

Who Will Take Care OF My Pet When I No Longer Can?

Don't leave things to chance. Ask Rachel Hirschfeld about Pet Trusts

Responses to your legal inquiries are not meant to replace seeking legal advice from skilled attorneys. Review the response with care and check with an attorney in your area in order to learn if these principles may apply in your location and to your specific legal fact situation.

Question:

How much does it cost for a pet trust.

Answer:

The cost of a Pet Trusts depends on how involved it gets. I have documents that included a home and even staff and then I have had those which did and did not leave any money for the caregiver. I guess you can say they run from about \$500 and up. Hope this helps and that the cost will not prevent you from securing the safety of your animal companions.

I have done them for free for those who needed that as well.

A Pet Trust ensures that the pet is not "dumped" on someone in case the owner is unable to care for him/her. A Pet Trust details the care and maintenance of the animal companion and helps for a smoother transition so that it is less traumatic. It also ensures that the court will enforce the document.

The Pet Trust may be your pet's best friend.

Hope this helps.

Best, Rachel

Question:

Can I do a pet trust in New York?

Answer:

Yes, as of 1996 when the Pet Trust Statute was passed in New York you can do a pet trust in New York. It's enforceable in the courts whereas it would not be enforceable if the same directions would be written in a will.

Thank you for "Asking Rachel"

Question:

Hi Rachel, My question is this, I have a dog that I love and I have no one I could leave her to if something happened to me I thought about leaving her to the one person who has always taken care of him besides me that I trust, his veterinarian. But what if he didn't want him? Who could I leave him with when I have no one else? I'm afraid he would end up in a shelter and perhaps not one as good as North Shore animal league. Plus my little dog has special health concerns. I honestly do not know what to do, but I can't stick my head in the sand and hope nothing ever happens to me. Please advise. Thank you.

Answer:

These are the reasons to sit down with an Estate attorney who has experience in Pet Trusts. Pet Trusts are there to secure your animals future. North Shore Animal League has a "perpetual care program" which ensures your pets care for the rest of their lives. It's reasonable and "no kill".

Thanks for "Asking Rachel"

Question:

When do you need a pet trust?

Answer:

If you are responsible for an animal now then why should you stop being responsible when you are incapacitated? You are forever responsible because the animal cannot continue to care for itself without you. The Pet Trust will secure your animals future especially if you arrange for perpetual care not only with friends and family but also with a shelter who will guarantee that continued care in their absence.

Thank you for "Asking Rachel"