

## DISCLOSURE OF RISKS

*Please read this form carefully and be aware that in signing it and working for the DuPage County Animal Care and Control Department (hereinafter "Animal Care and Control"), you understand many of the risks of working alongside animals.*

I, \_\_\_\_\_, am aware that working for Animal Care and Control involves an inherent risk of physical injury to me.

Nothing in this document shall prevent an employee from filing a claim under the Worker's Compensation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act, or other State or Federal labor acts.

I understand that animals are unpredictable and that even the best behaved animals can suddenly become startled and scratch or bite. Because of the unpredictability of animals, the rules and guidelines for handling and exposure to animals at Animal Care and Control are to be strictly followed. If I have a health condition that would place me at great risk if I were scratched or bitten by an animal such as an immunodeficiency, hemophilia, or other disorders that would impair my body's ability to control blood clotting or fight off an infection I am encouraged to speak with my physician. If my physician recommends that I not interact with animals then I can contact Human Resources to discuss reasonable accommodations.

In addition to the risk of a scratch or bite, contact with animals at Animal Care and Control places me at risk of contracting a zoonotic disease. A zoonotic disease is a disease that can be passed between animals and humans. Rabies is one example of a zoonotic disease. Zoonotic diseases can be caused by viruses, bacteria, parasites, and fungi. These diseases are very common. The following is a sample and not exhaustive list of persons who are at a high risk if they contract a zoonotic disease:

- The immunocompromised
- Pregnant women
- Persons 65 years or older
- Persons with asthma or allergies

In order to prevent zoonotic diseases, I may take a preventative step such as: preventing cats from hunting; not feeding cats raw meat diets; avoiding cats if I am pregnant; not cleaning litter boxes if I am pregnant. I am encouraged to speak with my physician regarding the risks of zoonotic diseases and exposure. If my physician recommends that I not interact with animals then I can contact Human Resources to discuss reasonable accommodations.

I have read and fully understand the above important information, including the above-stated rules, the risks inherent in the job, and the ability to contact Human Resources regarding reasonable accommodations. I am 18 years or older and legally competent. I have fully considered this matter and freely, without reservation or duress, sign this disclosure of risks.

Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_