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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

National judges to learn about positive influence shelter dogs have on at-risk youth

(Chicago) On July 14, at the [National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges' \(NCJFCJ\) 77th Annual Conference, Safe Humane Chicago](#) will showcase two programs that provide positive opportunities for at-risk youth, youth in custody, and shelter dogs.

The [Lifetime Bonds](#) program will teach juvenile and family court judges how at-risk youth learn to care for, socialize, and train shelter dogs using positive reward-based techniques and help create a nurturing and trusting relationship to animals. Judges attending this showcase will learn about the direct connection between violence to animals and domestic violence and other abuse and how a program like this helps at-risk youth build trust and connect positively to dogs, and as a result, with people in their life. The second program, [Court Case Dogs](#), shows how Safe Humane Chicago has rescued hundreds of dogs from unjust treatment. These dogs, which are also used in the Lifetime Bonds program, are provided with the proper training, socialization, and enrichment opportunities to become lifelong companions.

Participants of the NCJFCJ's 77th Annual Conference will also hear from the [Animal Welfare Institute](#) on youth, the judicial system, and animals and the importance of understanding juvenile involvement in animal cruelty as an early sign for the need for intervention.

The NCJFCJ will convene more than 400 judges and court professionals from July 13 to 16 at the Palmer House a Hilton Hotel to learn from more than 50 sessions featuring a wide range of juvenile and family law topics. To learn more about the NCJFCJ and the 77th Annual Conference, visit www.ncjfcj.org.

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