

Sent: Wed, 28 Nov 2012 12:50:51 -0500
From: "Ledbetter, Howli J." <howli_j_ledbetter@who.eop.gov>
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>, "Barkoff, Kendra" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff">
Subject: FW: Final update on Smokey

From: Whithorne, Bobby
Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2012 12:46 PM
To: Brundage, Amy; Rangel, Antoinette N.; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Holzer, Benjamin; Carroll, Bradley; Stevens, Clark; Vega, Dag; Pfeiffer, Dan; Selak, Dawn; Schultz, Eric; Govashiri, Ferial; Ledbetter, Howli J.; Carney, Jay; Smith, Jamie; Palmieri, Jennifer; Lee, Jesse C.; 'Jesse_Lewin@who.eop.gov'; Favreau, Jon; Burke, Jordan; Earnest, Joshua R.; Xu, Kevin; Dean, Laura; Paige, Lauren R.; Aberger, Marie; Lehrich, Matt; Papas, Nick; Cunnane, Pat; Whithorne, Bobby; Gilson, Shannon; Vietor, Tommy
Subject: FW: Final update on Smokey

-----Original Message-----

From: Beardsley, Kris
Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2012 09:16 AM Eastern Standard Time
To: #ACCESS; #AFPAK; #AFRICA; #ASIA; #COMMPART; #CROSS; #CT; #CYBER; #DEFENSE; #EUROPE; #GE; #GULF; #INTECON; #INTEL; #LEGAL; #LEGISLATIVE; #MENA; #MULTILAT; #NONPRO; #PRESS; #RECORDS; #RESILIENCE; #RESOURCEMGMT; #RUSSIA; #SOUTHASIA; #STRATPLAN; #TRANSBORDER; #WHA
Subject: Final update on Smokey

Thanks for a number of return emails from several you, noting your connection to Smokey. He (apparently she was a he!) passed away last week. Here is a note from the person who took care of him during his last few hours. A special thanks to Alexandra for the kindness she offered Smokey.

From: Siess, Alexandra [<mailto:Alexandra.Siess@jacobs.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, November 21, 2012 6:07 PM
Subject: Sad news concerning Smokey

Good afternoon - I am so very, very sorry but I have sad news concerning Smokey.

Unfortunately, after a thorough evaluation and discussion at my vet yesterday afternoon, the result ended up being that the kindest thing to do for him was to put him to sleep. It was very gentle and peaceful.

I truly can't tell you how sorry am. If I step back a bit, I also recognize that he lived quite an

extraordinary and long life for a little outdoor cat, and with so many dedicated caretakers over the years - he enjoyed some 18 years as a protected, loved and cared for mascot of the complex, and I hope it is a comfort to them that he had a loving and peaceful exit as well. Once I receive them, I will return his ashes to the complex as it should be.

I can report that he had a nice and restful morning with me yesterday. Though weak, he seemed both calm and secure in his new surroundings. He still accepted affection, responding sweetly and with purring, even though he spent most of his time sleeping. When we went to the vet in the afternoon, he ate still more food while we waited for his blood work results, which reassures me that he wasn't scared while there.

It was determined that the sweet, little fellow had a diffuse cancer of the intestines, and that it was responsible for his frailty, very thin body condition and extreme dehydration. Though he was drinking profusely, his kidneys had ceased to function fully, his resources being diverted to address the cancer. While he was likely arthritic, his reduced balance and delayed visual response was also likely due to his illness and condition. I am fairly certain that his hearing was greatly reduced as well. After a long and carefully considered discussion, there would not have been a means to offer him more time comfortably.

I should add that I began the appointment by letting my vet know that I was glad to pursue any treatment provided it was both in his best interests and would have given him a good quality of life, and further if I can be probably too honest, that I was prepared to beg for permission to keep him and offer him a proper retirement in his venerable, old age. :) That is to say that the decision wasn't for lack of love or care.

I truly extend my sincerest condolences - he was cared for by many people, including dear friends of yours and for a very long time too, and he was a campus mascot to still many more.

I was asked what would happen to Smokey's house. If Smokey's house and bedding does not belong to anyone, rather than throw it out, it might be a nice thing to donate them to a DC animal shelter as a way for the kindness that others have shown him to go on.

If that would be fitting, I'll gladly wash his bedding and do just that. I'll be working tomorrow and Friday, so please feel free to call or email at your convenience.

With my best regards and respect,
Alexandra

Alexandra Siess
(Bb) FOIA-6 & alexandra.siess@jacobs.com

From: Beardsley, Kris
Sent: Tuesday, November 27, 2012 6:18 PM
To: #ACCESS; #AFPAK; #AFRICA; #ASIA; #COMMPART; #CROSS; #CT; #CYBER; #DEFENSE;
#EUROPE; #GE; #GULF; #INTECON; #INTEL; #LEGAL; #LEGISLATIVE; #MENA; #MULTILAT;
#NONPRO; #PRESS; #RECORDS; #RESILIENCE; #RESOURCEMGMT; #RUSSIA; #SOUTHASIA;
#STRATPLAN; #TRANSBORDER; #WHA
Subject: Smokey the Cat

Hi all,

I wanted to send you all an update about our missing but beloved Smokey (others may know her as No-tail), the White House cat. There are a great number of you within the NSS (including our former Deputy Homeland Security Advisor Heidi Avery) who had been feeding her, petting her, and giving her lots of love during the past twenty-some odd years she lived between the EEOB and the WW, and we may have some sad news to pass on.

During the past 10 years or so, Smokey had been cared for by a Secret Service officer, who unfortunately died a few months ago. After that, the midnight shift crew took responsibility for her care, and a number of folks here at the NSS began feeding her in the day (or in some cases continued feeding her). I have been told that in her older age, she became more friendly and sociable. She liked Fancy Feast food the best, and during the cold months would stay in her cat house, which had a heated electric blanket.

During the past week, Smokey hasn't been spotted, which has gotten a number of staff concerned. And just this morning, I received an email from one of the Secret Service officers that said a GSA electrician reported an EEOB pass holder scooped her up, took her to the vet, and put her to rest. Unfortunately, we have no other info.

So, I am sending this for a few reasons: 1) you may have wondered where Smokey has been, and I wanted to let you all know what we know, and 2) to find out any info about her whereabouts and whether the info we have above is true. If you do have any info, please email me directly (don't copy all). Attached is a photo of Smokey.

Thanks in advance,
Kris Beardsley
Director, Countering Biological Threats
National Security Staff, White House
Executive Office of the President
(202) 456-9188

Kris