsible for numerous felony apprehensions.

My favorite "catch" was locating an armed robbery suspect who had robbed a Walgreens at gunpoint. I'm told I was an amazing working dog, but now I spend my time lounging around with my mom and dad.



The Unbreakable Bond: "Cobra Is My Savior!"

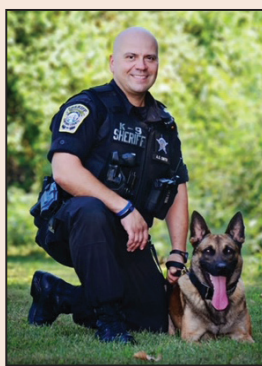
Two heroes, one leash.

The bond between a handler and their dog is unbreakable. While every dog lover understands the feeling of love between a human and "man's best friend," four-legged officers and their handlers have the additional bond that comes from facing dangerous situations and having full faith and trust in one another.

When a dog is paired with a police or military officer, the partnership is intended to be a permanent one, usually lasting the dog's entire lifespan. Handlers and their dogs often train together to become a K9 team, cementing their trust in one another. And their relationship crosses every boundary: handlers and K9s live together, work together, and play together!

As you know, most of the retired Paws of Honor K9s have been adopted in retirement by their handlers. That means that together you're serving not one but two heroes at a time -- the four-legged heroes you help, as well as their handlers ... current or former law enforcement officers and military servicemembers who also served our country!

By making a donation to Paws of Honor, you're providing urgently needed medical care to K9 heroes who faithfully served our country -- and supporting their partners, who would do anything in their power to care for their four-legged best friend, but may have limited resources as a public servant themselves.



Dual Purpose Patrol & Narcotics Detection K9 Lobo

K9 Lobo served for nine years alongside his dad and best friend as a dual purpose patrol and narcotics detection K9 for the **Stafford County Sheriff's Office** in Virginia.

He loved going to work,

running out of his kennel straight to the cruiser.

Once in the cruiser, Lobo would snap his jaws close to his handler's face before shutting his door, as if to say, "Let's go, partner!" Lobo's dad reminisced, "If we deployed, I would open the trunk to get his tracking lead and harness while he spun around and around in circles until I opened his door."



Explosive Detection K9 Szimi

K9 Szimi and his partner worked for the **Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority Police Department** in Virginia,

traveling across the state and providing numerous sweeps and protection details for multiple U.S. Presidents and other government leaders. K9 Szimi even met members of the Washington Nationals and Capitals following their respective championship wins! K9 Szimi is a very driven and determined pup, who loved to work and still gets excited to see his old vest.

Explosive Detection K9 Pano

K9 Pano is a Belgium Tervuren who was born in the Netherlands. He served as an Explosive Detection K9 with the **U.S. Secret Service** from 2013-2019, working hard with his mom by his side. They loved to travel together and visited nine different countries, traveling around the world with the president and vice president.



Dual Purpose Patrol & Explosive Detection K9 Cobra

In 2009, Patrol/Explosive Detection **K9 Cobra** was assigned to her first and only handler, Ashley. Together they served in the **U.S. Navy** and deployed for 10 months to Kandahar, Afghanistan, in 2011, where they worked side by side through many scary situations. After leaving Afghanistan uninjured, both



Cobra and Ashley battled PTSD, but they got through it together, and grew even closer. Today Ashley says, "Cobra is my savior!"

FALL In Love With These K9 Heroes

7 Tips for a Safe & Happy Autumn with Your Pup

Fall is a great time for dog lovers and their canine companions to get outside and enjoy the cooler weather. Here are a few tips for enjoying a safe and happy season with your best friend!

