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**HI-TOR ANIMAL CARE CENTER FINDS PERMANENT HOME FOR NIKKO
AFTER WINNING LEGAL BATTLE TO SAVE DOG'S LIFE**

Pomona, N.Y. (July 12, 2010) – Nikko, a 2-year-old dog who found himself the subject of a court battle this June, has found a new home with a couple on Long Island, [Hi-Tor Animal Care Center](#), which found the adoptive home, said today.

“Everything seems to be going fine,” said Roberta Bangs, Hi-Tor’s president. “It’s a family with a fenced yard and another dog for Nikko to play with, so he’s able to go outside and get some exercise.”

Having someplace to play and burn off energy was important when placing Nikko, a young, energetic and excitable dog. Nikko’s playful, somewhat rambunctious demeanor got him into trouble because some people believed he was dangerous and tried to block his adoption. A court battle ensued, with Hi-Tor officials and other friends of Nikko’s successfully arguing that the Alaskan Malamute, Borzoi, and Russell terrier mix is big and playful – which can intimidate some people – but certainly not dangerous. The court ruled in Nikko’s favor in June and the search for the ideal home began.

“This certainly was the first case in Rockland County where an animal shelter fought in court to keep a dog alive,” Bangs said. “Now our wonderful Nikko has found his forever home.”

The Long Island couple followed Nikko’s tale through news reports and a [Facebook](#) page dedicated to saving the dog (who has 459 friends). An initial visit went smoothly, and a few days later the couple returned to Hi-Tor Animal Care Center with their dog to see how he and Nikko behaved together. The dogs quickly became friends, and a little while later Nikko was en route to his new life on Long Island.

“It couldn’t have worked out better,” Bangs said. “With the help of volunteers at Hi-Tor, other members of the community and even people on Facebook, we were able to save Nikko’s life. We found him a home where he should be very happy and well cared for.”

Founded in 1973, Hi-Tor Animal Care Center Inc. is a privately incorporated, nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving and improving animal life, promoting responsible pet adoption and ownership and providing humane treatment for all animals in its care. The facility is the only animal shelter in Rockland County and takes in approximately 2,500 animals annually. It has a small paid staff, with a volunteer Board of Directors and a team of volunteers. The shelter's Web site is www.HiTor.org.

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