

My name is Marci Cook and I am running for MBTCA AKC Delegate.



WORK EXPERIENCE:

I have been a veterinarian for 29 years and am currently the managing DVM of Shiloh Veterinary Hospital in Billings, Montana. My areas of interest/expertise are ultrasound, including echocardiography, reproduction, and preventative healthcare.

BACKGROUND:

I have been a miniature bull terrier owner for 11 years and have been involved in purebred dogs for over 30 years. This includes showing dogs, obedience, rally, lure coursing, and agility.

My undergraduate degree is in journalism, and I have 10+ years of experience in broadcasting, writing, and producing.

WHAT I HOPE TO ACCOMPLISH:

I would like to see the MBTCA further embrace the breed as a whole, from puppyhood to adulthood. Some of my specifics are listed as follows:

- Standardized temperament testing specifically for the bull terrier breed.
- Further education on what owning a bull terrier really entails (training issues, temperament issues, nourishment and exercise).
- Further genetic testing, especially as our gene pool is relatively small compared to other breeds. For example, starting just this month a company is releasing its technique for testing for any genetic mutation, specifically to detect the likelihood of cancer. As a veterinarian, I am uniquely positioned to get these updates earlier than the general public.
- Some of the most common issues our senior dogs face are arthritis, cancer, and dementia. Focusing on environmental enrichment, specific nutrition, and laboratory testing are all proactive things that can help older dogs enjoy longer and healthier lives.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please feel free to contact me if desired.

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