

**SHERIFF ED GONZALEZ**

SHERIFF'S OFFICE 1200 Baker Street, Houston, Texas 77002 ★ (346) 286-1600 ★ www.sheriff.hctx.net

April 1, 2024

To: M. Lee, Chief Deputy  
Executive Command

4/9/2024

T. Diaz, Assistant Chief  
Law Enforcement Command

4/8/2024

C. Collier, Major  
Patrol Support Services Bureau

4/4/2024

J. Glesmann, Captain  
Special Operations Division

4/2/2024

From: C. Adolph, Lieutenant  
Livestock Mounted Unit

4/1/2024

Re: Request to Retire / Rehome Police Equine Chief

In October of 2018, the Harris County Sheriff's Office received "Chief" as an estray. "Chief" was adopted by the sheriff's office in November of 2018 and became a mascot for the Mounted Patrol Unit and used as a vehicle for outreach and to interact with both children and adults.

Due to "Chief's" age and continuing medical conditions, the Mounted Unit sought out possible re-homing options. The Houston Interactive Aquarium and Animal Preserve, which is located at 5440 N Sam Houston Pkwy E. in Houston, Texas, has agreed to re-home "Chief" to their facility and care.

I would like to recommend we allow the re-homing of "Chief" to the Houston Interactive Aquarium and Animal Preserve.

Thank you again for your assistance.

Cc: Rhonda Plaskett, Administrative Coordinator



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## INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

Release of Liability

(RETIREMENT OF POLICE EQUINE)

March 6, 2024

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF HARRIS

Equine Information: Chief

Handler Given Name: Chief

Registered Name (if any): Chief

Registration Organization (if any): Harris County Sheriff's Office

Registration Number (if any): NA

Color/Identifying Marks: Paint

Breed: Grade (Paint)

The Harris County Sheriff's Office, Harris County, Texas wishes to retire Police Equine Chief from active service with the Harris County Sheriff's Office. Houston Interactive Aquarium (adopter) wishes to accept, care for and adopt this equine.

The Harris County Sheriff's Office makes no claims; warranty expressed or implied, or promises as to the soundness, health, condition, or suitability of the equine.

I, Houston Interactive Aquarium, residing at 5440 N Sam Houston Pkwy E Houston, Texas, have been granted, subject to my execution of this Release of Liability the privilege, at my request and personal benefit, to obtain a Harris County Sheriff's Office retired Police Equine.

I **Amanda Conk**, of Harris County, Texas do by these presents for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, hereby release and agree to INDEMNIFY,

1. The adopter agrees to waive and hold harmless the Harris County Sheriff's Office, its employees, agents, and officials from any claim of liability, injury, or damage arising from ownership of the equine.
2. The adopter agrees to provide a good and dignified retirement for the equine, including normal and reasonable care, grooming, feeding, and housing without cost to the Harris County sheriff's Office.
3. The adopter agrees that the equine will not be used or maintained under conditions amounting to cruelty as defined in Texas Statute Sec. 42.09., CRUELTY TO ANIMALS., or other provisions of law, or under conditions not conducive to the good health or condition of the equine.
4. The adopter agrees not to use, maintain, sell or transfer the equine for scientific, medical or veterinary, or other experimentation.
5. The adopter agrees to provide reasonable and necessary veterinary care and treatment. Such treatment may include medically indicated euthanasia as directed by a licensed Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, or necessary under generally accepted emergency conditions.
6. The adopter agrees not to sell or transfer the equine unless the new owner agrees to abide by the above terms or conditions.

7. The adopter agrees not to use the equine for employment or compensation. BY SIGNING THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT, I DECLARE BEFORE ALL OF THOSE WHO READ THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT THAT I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTOOD EACH AND EVERY PART OF THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT.

Witnessed my hand the 3/25/24 (date).

Alex L. Hanks  
(adopter signature)

Before me, the undersigned authority, this 25<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2024, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that the above freely and voluntarily executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE 3/25/2024 (date)



Dhanna Diez

Notary Public in and for Harris County, Texas

APPROVED DISTRICT/DIVISION COMMANDER:

CPH





SHERIFF ED GONZALEZ

SHERIFF'S OFFICE 1200 Baker Street, Houston, Texas 77002 ★ (713) 755-6044 ★ www.sheriff.hctx.net

November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018To: Edison Toquica, Chief Deputy *E. Toquica*Thru: Timothy Navarre, Assistant Chief Deputy *T. Navarre*Jesse Razo, Major *J. Razo*  
Patrol BureauSean Conrad, Captain *S. Conrad*  
Patrol Special Operations CommanderGaisile Goudeau, Lieutenant *G. Goudeau* 11-28-18  
Patrol Special Operations Assistant CommanderFrom: Christopher Adolph, Sergeant *C. Adolph* 11-28-18  
Patrol Special Operations-Livestock Unit

Re: Mounted Patrol Mascot request

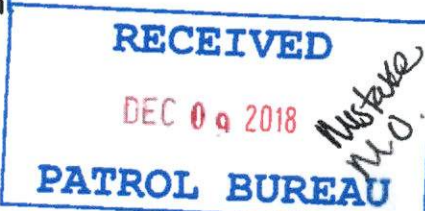
The Mounted Patrol Unit is requesting Chain of Command approval to seize a brown and white paint miniature pony which was estray. The pony would be used as a tool in the interaction with children and adults during school and barn visits.

On Wednesday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Deputies responded to a request by the Houston Police Department (HPD) at 4700 Simsbrook. The call was in reference to a pony stuck in a storm drain. Upon arrival, deputies found the Houston Fire Department (HFD) was in the process of removing the pony from the drain. Upon extrication, livestock deputies took possession of the pony and transported him to the HCSO livestock facility.

The rescue and recovery of the pony received local media attention which has generated interest in his adoption.

Once approved:

- The pony will be seized and awarded to the Sheriff's Office
- Sponsorship for his care and maintenance will be sought
- Mounted patrol style equipment will be sought



DEC 10 AM 9:4

With the approval of this request the Harris County Sheriff's Office could more effectively interact with children and adults, where a larger mounted police horse might hinder the interaction.

Thank you again for your assistance.