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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Mary Remer, Animal Services Director, at 234-6156

PRISON CELL DOG PROGRAM RESUMES

Two Dogs Start Training July 27, 2010

The City of Pocatello's Animal Services Department, along with the Pocatello Women's Correctional Center (PWCC) and the Bannock Humane Society, is pleased to announce the Prison Cell Dog Program is resuming.

This program was interrupted in the fall of 2009 until the State of Idaho selected a new warden for PWCC. New Warden Jim Woolf greatly supports the program and is very familiar with the benefits for those in the prison environment and for the shelter dogs.

Two homeless shelter dogs have been selected to start the program Tuesday, July 27, 2010 and will be transported to the PWCC at 2:00 p.m. to meet to their new handlers. "Indy," a six-month-old black male retriever mix, and "Splash," a six-month-old female pointer mix, are ready to start training and will live with the women prisoners for the next six to eight weeks. During that time, the dogs will learn basic commands and good behaviors to ensure a successful home life. They will even learn a few tricks!

At the end of their training, Indy and Splash will be available for adoption through the Bannock Humane Society. Applications for adoption and more information about the program can found at www.friendsofthepocatelloanimalshelter.org.

"We have been looking forward to this day and appreciate the support the Warden and prison administration have given for this wonderful program," comments Karen Collins, K5 Kennels. Ms. Collins has been the dog handler and trainer since the inception of the program in 2005.

This program is supported by donations, and funding is needed to ensure the program continues. Individuals interested in helping should contact Mary Remer (234-6156) at the Pocatello Animal Shelter.

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