- Mushrooms flourish in moist autumn soil, but **ingesting mushrooms can be lethal for dogs and humans alike**. It's best not to let dogs eat any mushrooms at all (even those that are safe for humans). And be especially alert while playing fetch; if a dog picks up a stick from the forest or a leaf pile, he could also accidentally scoop up a dangerous fungi.
- **Be vigilant for parasites** -- including ticks, which can still be active in temperatures as low as 44 °F (7 °C). Harvest mites also flourish in fall; the larvae of these tiny pests infect dogs by puncturing their skin and sucking their blood, leading to an itchy allergic reaction. Resultant scratching can cause fur loss, skin irritation, and inflammation. Ask your veterinarian for preventive measures, or avoid the meadows, fields, forest edges, gardens, and other damp, sunlit places where the pests flourish.
- Not only are they a popular autumn motif, but **acorns are also dangerous to dogs**; they are toxic, causing liver and kidney damage, and can cause an intestinal blockage if ingested.
- **Some of the amazing fall foods we humans love are dangerous to our four-legged friends**. Dogs should be prevented from consuming apple seeds, chocolate, grapes, and raisins -- as well as high-fat foods like turkey skin, dark meat, gravy, and ham. (A healthy alternative is pumpkin, which many dogs love!)
- **Be alert to cold and damp**, especially with older dogs and those with less undercoat. While movement is always a good thing, make sure they're seasonably attired, too!
- With colder temperatures you may find yourself using **antifreeze** -- a substance that is sweet-smelling, highly toxic, and only takes a few licks to kill a smaller dog. Store it out of reach and be alert to other places where your pup might find it, such as the parking lot at your favorite dog park.
- If you're a gardener, **keep your dog out of your compost pile** as you prepare the soil to put your garden "to bed." Dogs may be attracted to the smell, but compost may contain choking hazards (material that didn't fully compost), mold spores, or other dangerous toxins that can make your dog very sick. One example is mycotoxin poisoning -- caused from ingesting mold spores -- which can cause muscle tremors, seizures, and even death.



Fall & Your Best Friend: What Seasonal Autumn Changes May Mean for Your Dog

- As temperatures fall and days get shorter, your dog may experience metabolic and hormonal changes. This can lead to an increase in appetite!
- Pets may experience seasonal affective disorder (SAD) much like humans do. You may see this in neediness, aggression, or "accidents." If your dog experiences these types of behavior changes, try to combat them by getting her as much sunshine and fresh air as possible.
- Your dog's coat will most likely grow thicker as the weather cools. This will lead many to experience dry skin and/or dandruff.
- Cold weather can also make arthritis symptoms more aggressive. Unfortunately, hibernating indoors will only make things worse. Regular exercise, both inside and outside, can improve your dog's health!
- Paw pads can experience trauma, frostbite, drying, and cracking due to harsh cold weather and the salt and other chemicals used to melt snow. Washing paws and applying a paw balm after walks or donning puppy boots can help.



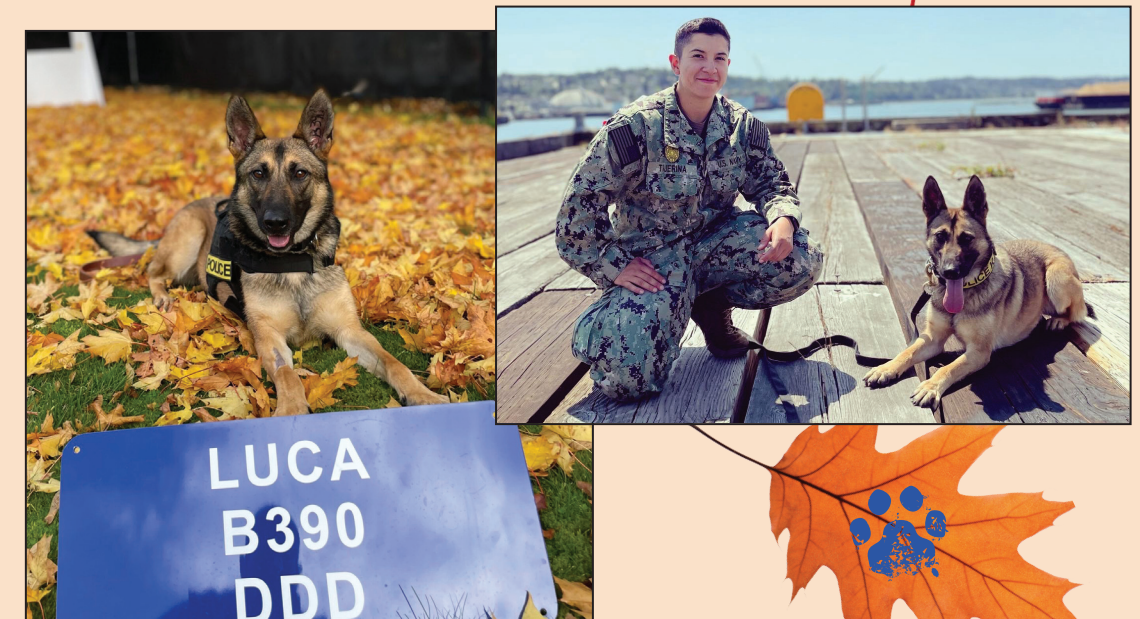
I'm K9 Lorax!

