

PI Jamie Katz Lost and Found Pets

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Roaming for 8 days in Boynton Beach, FL... Magic is now SAFE & HOME!!! Here is Magic's story...

On August 3rd I was about to leave to go to a networking event and as I was in my car I could hear the fire alarm going off in the building I was live in. I have never heard the fire alarm go off before and it was startling. Many people were evacuating and all I could think about was my two cats were up in my apartment.

So I asked a lady standing outside "is this real? Should I go get my cats?" She said "I'm not sure if it's real but you could get them just to be safe." So I ran upstairs and in the background was the fire alarm, it was the loudest noise I have ever heard in my entire life. I opened the closet door to see that I only had one cat carrier. I looked and looked and couldn't believe it! I knew I had two carriers when I moved there a little over year ago, but then remembered I may have thrown one away. I had no time to waste.

My two cats, Magic and Oliver, were hiding under the bed because of the loud noise, they were very scared. I was able to reach under the bed to get them and even had to tear part of the underside of the bed to get them... but I got them. I put Oliver in the carrier that I had and I put Magic in the closest thing that could be act as a carrier, the laundry hamper. I held the top of the laundry hamper closed and got out of there quickly. We went to my car and we waited. Both cats were still very scared, they were crying and not knowing what was going on.

So we waited and waited while the fire trucks came and checked out the scene. It was probably at least 45 minutes later that the firemen said the fire alarm was triggered by someone who was pressure washing. So no fire was around thankfully and we were finally ready to go back into the building. I took Oliver up first and secured him in the apartment. Then I went down to the car for Magic. I remember walking a few steps with Magic thinking that I should hold him from the bottom to secure him. So I did. As I secured him in the laundry hamper, it broke and he fell out the side. He has never been outside before, at least not that I know of since I have had him for 6 years... so he was super scared. He stopped and then bolted. I tried to run after him but he kept running. That was the beginning to the most challenging experience of my entire life.

I ran around asking others to try to get him but he wouldn't stop. Finally I couldn't see him anymore. A neighbor saw where he ran and I called and called for him but I couldn't find him. I was so upset. I was asking firemen who were still there to help me find him and I was asking so many people around but I didn't see him. I called and called for hours and hours. I remember walking around looking for him for almost 24 hours straight. I couldn't find him.

For days I looked and looked and had people helping me. On Facebook, someone told me about PI Jamie Katz, so I called her. After 3 days of him missing I believe, a kind-hearted friend of mine who saw what distress I was in hired Jamie as a gift for me. Jamie helped me get a plan together so I could focus on what needed to be done. I put Jamie's signs up and she came out with her two sweet tracking dogs, Fletcher & Gable, who smelled for Magic's scent.

After a week, my baby still wasn't home, by this point I was just beyond upset. I mean this cat is my baby boy. In the past week I had heard him in a bush but I couldn't get him and he wouldn't come out. I stayed outside until almost 3am hoping he would come to me but he didn't. He was too scared. Multiple neighbors called in the past week with sightings.

The following Wednesday evening, I saw his silhouette in the dark in front of my apartment building. I spoke to Jamie on the phone and she advised me to put the triangle of traps in that area and to go inside my apartment so he would go into the trap. I put two traps in that area and one in the bushes that I saw him in prior. I put the food in the traps the way that Jamie advised. I stayed outside for a few hours and then finally, I went in. I took a nap for about an hour and a half and then got up around 2:45am to check the traps. I checked the two traps in front of my apt building first and they were empty. When I went to check the 3rd trap that was along bushes from the sighting almost a week prior, Magic was inside the trap!!!!

I made sure Magic was secured inside the trap and brought him home. I opened my apartment door, let Magic out of the trap and fell to the ground on my knees filled with total gratitude. I thanked God with every cell of my being for bringing my baby boy home to me. Thank you to Jamie! Thank you to the City of Boynton Beach for all your help and prayers! Thank you to all who helped look for him! Thank you to all who prayed for us!!! Thank you God!!!! Thank you to Magic for coming home to your mommy and brother! We love you very much!!!!!!

- Elissa Erman in Boynton Beach, FL