

To: Bloomfield Board of Health,

I am writing in support of Jeff Coltenback's adoption of Memphis, a pit bull from Bloomfield Animal Shelter.

I have known Jeff Coltenback for years as a fellow dog trainer, animal rescuer and as a friend. In my professional opinion, Jeff is THE PERFECT adoption candidate for Memphis for the following reasons:

1. He has known, lived with, trained, and successfully rehabilitated, rescued and placed pit bulls and pit mixes in appropriate adoptive homes for years. There are many dog trainers and behaviorists out there, but Jeff has extensive experience with bully breed dogs. He understands the breed better than almost all other trainers I know. As you may or may not know, different breeds of dogs have unique behavioral traits. This is a side effect of humankind selectively breeding dogs for specific purposes. I have known trainers to misinterpret the body language of pit bulls...because those trainers did not have the type of experience with the breed needed to truly understand them.
2. Jeff and his wife Diana love and respect dogs. They both understand the responsibility of owning, training and living with dogs with behavioral issues.
3. Jeff Coltenback does not just offer to adopt any dog, he is very selective regarding dogs he offers to adopt. Memphis is a very lucky dog.
4. I would adopt a dog to Jeff. I would trust Jeff and Diana with my life, my child's life, my own dog's life. Without a doubt, I trust him with Memphis.
5. Memphis would have a full, wonderful life in a safe, loving home if he were adopted by Jeff Coltenback.

I consider Jeff Coltenback an outstanding adoptive candidate to adopt Memphis. I hope that you do too.

Kind regards,
Sarah Keyishian
Professional Dog Trainer
<https://sleepydogtraining.com/>