



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 1, 2015

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Check Into the Westin Charlotte, Leave With a Canine Companion **New Partnership with the Humane Society of Charlotte Hopes to Find** **New Loving Homes for Shelter Dogs**

Charlotte, NC (August 9, 2015) – Tomorrow, August 10th at 12:30pm, the Westin Charlotte will have a very special welcome for their hotel guests that will provide them with a wagging tail and maybe even a lick on the face. Through their new partnership program with the Humane Society of Charlotte, the two organizations have created their “Take Me Home Tonight ... Adopt a Shelter Dog” program.

The hotel's guest will arrive with his friends from the Humane Society of Charlotte on August 10th and will be clad in an “Adopt Me” vest. He or she will be ready to receive loads of attention as visitors arrive at the Westin Charlotte located at 601 S. College Street. The Westin and the HSC are following in the steps taken by another Starwood property, the aloft Hotel in downtown Asheville, which was the only hotel in the United States where guests could adopt a special guest. “Our partnership with the Westin provides a great way to bring awareness surrounding homeless animals to an audience that we would not ordinarily have contact with. It is so great to see the business community getting involved in making Charlotte a city where animals are valued and to help strengthen the human animal bond. We are grateful to the Westin for taking the lead in this innovative way to find new homes for shelter animals and help one of their guests find a new best friend,” notes Shelly A. Moore, President/CEO of the Humane Society of Charlotte, who will be bringing their new guest to the hotel on Monday.

After an introductory meeting held at the hotel with HSC Vice President of Operations, Jorge Ortega and HSC Marketing & PR Manager, Donna Ragan, the hotel team is ready to greet their new furry guest and is extremely excited about helping him/her find a new loving home and changing the life of a shelter animal forever. Guntram Merl, Westin Charlotte Hotel Manager notes, “We're thrilled to have the opportunity to partner with the Humane Society of Charlotte in matching these extraordinary dogs with their new FURever family. Our first guest will join us on Monday, August 10, 2015, and we're rolling out the red carpet! We'd love for you to stop by and possibly meet the newest member of your family!”

The first **Westin/HSC Take Me Home Tonight** guest will arrive at the hotel on Monday to a welcome and get-to-know you by all hotel employees that will be caring for the dog. The hotel has arranged to have a cozy kennel set-up in the Customer Service area for easy access to walks throughout the property during and also meeting guests as they check-in. Individual quality time with the dogs can be had as they trot through the hotel with their Westin caregiver(s). The dog will, of course, be happy to accept an occasional treat and rub very often we are sure. Only one dog from the Humane Society of Charlotte will be at the hotel during the weekdays, and is always on a leash.

About the Humane Society of Charlotte:

The Humane Society of Charlotte is a community resource committed to improving the lives of companion animals through adoption, spay/neuter and education. The Humane Society of Charlotte provides low-cost spay and neuter surgeries for cats and dogs to reduce pet overpopulation throughout the Carolinas. The “space available” shelter provides pets with the love and attention they need to live happy and healthy lives while awaiting a new home. The Humane Society of Charlotte is a nonprofit organization that relies solely on private donations to achieve its mission.

About The Westin Charlotte:

Located in the heart of Uptown, The Westin Charlotte hotel offers a gateway to the sites, sounds and experiences that Charlotte, North Carolina has to offer. We are minutes away from the Bank of America Stadium, Time Warner Cable Arena and only steps away from the Charlotte Convention Center, the Epicenter, NASCAR Hall of Fame, Harvey B. Gantt African American Cultural Center and the Bechtler Museum of Modern art. Unwind with friends at the Lobby Bar or Bar10 and explore the dynamic tastes of Ember Grille. Enjoy one of our 700 instinctively-appointed guest rooms with one-of-a-kind views. Restore body, mind and spirit in Westin's signature Heavenly Bed®, Heavenly Bath®, Westin WORKOUT® or schedule a massage at Westin Wellness facility. Connect with colleagues in Charlotte's largest hotel meeting and catering facility spanning over 44,000 square feet. Learn more or book your reservation, please go to <http://www.westincharlottehotel.com>.

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