



Photos by Heather Rawlyk — The Capital

Clerk of the Circuit Court Robert P. Duckworth, right, swears in K-9 Cali as county Sheriff Ronald S. Bateman, left, and handler Lance Cpl. Michele Goodman watch.

A true rescue success

Shelter dog becomes Sheriff's Office's newest K-9

By **HEATHER RAWLYK**
Staff Writer

She had been locked in a kennel at Baltimore County Animal Control since last spring with no one stepping forward to claim her.

The fate of Calypso wasn't looking good. With limited options, a worker contacted the Mid-Atlantic German Shepherd Rescue to see if they'd take the tan and black German shepherd pup. The rescue group agreed to take Calypso, or Cali, as she's now called. Before long, she was in the hands of Lance Cpl. Michele Goodman, a deputy with the Anne Arundel County Sheriff's Office and handler of Rocky, one of the office's explosive detection K-9s.

Goodman took Cali on as a foster pet

*"I had her for a week
and knew I couldn't let
this dog go."*

— Lance Cpl. **Michele Goodman**, a deputy with the Anne Arundel County Sheriff's Office.

and soon learned the dog had some natural talent.

She loved to fetch and had a great disposition. She might have what it takes to be a good detection dog, Goodman thought.

"I had her for a week and knew I couldn't let this dog go," she said.

In April 2010, she adopted Cali and began

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Lance Cpl. Michele Goodman adopted Cali, a German shepherd she had fostered through the Mid-Atlantic German Shepherd Rescue last April. The pup showed some natural talent and, after six months of training, was sworn in as a member of the county Sheriff's Office.

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K-9

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training the then 1½-year-old German shepherd. By winter, Cali was training with the county Police Department's K-9 Unit. After six months of training in Millersville, she was certified as an explosives detection K-9 last week.

Yesterday morning, in front of a small crowd in the historic courtroom at Circuit Court in Annapolis, Cali was sworn in as an official member of the county Sheriff's Office.

Cali jumped atop an antique court table and sat, tongue wagging, as she was hereby deputized. She held out her paw on command and dipped it onto an ink pad. Her ink-covered paws slipped a bit on the slick

tabletop, causing her to roll on her side. After a few tries, she imprinted her paw into the official court book as the crowd giggled and cheered.

Cali joins Goodman's other dog, Rocky, a black Labrador, and Grim, a Belgian Malinois handled by Deputy Jason Jett, as a K-9 crime fighter at the county courthouse. Like Rocky, Cali is trained to sniff out explosives. Grim sniffs out explosives as well, but also is trained to hunt wanted suspects.

Starting this week, Cali will start each morning by taking laps around the court house and giving court rooms a sniff to ensure no weapons or explosives were brought in overnight. She'll help inspect deliveries and sniff the outside of county Circuit Court. The dog also will take turns with Rocky

and Grim in the court house, taking occasional breaks in the underground parking lot — where she can rest and, of course, play fetch.

She'll fetch or play tug with anyone who is willing to play — when she's not on duty.

Sheriff Ronald S. Bateman said he happily approved for Cali to get the training she needed after learning of the dog's natural gift.

Cali, Rocky and Grim are welcome members of the Sheriff's Office.

"We rely on them daily," he said. "They have that talent, that sense of smell that we humans don't have."

He's excited to add another four-legged crime fighter to his team.

"K-9 Calypso is a true rescue success story."

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