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## Petco Deal Completes Big Box Leasing at Columbus Sq.

## Winick now focusing on filling small spaces



Winick is now focusing on filling space from 2,700 to 8,000 s/f at Columbus Square

Winick Realty Group LLC announced that Petco has leased the last remaining big-box retail space at Columbus Square.

Petco, the family-friendly pet supply store with more than 1,000 stores in 50 states and the District of Columbia, will occupy 20,117 s/f of retail space at 805 Columbus Avenue.

Winick Realty Group LLC's Lori Shabtai, executive vice president, and Kelly Gedinsky, associate director, represented the landlord, while Petco was represented by Ripco Realty.

"Even though Petco already has a store on 92<sup>nd</sup> Street and Broadway, the strong foot traffic and high volumes retailers are reporting at Columbus Square convinced the brand to sign a lease only blocks away," explained Gedinsky.

"The move gives neighborhood families yet another destination at Columbus Square for their everyday needs. The complex's close proximity to Central Park has brought more families and their pets to an already pet-friendly neighborhood," said Gedinsky, noting that, prior to the Petco lease, ownership had entertained a dog run behind 808 Columbus Avenue.

Petco takes possession of the space on September 1. Located on 99<sup>th</sup> Street and Columbus Avenue, it is situated across the street from the child-friendly Michael's Arts and Crafts, Sephora and TJ Maxx.

Winick Realty Group is now focusing its leasing efforts on the remaining smaller spaces, which range from 2,700 to 8,000 s/f.

"The goal is to round out the needs of the community. We are looking for users to compliment the tenants already in the complex, as well as those that will enrich the neighborhood further," said Gedinsky, whose company received 2008's Retail Deal of the Year award for most significantly benefiting Manhattan with this project.

When Winick began pre-leasing the project, there was 350,000 s/f of brand new retail space coming available. The brokerage focused its efforts on leasing the largest spaces first, enabling it to bring a strong tenant mix to the Upper West Side.

Petco will join the likes of Whole Foods, CRUMBS, Modell's Sporting Goods, Whole Foods Liquor, Chase Manhattan Bank, Bank of America, Associated Supermarket, the Ryan Center, and Borders Books.