

**Hillsboro Christian Church**

**Service Dog Policy**



**This document will go into effect on this date: 01/01/2024 and will supersede previous documents.**

**Document# 20240101 Rev.A**



This document contains rules and restrictions pertaining to the admittance and behavior regarding, ***service dogs***, at Hillsboro Christian Church.

We have set forth these rules and restrictions on the admittance and behavior of an individual or group with a service dog.

This policy will apply to ***ALL*** events that take place ***INSIDE*** the Hillsboro Christian Church building.

These rules and restrictions are being set forth for the safety, well-being, and protection of any individual or group that may encounter a service animal, while attending, participating, entering, or leaving Hillsboro Christian Church. We want to ensure a safe and healthy environment for the handler, their dog, and everyone involved.

We thank you in advance for your cooperation and understanding in this matter.



Hillsboro Christian Church encourages and welcomes all people to attend and enjoy our services, events and classes. We make reasonable accommodations whenever and wherever possible.

Hillsboro Christian Church, and other religious entities, or private organizations, are **NOT** subject to ADA guidelines but are permitted to define regulations for their individual location. (See ADA Sec. 307)

- Hillsboro Christian Church encourages all service animal handlers to make an attempt to notify the church or an event coordinator prior to bringing their service animal to our site.
- Hillsboro Christian Church recognizes **ONLY** dogs as service animals.
- A Hillsboro Christian church representative is permitted to ask the following questions:
  - \* *Is the dog a service animal because of a disability?*
  - \* *What work or task has the dog been trained to perform?*
 (This is compliant with ADA guidelines)
- Hillsboro Christian Church requires service dogs to be properly and visibly identifiable by wearing a service dog vest. See below:





- Hillsboro Christian Church requires that a service dog *‘be leashed at all times’*.
  - Hillsboro Christian Church requires the handler of the service animal to maintain control of the animal at all times.
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- Hillsboro Christian Church requires that a service dog have a muzzle on while inside the building.

If attending an event, where food is present, Hillsboro Christian Church reserves the right to make separate accommodations for a service dog and handler.

Hillsboro Christian Church, its staff, or any event coordinator is authorized to ask any individual with a service dog, not meeting the requirements or guidelines listed here to vacate the premises.

The above policy has been approved by the:

*Board of Elders at Hillsboro Christian Church.*