



# HURRICANE'S HEROES

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Nonprofit K9 HURRICANE'S HEROES Hosts 3rd Annual Charity Event To Help Retired Law Enforcement and Military Dogs**

(Sea Isle City, NJ – Sept 2nd, 2023) *K9 Hurricane's Heroes*, a federally-recognized, non-profit, all-volunteer organization, hosted their 3rd Annual Charity Event. *K9 Hurricane's Heroes* provides “retired law enforcement and military dogs” with subsidized veterinary care so they can live a long and healthy life. Often these incredible dogs are the unsung heroes behind the operations put in place to keep us safe.

The fundraiser was held on **Saturday, September 2nd at the VFW Auxiliary 1963 in Sea Isle City, NJ from 1pm-5pm**, to raise awareness and funding for our nation's retired working dog heroes. Since the launch in 2020 by founders Marshall & Lisa Mirarchi (husband & wife), *Hurricane's Heroes* has sponsored 127 retired K9s nationwide across USSS, TSA, Customs & Border Patrol, Local PD, State Police, Capitol Police, DOD, DIA, DOS, CIA, NGA, Army, Navy, Marines & Air Force. 11 of these K9s spend their retirement years in New Jersey.

This year, the charity presented a check to *Paws of Honor Veterinary Care Program* for \$175,000.00 to re-up all the sponsored canines for another year. There was live music, raffles, games, food, drinks and special canine guests K9 Hurricane (USSS - ERT), K9 Aki (TSA), and K9 Pano (USSS - EOD). The event itself raised over \$10,000.00 to include a generous donation from VFW 1963. From this success *Hurricane's Heroes* is able to sponsor 2 additional retired K9s from New Jersey: K9 Aki (TSA) and K9 Agir (Vineland PD).

Recognized for his bravery and valor, K-9 Hurricane, an all-black, 14-year old Belgian Malinois, was awarded the *Secretary's Award for Valor* by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, for efforts to neutralize an individual who had jumped the White House fence. Hurricane also received the *Top Dog Award* from NYC's Animal Medical Center, and was presented with the prestigious *PDSA Order of Merit Award* in London. Most recently Hurricane received the *Animals in War and Peace Distinguished Service Award* at our U.S. Capitol. This makes K9 Hurricane the most awarded dog in Government history.

“Often these incredible dogs are the unsung heroes behind operations put in place to keep us safe. In most situations, when these working dogs retire, all expenses, including veterinary care, become the Handler's responsibility. The reality is, there are many who are not able to handle the financial obligation in its entirety,” said Marshall Mirarchi (K9 Hurricane's Handler). “I was fortunate that Hurricane receive the precious gift of lifetime medical care thanks to the Animal Medical Center in NYC and Paws of Honor. As a way to pay it forward, Hurricane's Heroes was established to help some of these amazing dogs enjoy a healthy, long life in their golden years.”

For information about this event please visit:

<https://www.k9hurricanesheroes.org/events-1/annual>

To learn more about K9 Hurricane's Heroes sponsored K9s visit:

<https://www.k9hurricanesheroes.org/sponsorship>

About K9 Hurricane's Heroes

Hurricane's Heroes, a federally recognized non-profit organization, provides "retired law enforcement and military dogs" with subsidized veterinary care so they can live a long and healthy life.

[www.k9HurricanesHeroes.org](http://www.k9HurricanesHeroes.org).

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