**Cat Contract**

**3077 Wilson, NW Grand Rapids, MI 49534**

**Tel :(616) 791-8056**

**Adopter Name:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Adopter Address:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Adopter Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Adopter Email:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**AdoptionContract (date) -**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Animal ID :** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Animal Name :** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Species : Cat**

**Sex :**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Breed(s) :**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Fee :**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Colors :** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Size :**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Chip type :** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Microchip# :** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I, the adopter, (hereafter referred to by a personal pronoun (I, me, my)) hereby acknowledge receipt of the animal(s) described above. I understand and acknowledge with my signature below that when I leave this location with this animal, I assume ALL financial responsibility. I also acknowledge that it is my responsibility to procure veterinary care for my animal(s) when I leave this location. I understand that Humane Society of West Michigan (hereafter known as HSWM) has no responsibility for either.

Although I understand that every adoptable animal has been inspected, I acknowledge that HSWM makes no warranty in regard to it, and that HSWM can only give me such information as HSWM has received with regard to the animal. I shall be personally responsible for the humane care and control of the animal(s). If at any time I find it necessary to relinquish custody, I understand HSWM wishes that I re-home the animal myself or return the animal(s) if I am unable to re-home. If the adopted animal becomes ill, a behavior problem is discovered, or the animal is not a good fit for the household, I understand that if I return the animal within 90 days from the day of adoption, HSWM will offer to EXCHANGE ONLY and i will be issued a voucher, I understand that the age at which the animal is returned will determine the amount of the voucher. No refunds will be issued for adoption fees.

I understand that if I choose to return the animal within 90 days, I am able to exchange for any animal that is more suitable but will be responsible for paying any difference (if any) between the original adoption fee and the new adoption fee. I understand that after 90 days if I am unable to keep the animal, and have exhausted all of my resources in trying to re-home the animal, I will return the animal to HSWM and may incur a continuing care fee.

PLEASE NOTE: Animals are living creatures and as such cannot come with a guarantee of perfect health or behavior. Occasionally a condition or medical problem may exist that needs vet care, which is not obvious to HSWM while the animal is at the shelter. If something is discovered by my vet, and HSWM was not aware of the problem or condition while the animal was at the shelter, I must bring the animal to my primary veterinarian and HSWM is not responsible for treatment costs.If I adopt an animal with a pre-existing condition(s) such as heartworm or upper respiratory infection, HSWM is not responsible for any costs incurred for treatment of the pre-existing condition(s) after the animal(s) have left the premises.

You have been provided with a VCA Healthy Start Certificate at no cost to you. For that reason, we share adopter information with VCA. Your contact information will be used by VCA solely for the purpose of delivering complimentary veterinary services under this partnership.

Release, Waiver & Disclosure

I hereby accept possession and title of the animal described above at my own risk, understanding that there is always some element of the unknown when adopting a pet and that adopters may never know what challenges and joys lie ahead. I hereby release and waive any claims that I, or anyone acting as my agent, may have against HSWM now or anytime in the future related to any damages or expenses to any person or property caused by said animal(s).

Certifications, Authorizations, Releases, and Understandings

I certify that all statements on this Adoption Application are made truthfully and without evasion, and further understand and agree that such statements may be investigated and if found to be false will be sufficient reason for not being allowed to adopt from Humane Society of West Michigan.

I authorize Humane Society of West Michigan to contact my reference(s), my veterinarian(s) and anyone else Humane Society of West Michigan deems necessary to confirm how I have cared for my companion animals and/or how I am likely to care for any companion animal(s) I adopt from Humane Society of West Michigan.

I authorize my veterinarian(s) to release to Humane Society of West Michigan all veterinary records of the animals I own or have owned.

I understand that, with proper care, cats can live 15 years or more and I am prepared to commit myself to the long-term care and protection of any animal I adopt from Humane Society of West Michigan.

I understand that animal(s) I adopt from Humane Society of West Michigan may require medical treatment beyond that provided by Humane Society of West Michigan prior to my taking the animal(s) home. Such additional veterinary medical treatment could be costly. I acknowledge that Humane Society of West Michigan is not responsible for providing any additional treatment or the

incurring cost of any additional veterinary treatment provided by veterinarians I select to provide such treatment.

I will not sell or give away animal(s) I adopt from Humane Society West Michigan. As long as I live in the service area of Humane Society of West Michigan, I agree to return the animal(s) to Humane Society of West Michigan in the event I cannot keep or choose not to keep the animal(s). If I move from the area, I agree to take the animal(s) to the local humane society or comparable local animal welfare organization. You may return the animal to HSWM within 90 days of adoption at no charge. During that time, you may exchange for another animal. After 90 days, you will be assessed a transfer of care fee of $35 and will not be offered an exchange.

I understand that the handling of animals that I may meet may place me in a hazardous situation and could result in injury to me or my personal property. On behalf of myself, my heirs, personal representatives and assigns, I hereby release, discharge, indemnify and hold harmless Humane Society of West Michigan and its directors, employees, and agents from any and all claims, causes of action and demands of any nature, whether known or unknown, arising out of or in connection with my meeting an animal for the purpose of adoption.

COMMON HEALTH PROBLEMS TO WATCH FOR IN CATS

Feline Leukemia

Feline leukemia virus, a retrovirus, is a common infection of cats. It is the cause of more cat deaths directly or indirectly, than any other organism and is widespread in the cat population.

Feline leukemia virus infection (FeLV) can be transmitted in several ways: By the saliva of infected cats contaminating the eye, mouth, and nose membranes of non-infected cats via licking or By passing infected blood to non-infected cats during mating or fighting or From mother to fetuses (developing kittens) during pregnancy.

There is no effective treatment for FeLV. A strictly indoor lifestyle will minimize your cat’s exposure to the disease. To ensure as much as possible that we do not place a FeLV positive cat, every cat is tested for this virus before adoption.

Feline Distemper (Panleukopenia)

Feline distemper is a very contagious virus that causes fever, vomiting, bloody diarrhea, and commonly results in death. The virus can be transported from cat to cat by toys, bedding, and even our clothing or hands. Proper vaccination and an indoor lifestyle are a cat’s best defense against this virus.

Upper Respiratory Viruses

Sneezing, coughing, nasal congestion, inflamed/watery eyes, loss of appetite, lethargy, and sometimes mouth ulcers are all symptoms of an upper respiratory infection. There are many viruses that can cause these symptoms and sometimes a cat can be infected with more than one virus at a time. All of them are very contagious. Did you know that a cat’s sneeze can travel up to four feet? Since these symptoms are caused by viruses, antibiotics are only used when a secondary bacterial infection is suspected. A properly vaccinated cat is protected against some of these viruses. In severe cases, hospitalization with IV fluids can be required.

In their incubation stage, viruses are not detectable. Therefore, an adopted animal may look healthy on the day of adoption and begin to show symptoms of his illness a few days later – at your home.

Adopter's Signature :\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_