I served for five years as an Explosive Detection K9 with the Pennsylvania State Police. I am an eight-year-old German Wirehaired Pointer who loves carrots and chasing my ball. Some highlights of my career include flying in a helicopter to a bomb threat and meeting former U.S. Speaker of the House Paul Ryan during a protection detail in Scranton, Pennsylvania. Today my retirement hobby is staring out the window like an old man, watching the world around me!



I'm K9 Luca!

I am a Belgian Malinois who served the United States Navy as a narcotics detection K9. I am five years old, retired in November 2021, and love hiking and pup cups!





Monthly Giving Is a Win-Win!



How YOU Can Join The K9 Companion Club Today!

The **K9 Companion Club**, Paws of Honor's monthly giving program, is a simple and secure way YOU can make an even bigger difference for America's K9 heroes when they retire from service. And by joining the **K9 Companion Club** you will also enjoy great benefits that make it as easy as possible to continue your faithful patriotic support for America's four-legged heroes.

As a faithful Paws of Honor friend, you already know that these dogs are considered "surplus equipment" by the government when they retire, despite their years of faithful service. And they receive no veterinary or medical care from the government, even though their physically challenging careers often leaves them with even greater needs than most older dogs. By enrolling in the **K9 Companion Club**, you can do your part to provide them with the care they need to live out their retirement in comfort. When you join:

- ★ Your monthly donation is conveniently and securely debited from your checking account or charged to your credit card each month, so you don't have to spend time writing checks or searching for stamps.
- ★ You'll receive less mail from us -- and the money we save on postage and printing helps your gifts go further each month. (We'll continue sharing important program updates and newsletters like this one.)
- ★ You're free to cancel your membership in the **K9 Companion Club** at any time.

Your monthly gift is life-changing in any amount -- especially today, when more K9 heroes and their handlers than ever need our help because of ongoing economic challenges. These hero dogs dedicated their lives to serving our country ... so now it's our turn to care for them as they live out their retirements!

So we hope you'll join the **K9 Companion Club** today -- to help ensure we have the funds we need to support our K9 heroes in desperate need of urgent medical care and ongoing treatment to improve their quality of life. To enroll, please see your enclosed reply form.



Your monthly gift supports heroes like me, K9 Ares. I served for six years as an Explosive Detection canine for the U.S. Secret Service (USSS), providing a safe and secure environment for individuals and locations protected by the USSS.

I am a sweet girl, who was adopted by my handler following retirement. I came to Paws of Honor with an urgent need to have my eye removed. Like virtually all my fellow nation's retired K9s, I receive zero retirement or other benefits from the government -- and without the help of Paws of Honor, my treatment, surgery and recovery would have cost my family over \$12,000. Thanks to Paws of Honor donors and sponsors, they paid NOTHING! Paws of Honor is dedicated to supporting me and my family by providing 100% of my veterinary and medical care as they are able!

See More of the Wonderful Dogs You're Helping on Facebook!



For more on your generosity in action -- and for regular updates with cute puppy faces! -- be sure to "like" **Paws of Honor** on Facebook! You'll find photos, updates, and other exciting stories of the impact of your generosity ... including heartwarming photos of the loyal K9s your giving supports!

Consider Remembering Us in Your Will

Your Bequest to Our Four-Legged Heroes Will Be Part of Your Legacy.

"If there are no dogs in Heaven, then when I die I want to go where they went."

