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**Animal Dermatology Clinic Marina del Rey Announces Dr. Allison Kirby, DVM Achieves Diplomate Status with the American College of Veterinary Dermatology.**

**September 8, 2009 – LOS ANGELES, CA** – Animal Dermatology Clinic Marina del Rey announces Dr. Allison Kirby has achieved diplomate status with the American College of Veterinary Dermatology (ACVD).

Dr. Allison Kirby graduated in 2005 from UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine. While attending UC Davis, she received an award for outstanding student in the field of Dermatology, and numerous scholarships for promoting the human-animal bond. Dr. Kirby was the student coordinator for a nationwide Pet-Loss Support Hotline and served as the class vice-president for numerous years. After graduation, Dr. Kirby completed a one-year rotating internship at a large private practice in Santa Rosa, Ca. In July 2006, Dr. Kirby began her residency program at Animal Dermatology Clinic in Tustin, Ca. She has since then completed her residency at Animal Dermatology Clinic in Marina del Rey, CA in July 2009 and is currently seeing patients at the Animal Dermatology Clinic Marina del Rey and Pasadena locations.

Dr. Kirby obtained Diplomate status with the American College of Veterinary Dermatology (ACVD) in August 2009. "Becoming a Diplomate with the American College of Veterinary Dermatology has always been my academic goal, and I am extremely excited that I have now achieved that status. I look forward to expanding on the knowledge and training I have already gained by working with the great dermatologists at Animal Dermatology Clinic," says Dr. Allison Kirby of Animal Dermatology Clinic Marina del Rey.

Dr. Kirby joins an elite group of 200 veterinarians that have acquired diplomate status with the ACVD. The American College of Veterinary Dermatology is an organization formed under the auspices of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) to certify veterinarians with extensive post-graduate training as specialists in dermatology. The college is charged by the AVMA to maintain the highest standard of training and certification.

To become a board certified veterinary dermatologist, a veterinarian must complete at least 2 years of postgraduate residency training in an institution accredited by the ACVD, publish original research in the field of animal dermatology, demonstrate superior case management, and pass a comprehensive two-day examination.

Founded in 1980 by Dr. Craig Griffin, Animal Dermatology Clinic has the distinction of being the first privately owned clinic approved by the American College of Veterinary Dermatology to provide a residency program, and is the largest group of veterinary dermatologists across the globe. Since 1980, Animal Dermatology Clinic has expanded to include six full time clinics in California and Georgia, fourteen satellite locations throughout California, Georgia, Kentucky, and Indiana, and more expansion is planned. For more information please visit, <http://www.animaldermatology.com>.