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District Attorney Cy Vance Jr. introduces newest employee: a black Lab named Bear

The lovable black Labrador spent time getting acclimated with the Manhattan district attorney's executive office and his 'co-workers' before starting his stint later this year as therapy dog for domestic violence victims.

By Shayna Jacobs / NEW YORK DAILY NEWS



Manhattan District Attorney Cy Vance Jr. walks out of his office with Bear, a 4-year-old black Labrador who was part of the Puppies Behind Bars program and has been trained to work with victims of domestic violence.

There's a new lawman in town, and he has a penchant for chew toys.

A lovable 4-year-old black Lab named Bear spent Tuesday getting acclimated with the Manhattan district attorney's executive office before starting his very serious gig later this year as therapy dog for domestic violence victims.

"It's our newest DA employee, and he's got the disposition of a saint," said District Attorney Cy Vance Jr., who was hosting the furry-faced staffer at his upper West Side home this week. "Everyone loves him."

Bear was trained as a service dog by upstate inmates in the Puppies Behind Bars program.

"Salute, Bear. Come on. Show them how you salute," Vance said, as Bear complied by raising his right paw.

He will be taught more complicated commands like, "Tell me a story," which will prompt him to rest his head on a child's lap as a reading-time companion, Vance said.