- Humorist Will Rogers



Your bequest helps support hero pups like K9 Grizzly. Grizzly, who just recently crossed the rainbow bridge, worked for over six years as an Explosive Detection dog with the United States Secret Service.

Your past generosity has proven your commitment to helping America's brave retired working dogs. Remembering Paws of Honor in a charitable bequest is a wonderful way to ensure your legacy of support for America's brave retired military and law enforcement K9s for generations to come. It's simple and effective to do so by making a bequest to Paws of Honor in your will, insurance policy, or other planned giving option! *Your charitable bequest is urgently needed and greatly appreciated by Paws of Honor, especially in tumultuous times like these!*

Proper Language to Include When Making Your Bequest to Paws of Honor:

"After Fulfilling All Other Provisions, I Give, Devise and Bequeath _____ Percent of the Residue of My Estate to Paws of Honor Tax ID # 47-5643489, Which Helps to Pay for the Medical Care of Retired Military as well as Federal, State, and Local Working Dogs."

To schedule a confidential discussion of your options, email us at info@pawsofhonor.org or call (703) 403-8281. Paws of Honor does

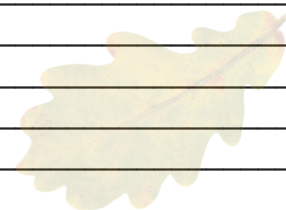
not provide legal or financial advice to prospective or current donors. Always consult your attorney and financial advisor before making any important decisions regarding your estate.

Paws of Honor Word Scramble Game

K9 Justice could use some help unscrambling these letters to find words that describe her and her fellow Paws of Honor family members. She has successfully unscrambled number one already!

- cninae
- hreo
- tsbe fnried
- aoioncmnp
- yrlmaiti
- ciloep
- alw cmeotenrfne
- rotpla
- exespilo
- rocnaite
- ianrctgk
- aeternv
- riedtr
- ilvgsnaefi
- aerdnlh

canine



Answer Key: 1. canine, 2. hero, 3. best friend, 4. companion, 5. military, 6. police, 7. law enforcement, 8. patrol, 9. explosive, 10. narcotic, 11. tracking, 12. veteran, 13. retired, 14. lifesaving, 15. handler



"Thank YOU" From Four-Legged Heroes and Their Handlers Helped By Donors Like You



Your gift to Paws of Honor helps provide veterinary care and products free of charge for retired military and law enforcement K9s, that served our country bravely and are now in need of medical attention. The officers, handlers, and owners you're helping are so grateful for your support! Because, without your help, many would struggle to provide their furry companions with the proper medical attention they need to live healthy happy lives, even after they've retired from a life of service. The messages below are for YOU from K9s supported by generous friends of Paws of Honor.

"[K9 Denali] was retired from active duty in August 2019 and all his medical care and benefits through Ft. Belvoir have been terminated. Paws of Honor is taking care of Denali's medical care now that he's retired and since then he has had 3 vet visits. I can NOT say enough about Paw of Honor, I have told everyone I know about this program and how they should donate to this program. **I have never been more grateful for a program and Denali is happy every time we go to the vet** because they have bones on the counters and they treat him like a king. I feel honored to be a part of this program and lucky that they let us in. Making sure the retired service dogs have everything they need is top priority for Paws of Honor."

– Mom of K9 Denali, a Yellow Labrador Retriever who served with the United States Marine Corps and the U.S. Capitol Police

"Paws of Honor helps to save retired K9s' lives by taking the burden of paying for life saving treatments off the table. Quigley and our family are forever grateful for their love and support!"

– Jackson H., handler of K9 Quigley, a retired Explosive Detection K9 who served 10 war zone deployments

"A huge thanks to Paws of Honor for giving back to these working dogs who have served their country."

– Handler of retired K9 Ogden, who served as an Explosive Detection K9 for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)

"Not sure what most of us would do without Paws of Honor. A heartfelt thank you from Colonel and me!!"

– Paws of Honor client Robin W.

"Luckily, [Kiwi] has been a fairly healthy K9 throughout her life, but just in case she needs some help we are blessed to have Paws of Honor on our side."

– Handler of retired K9 Kiwi, who served as an Explosive Detection K9 with the U.S. Secret Service