

WHAT DO I DO ABOUT MY PET?

PET INSTRUCTIONS

If you have a pet in your car and you get into an accident, you may be unable to take care of your pet. To make sure your pet is cared for as you would like, prepare a Pet Instruction Letter and place it in your wallet with your driver's license so that emergency personnel will find it.

In your Pet Instruction Letter you can also include any pets that you have at home that will need attention in your absence. I have prepared a Pet Instruction Letter which you can use.

With this simple letter, you can be assured that the care needs of your pet will be known and attended, even if you cannot see to them yourself.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CLIENT

If you have a pet, you need to complete this form. If you do not have a pet, but are ever house sitting for some one else's pet, you need to have the owner of the pet complete this form and give it to you when they give you their pet to take care of. Also in the package there are very important pieces of information that you should read and implement.

This package is being given to you free of charge by Attorney Timothy P. Crawford.

This is a free client service.

EMERGENCY PET INSTRUCTIONS LETTER

In the event that I, _____, am incapacitated and unable to make my wishes known regarding my pet(s), please honor the following requests:

My emergency contact person listed below is to be contacted as soon as possible. All expenses for my pet(s) will be guaranteed by me.

If my pet is not injured and my emergency contact person listed below cannot be reached, my pet is to be cared for by my veterinarian listed below or the nearest reputable boarding kennel, and kept in the best possible manner until arrangements can be made to get my pet home.

I prefer that my veterinarian be contacted regarding decisions on my pet's care and treatment.

If my pet is injured beyond all hope of recovery, he or she is to be humanely euthanized.

The welfare of my pet is my primary consideration.

NON-EMERGENCY PET INSTRUCTIONS

In the event that I am competent but unavailable, I hereby authorize my emergency contact person listed below, if available, and if not available, then whomever is in possession of my pet, to authorize my veterinarian, or any veterinarian, to care and treat my pet. I agree to be responsible for all expenses for my pet. This non-emergency pet instructions letter is being given so that my pet can get care in a situation where I am unavailable. This is particularly important to me when I have given someone authority to watch over my pet while I am away on vacation or otherwise.

(Your Signature)

(Date)

Emergency Contact Person: _____

Phone: _____

Veterinarian: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

PETS:

Dog, Cat, etc.	Pet's Name	Male/Female	Breed	Colors	Markings
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WHAT DO I DO ABOUT MY PETS?

WHAT DO I DO IF I AM AWAY AND MY PET IS SICK?

WHO TAKES CARE OF MY PET IF I DIE?

- Find at least two responsible friends or relatives who agree to serve as temporary emergency pet caregivers. Provide emergency caregivers with keys to the home, feeding and care instructions, the name and phone number for the pets' veterinarian, and information about the permanent care provisions made for the pets.
- Make sure neighbors, friends, and relatives know how many pets are owned and the names and contact numbers of the individuals who have agreed to serve as emergency caregivers.
- Carry a wallet alert card that lists the names and phone numbers of emergency pet caregivers.
- Post removable "in case of emergency" notices on doors or windows specifying how many and what types of pets are in the home. These notices will alert emergency response personnel during a fire or other home emergency. Avoid using stickers. Because they are often left behind by former residents, fire fighters may assume the stickers are outdated, or, worse, risk their lives trying to find a pet no longer in the house.
- On the inside of front and back doors, affix removable notices listing emergency contact names and phone numbers.

Because a pet needs care daily and will need *immediate* attention should the client die or become incapacitated, the importance of the aforementioned steps cannot be overemphasized.