



## Where do we get a Courthouse Facility Dog?

All of the Courthouse Facility Dogs currently employed in this capacity come from [Canine Companions for Independence \(CCI\)](http://www.cci.org/site/c.cdKGIRNqEmG/b.4011037/k.463/Application_Process.htm). This nationwide nonprofit headquartered in Santa Rosa, California, has been placing professionally trained dogs since 1975; they currently breed their own dogs, most of which are a cross between Golden Retrievers and Labrador Retrievers. The application process is thorough, and can take some months to complete. The process for applying for a CCI Facility Dog is described on [http://www.cci.org/site/c.cdKGIRNqEmG/b.4011037/k.463/Application\\_Process.htm](http://www.cci.org/site/c.cdKGIRNqEmG/b.4011037/k.463/Application_Process.htm).

Other organizations in the United States also train Facility Dogs. Many of these nonprofits belong to [Assistance Dogs International \(ADI\)](http://www.assistedogsinternational.org/adiaccreditation.php), which sets standards for the assistance dog industry. Voting members of this organization have met the accreditation criteria, described briefly at <http://www.assistedogsinternational.org/adiaccreditation.php>. You can browse the list of full members of ADI at <http://www.assistedogsinternational.org/fullmembers.php> and see which ones offer Facility Dogs. Since the use of Facility Dogs in the courthouse environment is new, yours may be the first request the organization has had from a criminal justice facility. Please feel free to have the organization contact Courthouse Dogs to find out what the requirements are for this type of service.