



# CAROLINA BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT



17 June 2026

## MEMORANDUM

TO: BRUCE OAKLEY, TOWN MANAGER

FROM: CHIEF VIC WARD *CVW*

RE: RETIREMENT REQUEST OF CANINE DEMI- CANINE HANDLER CORPORAL CROFTON STEPHENSON TO RETAIN POSSESSION- EFFECTIVE 17 JUNE 2026

Due to an on-going medical condition of Canine Demi, assigned to Canine Handler Corporal Crofton Stephenson, I respectfully request the Town of Carolina Beach approve her retirement, effective Wednesday, 17 June 2026.

Canine Demi is a German Shepherd who has served as a single- purpose narcotics detection canine. Due to an on-going medical condition with prescribed treatment unable to guarantee complete success and recovery and her current age, she is no longer expected to provide operational value in this capacity. Furthermore, she has been out of such service for an extended period and remains out of service currently. As such, Canine Demi holds no practical market value beyond her current handler.

Corporal Stephenson has formed a strong bond with Canine Demi and has expressed his desire to assume ownership upon the canine's retirement. He agrees to accept full responsibility for Canine Demi's care, maintenance, and any future needs.

In light of Canine Demi's faithful and dedicated service to the Town of Carolina Beach, it is my recommendation that she be retired from active duty and released to the custody of Corporal Stephenson. It is fitting that she spends her retirement as a companion in a familiar and caring home.

Attachment: Agreement for Disposition of Canine Demi

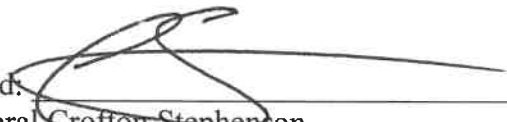


# CAROLINA BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT



## AGREEMENT FOR DISPOSITION OF POLICE CANINE

1. The undersigned mutually agree that the Town of Carolina Beach has a canine named "Demi" which no longer is of any value due to a medical condition, out of service time, and no guarantee of a full and complete recovery pending any future remediation. Therefore, the canine has no market value.
2. The undersigned mutually agree that the Town of Carolina Beach has no reasonable means of accommodating this canine, and no apparent interest in it. The Town of Carolina Beach's interest in executing this document is to dispose of the canine in a humane, sensible manner.
3. Corporal Crofton Stephenson, a canine handler for the Carolina Beach Police Department, has developed an attachment to Canine Demi and desires to retain possession of the canine as a personal companion and a pet.
4. Corporal Stephenson agrees to accept ownership of and to assume full responsibility for the care, maintenance and any subsequent disposition of this canine. He avers that he is aware of the demeanor and any illnesses and/or deficiencies of the canine in question and agrees to hold the Town of Carolina Beach and all its employees, contractors, canine handlers, etc, harmless for any and all damage or liability that may be caused by the canine after he takes possession of it.
5. Corporal Stephenson agrees the canine is not to be used by him or another agency in a law enforcement capacity nor will the canine be used for any commercial purpose or for monetary gain.
6. Corporal Stephenson further agrees he will bear all expenses of keeping the canine in question, and that he will not subject the canine to neglect or abuse.

Signed:   
Corporal Crofton Stephenson  
Carolina Beach Police Department

Date: 6/17/2026

Signed:   
Bruce Oakley  
Town of Carolina Beach Town Manager

Date: 6/17/26