



SERVICE DOGS

2020

Service Dogs 101

- Check out Sami and Patty in this short TedTalk.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y0EHkkHgQ4o>



How is a service animal defined?

- Service animals are defined as dogs that are individually trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities.
- Not all disabilities are visible.
- Some examples of tasks are: leading the blind, alerting the deaf, pulling a wheelchair, calming PTSD person, and alert to allergens or blood sugar levels.
- Check out this short video.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4C459sQwrAo>

Service Dog . . .

- Is there a certain breed?
 - No any breed is ok
- Does that dog have to be professionally trained?
 - No, the dog can be trained by the handler
 - The dog can be professionally trained
- Can I pet a service dog?
 - Not while they are working.
- Can I talk to a service dog?
 - Not while they are working.

Service Dog. . .

- Can I distract a service dog?
 - Not while they are working.
 - ***You should ignore the service dog while they are working.
- Is a service dog required to wear a vest?
 - No
- Do service dogs have a certification?
 - No

What is not a service dog?

- Dogs whose sole function is to provide comfort or emotional support do not qualify as service animals under the ADA.
- Therapy Dog
- Emotional support dog
- A pet

What is an emotional support dog?

- An "emotional support animal" is a dog or other animal that is not trained to perform specific acts directly related to an individual's disability. Instead, the animal's owner derives a sense of well-being, safety, or calm from the animal's companionship and presence. An emotional support animal does not need to be a dog, but can be.
- What are the rights for an ESA?
 - They are allowed to be in non pet friendly housing and fly on a plane.
 - Fair housing act - <https://esadoctors.com/fair-housing-act-emotional-support-animals/>
 - Air Carrier access act - <https://www.transportation.gov/tags/air-carrier-access-act>

What can I ask a handler?

- You are allowed to ask two questions
 - Is this a service dog?
 - What is their task?
- You cannot ask
 - What is your disability?
 - Where is the dog's certificate?
 - Show me the dog's task.

When I can ask a service dog to leave?

- The dog is out of control and the handler does not take effective action to control it.
- The dog is not housebroken. (this does not include if the dogs gets sick).
 - Sometimes dogs get sick it happens. You will notice if the dog is sick or not housebroken.
- When there is a legitimate reason to ask that a service animal be removed, staff must offer the person with the disability the opportunity to obtain goods or services without the animal's presence.

How to treat a person with a service animal

- Establishments that sell or prepare food must generally allow service animals in public areas even if state or local health codes prohibit animals on the premises.
- People with disabilities who use service animals cannot be isolated from other patrons, treated less favorably than other patrons, or charged fees that are not charged to other patrons without animals. In addition, if a business requires a deposit or fee to be paid by patrons with pets, it must waive the charge for service animals.
- If a business such as a hotel normally charges guests for damage that they cause, a customer with a disability may also be charged for damage caused by himself or his service animal.
- Staff are not required to provide care for or supervision of a service animal.

Resources

- https://www.ada.gov/service_animals_2010.htm
- https://www.ada.gov/regs2010/service_animal_qa.html
- <https://www.nolo.com/legal-encyclopedia/california-laws-psychiatric-service-dogs-emotional-support-animals-public-places.html>
- <https://esadoctors.com/fair-housing-act-emotional-support-animals/>
- <https://www.transportation.gov/tags/air-carrier-access-act>