



Partnership for Animal Welfare (PAW)

Volunteer Agreement and Release of Liability

I, _____ hereby agree to accept a position as a volunteer with Partnership for Animal Welfare (PAW) with its principal business address at P.O. Box 1074, Greenbelt, Maryland 20768. I agree to the terms and conditions set forth below in this agreement.

I understand and agree that my services are provided to PAW solely in a volunteer capacity and are provided without any expectation of any salary, payment, compensation, or federal or state benefits, including worker's compensation benefits. I understand that PAW reserves the right to terminate my services as a volunteer for any reason or no reason at all.

I accept and will adhere to all policies and procedures of PAW, and understand that failure to do so may result in my immediate termination as a volunteer.

CONFIDENTIALITY AND NONDISCLOSURE

I understand and agree that the PAW website, internal files and records, including names and addresses of volunteers, donors, fosters, applicants, membership lists and similar data, are the sole property of PAW, and that unauthorized disclosure of such information, its appropriation, changes or alterations to it may constitute a criminal or civil offense. By signing this agreement, I agree to protect the privacy and security of confidential information at all times.

TETANUS WAIVER

I understand that because I may handle animals, it is important to discuss with my physician the advisability of being vaccinated for tetanus. I release PAW from all responsibility of any injury or related illness that may occur, and understand whatever decision I make is at my own risk.

RELEASE OF LIABILITY

I understand that PAW's primary role is to provide adoptive homes for homeless sheltered animals, and that PAW does not always know an animal's history, including but not limited to: it's mental, emotional, or physical state or condition, temperament, behavior, or propensities for aggression or danger now or in the future. I understand that animals, even under the best of circumstances, may be unpredictable and may bite or scratch. I recognize that in handling animals while performing services for PAW, a risk of injury exists, including but not limited to, personal physical harm, caused by or incident to caring for animals.

On behalf of myself and my heirs, personal representatives and executors:

1. I agree to hold PAW harmless for any injury, loss, or damage to me or my personal property which I might sustain from handling, transporting, or caring for animals during the course of my volunteer duties for PAW.
2. I further hereby waive, and exempt, release, and discharge PAW, its officers, agents, servants, and other volunteers from any and all liability, claims, demands, and actions for such injury, loss, or damage, whether or not caused by the act, omission, negligence, or other fault of PAW, its officers, agents, servants, and other volunteers or by any other cause.
3. I further agree to defend, indemnify and hold harmless PAW, its officers, agents, servants, and other volunteers from and against all liability, claims, and demands, including any third party claim asserted against PAW, its officers, agents, servants, and other volunteers, on account of injury, loss, or damage, whether or not caused by my act, omission, negligence, or other fault, or by the act, omission, negligence, or other fault of PAW, its officers, agents, servants, and other volunteers, or by any other cause.
4. Any modification to this agreement must be in writing and signed by both parties.

I VERIFY THAT I AM OVER EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE AND ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE READ THIS AGREEMENT CAREFULLY, AND I FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENTS AND IMPLICATIONS. I AM AWARE THAT THIS IS A WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT, AND THAT IT IS BINDING AND ENFORCEABLE BY LAW.

Volunteer Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

PARENT LEGAL GUARDIAN CONSENT OF MINOR (Under 18 years of age): As a parent/legal guardian of the above named volunteer, I hereby give my consent for my child to provide volunteer services for PAW as described within this agreement. I have fully read and understand the terms and conditions set forth in this agreement and on behalf of my child/ward, and myself, I agree to all terms and conditions.

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

PAW Representative: _____ **Date:** _____