 (INSERT Clinic Logo)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**ACVO MEDIA CONTACT**: ACVO® Service Animal Office | ServiceAnimal@ACVO.org

**(INSERT Clinic Name)** I **Name** I **Email** I **Phone Number**

**(INSERT Clinic Name) to Provide Free Eye Exams to (INSERT City)
Service & Working Animals**

**(INSERT CITY), (INSERT STATE) (MONTH XX, 2024) –** (INSERT Clinic Name)to provide (INSERT City) Service and Working Animals with free eye exams this May as a part of [The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists](https://www.acvo.org/)® (ACVO) 15th annual National Service Animal Eye Exam Event, sponsored by Epicur Pharma®. The ACVO/Epicur National Service Animal Eye Exam Event brings together more than 250 board-certified ACVO Diplomates across approximately 170 cities in the U.S.A., Canada, Hong Kong, Puerto Rico, and the United Kingdom to provide free eye exams to Service and Working Animals in May.

The goal of the National Service Animal Eye Exam Event is to provide as many free screening exams as possible to eligible Service and Working Animals. The following types of Working or Service Animals may qualify: guide, handicapped assistance, detection, military, search and rescue, and current, registered therapy animals – all of which selflessly serve the public. (INSERT CLINIC) has been proud to participate in this philanthropic event since (INSERT DATE).

The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists is an approved veterinary specialty organization of the American Board of Veterinary Specialties that board certifies veterinarians as ophthalmologists. The 2024 ACVO National Service Animal Eye Exam Event is sponsored by [Epicur Pharma](https://epicurpharma.com/)®. There have been approximately 81,000 free examinations provided to Service and Working Animals since the event was founded in 2008.

**HOW TO REGISTER FOR THE 2024 EVENT:**

**To qualify for a free eye exam, animals must be active, currently working, formally trained Service, Working, or formally trained therapy animals (with written proof of therapy training & registration)**. Those currently enrolled in a formal Service or Working Animal training program may also qualify for an exam based on clinic availability. Qualification paperwork for the training and current working status of either the Service Animal or registered therapy animal must be provided to the clinic at the time of the exam, in addition to the registration number provided in the confirmation email. For information on what to expect during the exam, visit [acvoeyeexam.org/qualifications-expectations](https://www.acvoeyeexam.org/qualifications-expectations).

Owners/handlers for the animal(s) must FIRST register the animal via an online registration form beginning April 1st at [www.ACVOeyeexam.org](http://www.acvoeyeexam.org). Registration ends April 30th. Once registered online, the owner/handler will receive a registration number and be allowed access to a list of participating ophthalmologists. Then, they may contact a specialist to schedule an appointment, which will take place during May. (INSERT CLINIC) requires participants to meet all event qualifications, pre-register at ACVOEyeExam.org, then provide the assigned registration number over the phone when making an appointment. Times and appointments may vary and may be limited depending on the facility and are filled on a first-come, first-served basis, so owners/handlers are encouraged to register and make appointments early.

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**About the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists**®

The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists® (ACVO®) is an approved veterinary specialty organization of the American Board of Veterinary Specialties and is recognized by the American Veterinary Medical Association. Its mission is “to advance the quality of veterinary medicine through certification of veterinarians who demonstrate excellence as specialists in veterinary ophthalmology.” To become board certified, a candidate must successfully complete a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree, a one-year internship, a three-year ACVO® approved residency and pass a series of credentials and examinations. For more information, please visit www.ACVO.org.

**About Epicur Pharma**®

Epicur Pharma is a division of Stokes HealthcareTM (founded in 1975), sister division to [Stokes Pharmacy®](https://www.stokespharmacy.com/), and a dedicated ACVO supporter for many years. Adding a unique offering to the veterinary industry, Epicur Pharma® is an FDA Registered 503B Outsourcing Facility that follows Current Good Manufacturing Practices (cGMP) which are FDA enforced regulations. Every drug is 100% manufactured to FDA standards so you can be confident in the quality of your pet’s prescription. As a loving pet owner, you are in charge of your pet’s safety and wellbeing. With medications from Epicur, you’ll be fulfilling that promise. Epicur Pharma® is proud to be a pioneer in animal drug standards, offering the largest selection of manufactured drugs that are traditionally compounded. For more information, go to [epicurpharma.com](https://epicurpharma.com/).

**About (INSERT CLINIC)**

(INSERT CLINIC BOILER PLATE)

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