



## Facility Dog Fact Sheet

### **Avery II**

*Date of birth:* August 1, 2011

*Weight:* 69 lbs.

*Breed:* Labrador-Golden Retriever

*Hobbies:* Chasing his tennis ball, chewing his squeaky porcupine, playing with his buddy Bogey

*Commands:* Avery knows approximately 40 commands, including "visit," "lap," "shake" and "push."

*Training:* For the first 15 months of his life, Avery lived with a puppy raiser who was tasked with teaching Avery basic commands and how to behave in public as an assistance dog. Avery was then returned to a training organization to undergo two weeks of testing and screening. The next six months were spent learning specialized commands, roll-playing in various work environments and undergoing further screening for placement. Finally, Avery's primary and back-up handlers trained with Avery for one week at CCI.

*Handler:* Melanie Hart

*Backup Handler:* Jean Johnson

*Job Description:* Avery meets with victims of traumatic felony-level crimes to put them at ease while meeting with the prosecutor(s) who will handle the case. Avery can also accompany to court victims who are either children or disabled. Avery helps to ensure the criminal justice system arrives at a truthful resolution by calming victims and witnesses so that they can confidently and accurately testify.

### **Partners**

**Canine Companions for Independence** [www.cci.org](http://www.cci.org)

Canine Companions for Independence (CCI) is a non-profit provider of assistance dogs and is fully accredited by Assistance Dogs International. CCI trains dogs in four assistance categories: service dogs, skilled companions, hearing dogs and facility dogs. Each dog goes through two years of intensive training before being matched with a facility and handler. Each handler spends one week training with their dog before the dog can begin working. CCI provides assistance dogs at no charge.

**Stow Kent Animal Hospital** <http://stowkentanimalhospital.vetstreet.com/>

Dr. Douglas Paroff of Stow Kent Animal Hospital will provide all veterinary care for Avery, including vaccinations, routine check-ups, pest prevention medications and emergency care. In practice for 13 years, Dr. Paroff is a graduate of The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine.

**Pet Supplies Plus** [www.petsuppliesplus.com](http://www.petsuppliesplus.com)

In addition to selling food, toys and bedding, Pet Supplies Plus offers grooming, self-service pet wash stations and adoption and social events. There are more than 250 locations in 23 states. Pet Supplies Plus is donating Eukanuba dog food, grooming and other non-medical items to help us care for Avery.