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VCA Inc.'s Brandon Antin Joins Pet Partners' Board of Directors

Bellevue, Wash. – Pet Partners, the nation's leading organization registering therapy animals for animal-assisted interventions, is proud to welcome Brandon Antin, Vice President of Social Responsibility and Innovation for VCA Inc. (VCA Animal Hospitals), to its Board of Directors.

“Brandon's ability to foster creativity and innovation in others, paired with his passion to do what's best for people and animals will serve him well on our board,” said Annie Peters, President and CEO of Pet Partners.

Pet Partners is the leader in improving human health and well-being through the human-animal bond, registering nine species of animals with their human handlers as therapy animal teams. Pet Partners teams make more than three million visits per year in hospitals, nursing homes, schools, libraries, airports and at employee well-being events. Pet Partners also advocates for legislation that promotes human health and well-being through its grassroots advocacy program and educates handlers and the public about the positive impact of animal-assisted interventions (AAI).

Antin joined VCA in 2015 as the Director of Innovation. Prior to this role, he was the Executive Director of VCA Charities from 2009-2012. After graduating from his MBA program, he joined Bank of America in a leadership development program. When returning to VCA in 2015, Antin started his new role by creating VCA NEXT, an internal ideation competition that allowed employees to submit their creative ideas and develop the future of the company. In 2016, he took on the additional role to create VCA's Social Responsibility, where he drives the strategy of how VCA can be a positive corporate citizen to the communities they serve and the pets that live there. Through his current role, Antin has helped grow VCA's Animal Welfare program, social impact and established the new strategy for their non-profit, VCA Charities.

“Over the past 15 years, my mother has been a part of Pet Partners, volunteering alongside her three therapy dogs,” said Antin. “Through her experience, I've witnessed the incredible impact therapy animal teams have on their communities. It's an honor to serve on the Pet Partners

board and support an organization that has helped countless individuals through the human-animal bond.”

Antin received his undergraduate degree at the University of Denver in 2008 and his MBA from the Graziadio School of Business at Pepperdine. In addition to his role at Pet Partners, he serves on the board of VCA Charities and the Bow Wow Buddies Foundation. Antin currently lives in Los Angeles with his wife Alexis, daughter Alessandra and their rescue pitbull beagle mix, Charlee.

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Pet Partners is the national leader in demonstrating and promoting the health and wellness benefits of animal-assisted therapy, activities, and education. Since the organization’s inception in 1977, the science proving these benefits has become indisputable. With more than 13,000 registered teams making more than 3 million visits annually, Pet Partners serves as the nation’s largest and most prestigious nonprofit registering handlers of multiple species as volunteer teams. Pet Partners teams visit with patients in recovery, people with intellectual disabilities, seniors living with Alzheimer’s, students, veterans with PTSD, and those approaching end of life, improving human health and well-being through the human-animal bond. With the recent release of its Standards of Practice for Animal-Assisted Interventions and international expansion, Pet Partners is globally recognized as the industry gold standard. For more information on Pet Partners, visit www.petpartners.org.