



OFFICE OF THE SUMMIT COUNTY SHERIFF

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Bella the Survivor

SUMMIT COUNTY, COLORADO – On Saturday, June 14, Summit County Animal Control received a report that someone witnessed a dog exiting a window of a car travelling west bound on I-70 at mile marker 208. The reporting party said the dog landed on the road and ran off. A second report was received by dispatch of a white dog running on I-70 in the same location. A Sheriff's Deputy slowed traffic while an Animal Control Officer searched the area of the highway but unfortunately, no dog was found.

On Sunday, June 15, Animal Control received a call of a small tan and white dog wearing a pink sweater running in the median by the runaway truck ramp on I-70. Animal Control again responded but did not see any dog in the area.

On Monday, June 16, the owner of the white Chihuahua, "Bella," reported that she jumped from his car on I-70 on Saturday. Animal Control performed another search for the dog but again found nothing. On Monday evening construction worker, James Bell, found Bella running along I-70 two miles west of the tunnel. He tried to catch her but she kept running away from him. When he got into his car to leave, he noticed Bella running towards him in his rear view mirror. He opened the door of his car and little Bella jumped right in. James kept Bella overnight; providing her with food, water, and a safe place to stay. He then brought her to the Animal Control Shelter on Tuesday morning and her owner was notified. April Fetters, the owner's Aunt, who lives locally, was thrilled to have their family dog back in her arms. She commented "THANK YOU JAMES BELL!! Guardian angels like you were put in that location for a reason! Bella is home in Denver and doing very well!" Summit County Animal Control Director, Lesley Hall, proudly stated "Bella is quite the survivor." She has quite a bit of road rash but her attitude is happy and she is thrilled to be in the arms of anyone willing to hold her.

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