

Dear mom –

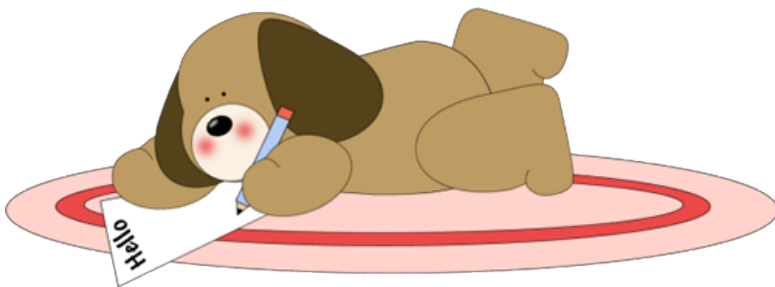
I know you were sad to say goodbye after you lost your job, but don't worry, you found the greatest home for me! **I never thought I would LOVE being in prison but it's true!** When I first got here, I spent 5 days in a huge kennel, in a nice temperature controlled building. I know you kept me up to date on vaccines, but my new home wanted to make sure I didn't have any symptoms of kennel cough or worms before being able to run around with some new dog friends. Through these few days I had people constantly coming in to play with me, take me to the bathroom, and start teaching me new tricks. I wanted to jump up on my new mom whenever I saw her, but she taught me I wouldn't get to go out unless I sat like a good boy. I caught on pretty quick!

Before my 5 kennel days were up, my new mom taught me a handful of other new things, and took me through a little test. I guess I did pretty well because I was able to go back to her home after that! She calls it her "cell" and I think it's great. **I get my own bed, bowls, toys and chewy things!** One of my new dog friends said some of the other dogs take a little longer than 5 days to learn those first few skills, so they spend a few more days in the kennels. But for the most part, everyone is out within 10 days because their trainer is so excited to have a new dog!

I spend my days going with my new mom EVERYWHERE except the kitchen and the clinic, which is too bad because there are some great smells there! **I get to go with her to work in the kennels, spend some time learning how to lie quietly in a crate, and even get to play with my new friends chasing balls in a big yard!** After I learned my basic commands like "sit", I started learning cool things like "turn" which I already sort of knew from chasing my own tail in circles.

My new mom says I'm either going to be someone else's pet, or something called a Therapy or Service dog. No matter where I end up, I'm told that the people here check the person's home and meet everyone in the family, including any other animals, to make sure it's a clean and safe home. I've seen some dogs come for a bath to visit after getting adopted and they say they hit the jackpot! I also met a couple service dogs, and their moms and dads say that their lives are forever changed because of their canine companion. **My new mom says she hopes I'll be a working dog like the others, but I am excited to be on this journey, wherever it ends up taking me!**

Even though I miss you, I know you really love me because I'm really happy and I always have people nearby to hang out with me. My new mom says if you want updates on how I'm doing, you just have to call and ask - you can even get a picture of me training! Thanks for taking the time to find me a great place to go here at Prison Pet Partnership!



Love, "Buddy"

P.S. Just so you know, I'm told that I will always be kept up to date on my vaccinations, wormer and flea medication. I got to meet the vet when I went in for my neuter and even though the appointment was a little embarrassing for me, she was really nice and I felt relaxed and comfortable, and I'll look forward to going back there if I need to!