

SERENDIPITY GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG RESCUE

Adoption Contract



Dog's Name: _____ Microchip Registry & No: _____

Adopter(s)' Name: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Contact Numbers: (Day) _____ (Evening) _____

Emergency Contact for Microchip Registry (Name & Phone): _____

This Agreement is made this _____ day of _____ 20____
between Serendipity Germany Shepherd Dog Rescue, a Missouri not-for-profit corporation, hereinafter referred to as "SGSDR" and the above named Adopter(s), hereinafter referred to as the "ADOPTER(S)".

1. The Adopter(s) agree to pay SGSDR an adoption fee of \$_____ as a donation towards SGSDR's work in caring for German Shepherd Dogs. The adoption fee - **less \$50.00 to cover SGSDR expenses for administration and transportation** - is refundable within 14 (fourteen) days provided the adopter returns the living dog to SGSDR and releases SGSDR from any further liability; After the 14-day period the adoption fee is non-refundable;
2. In the event that the adopted dog is returned to SGSDR, the Adopter(s) agree to transport the dog at least one half of the distance between the adopter(s) home and the registered location of Serendipity GSD Rescue, currently St. Louis, MO. Adopters who live outside of the State of Missouri acknowledge this provision and specifically agree to its terms by initialing here: _____
3. If SGSDR reclaims the dog due to non-compliance of this agreement the adoption fee will be forfeited;
4. The Adopter(s) agrees to assume all legal risks and obligations of ownership of the dog and agrees to hold SGSDR, it's officers and all other volunteers harmless for any loss, damage or injury to persons, animals or property arising from or relating to the adoption of this dog;
5. The Adopter(s) will keep the dog in their possession and not sell, give away or abandon the dog. If the Adopter(s) are unable to continue to provide for the dog according to the terms of this Agreement the dog MUST be returned to SGSDR or obtain SGSDR's consent to any other plan of ownership or care; Furthermore, the Adopter(s) will ensure that his/her/their heirs and/or executor of their estate are notified by way of the attached form (Appendix A) that in the case of the incapacitation or death of the Adopter(s) SGSDR must be notified and approve any other plan for ownership or care for the dog, or to arrange to return the dog to SGSDR;
6. If the dog is lost or stolen the Adopter(s) will notify SGSDR as soon as possible. SGSDR volunteers can assist Adopter(s) in their efforts to recover a missing dog;

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P.O. Box 8791, St. Louis, Missouri 63101

Email: Serendipity.email@gmail.com ♦ www.SerendipityGSD.org

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7. The Adopter(s) will license the dog within their municipality within the first thirty (30) days of the adoption and will maintain a current dog license as required by their local ordinance. The Adopter will comply with their city leash-law at all times;
8. The Adopter(s) will ensure that at all times the dog is wearing a correctly fitting collar on which is secured an identification tag listing Adopter(s) current address and telephone number, rabies tag and license tag if applicable;
9. The dog will be maintained as a 'house dog' and not an outside or kennel dog. The Adopter(s) will provide a clean safe environment for the dog and will care for this dog humanely at all times, including but not limited to:
 - a. *Providing food, water and shelter and exercise for the dog as recommended according to the requirements of the breed;*
 - b. *Maintain a secure fenced area for the dog or leash control of the dog if fences are not present;*
 - c. *The dog will not be chained or tethered either inside or outside of the Adopter(s) home as a method of containment;*
 - d. *The dog will not ride in the back of a pickup truck per Missouri State Law;*
 - e. *The dog will not be left in any vehicle in extreme heat or extreme cold for any amount of time, even with the engine and air conditioning or heater running;*
 - f. *The dog will not be used for vivisection or experimentation, nor for any purpose related to dog fighting;*
 - g. *The dog will not be trained as an attack dog;*
10. The Adopter(s) agree to continue all recommended annual vaccinations, heartworm testing, and to consult a licensed veterinarian should the dog show signs of illness or injury; If, for any reason, the Adopter(s) are unable to provide recommended veterinary care for any disease or condition that the dog may develop, the Adopter(s) will return and release the dog to SGSDR;
11. The Adopter(s) is aware of the serious implications of heartworm disease and flea/tick infestation and agrees to maintain the dog on monthly heartworm and flea/tick preventive medication;
12. SGSDR makes no guarantee as to the age, health or temperament of the adopted dog over and above what has been determined by our veterinarians and volunteers during the time the dog is in our rescue program. All evident medical needs of the dog are attended to while in our care and SGSDR assumes NO responsibility for any veterinary expenses incurred by the Adopter(s) after the dog is adopted; The Adopter(s) acknowledges that he/she/they are aware of the following known health conditions of the dog:

_____ Initial: _____

13. The Adopter(s) agrees to notify SGSDR if the dog is to be euthanized for any reason other than terminal injury or illness or age-related incapacitation where the dog is suffering and/or on the advice of a registered veterinary surgeon. In the case of accidental or unexpected death Adopter agrees to notify SGSDR within 30 days.
14. The Adopter(s) agree to enroll the dog in an appropriate obedience class within 60 days of the date of adoption unless this provision is specifically waived by SGSDR Representative's signature and explanation here: _____
15. The Adopter(s) will ensure that the adopted dog is closely supervised by a responsible adult when interacting with and around children;

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- 16. The Adopter(s) agrees that SGSDR or its designated agents may make periodic visits to check on the welfare of the dog following adoption and/or provide vet records or veterinary clinic contact information for the adopted dog upon request;
- 17. In the event that it is determined by either a SGSDR representative that the dog should not remain with the Adopter(s) due to non-compliance of this agreement then the dog will immediately be returned to SGSDR and taking possession of the dog shall not be deemed a trespass upon the Adopter(s) property nor the conversion of personal property;
- 18. The Adopter(s) agree to notify SGSDR of a change of address and contact telephone numbers within 30 days;
- 19. If it is discovered that any statements or information made or provided by the Adopter(s) to SGSDR during the adoption process are false, then SGSDR may require the adopted dog to be returned to SGSDR immediately.

By signing this agreement the Adopter(s) acknowledge that this is a binding contract enforceable by civil law. The Adopter further agrees that in the event of any litigation concerning this dog, that such litigation will be conducted in the jurisdiction and venue of the Saint Louis County Court in Saint Louis, Missouri. Should it become necessary for SGSDR to take legal action to recover the dog or otherwise enforce the provisions of this contract, the Adopter(s) agree to be responsible for all court costs and all attorney fees for attorneys representing either the Adopter(s) or SGSDR.

By my/our signature(s) below, I/we acknowledge that we have carefully read the entire agreement and understand and agree to the release, indemnification and all other terms of this agreement.

Signed: _____ (Adopter) _____ (Co-Adopter)

Print Name: _____

Date: _____

Signature of SGSDR Representative: _____

For Internal Use Only:

Check Amount: _____ Check Number: _____

References Checked by: _____ Date: _____

Home Visit Completed by: _____ Date: _____

Application Approved by: _____ Date: _____

Notes:

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