



“Guardianship” verses “Ownership”

The Illinois Federation of Dog Clubs and Owners (IFDCO) is in emphatic opposition to the use of the term “guardian” rather than “owner” in any setting.

IFDCO is likewise emphatically opposed to any bill or proposed ordinance that would attempt to legitimize the terms “guardian” or “guardianship” as suitable replacements for “owner” and “ownership” under law. The term “guardian” does nothing to promote heightened welfare of dogs and other pets. *IFDCO* is committed to defending dog ownership, and believes that the terms “guardian” and “guardianship” may in fact reduce the legal status and value of dogs as property and thereby restrict the rights of owners, veterinarians, and government agencies to suitably protect and care for dogs.