

**\* ACVO® National Service Dog Eye Exam Initiative 2009**

Veterinary ophthalmologist **Dr. Caroline Betbeze** of locally owned **Veterinary Specialty Center of Tucson (VSCT) ([www.vscot.com](http://www.vscot.com))** is joining forces with The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists® (ACVO) to launch the Tucson arm of the second annual ACVO® National Service Dog Eye Exam initiative. This is a very important initiative since vision is vital for service and assistance dogs to perform their duties. Dr. Betbeze personally examined dozens of dogs last year from the army, air force, and TAA/TSA. Ocular diseases were addressed to help these dogs serve their owners and the community in the best way possible. This year police and border dogs will also be included in the screenings. Last year, as part of this effort, ophthalmologists across the country examined over 1,300 dogs that were actively serving their communities, including police and border patrol detection dogs, handicap assistance, search and rescue, and guide dogs. In order to receive the complimentary examination, dogs must be registered at [www.acvoeyeexam.org](http://www.acvoeyeexam.org) after April 1 and then Veterinary Specialty Center of Tucson must be contacted at (520) 795-9955 to make an appointment with Dr. Betbeze on May 5th, 6th, 7th, or 8th. Betbeze is scheduled to spend all of May 6th at Davis Monthan Air Base to screen all of the military, police, and border patrol dogs as part of this year's annual eye screening program. Eye screening examinations will include dilation of the pupils, which will last approximately 4 hours post-examination. If services are needed or desired, these options can be discussed with Dr. Betbeze. They would be provided at regular price and be completely optional. All participants must be actively 'working' dogs that have been certified by a national, local, or regional organization or group. Paperwork to support certification will be required. To learn more and to schedule an appointment, contact The Veterinary Specialty Center of Tucson is located at 4909 N. La Canada Drive, Tucson, AZ 85704-1507 and can be reached by calling (520) 795-9955 or visiting [www.vscot.com](http://www.vscot.com). You will also need to register to participate by visiting [www.ACVOeyeexam.org](http://www.ACVOeyeexam.org).