

Friends of Homeless Animals (FOHA)

Volunteer Agreement and Waiver Form/Release

I, _____, have volunteered to assist Friends of Homeless Animals (FOHA), a non-profit organization operating a shelter for homeless dogs and cats.

I understand and agree to the following:

- 1) I have volunteered my services to FOHA because of my support for the organization and its work. I understand my activities as a volunteer may entail risks such as, but not limited to, dog and cat bites, slippery conditions, and strenuous manual labor. I expressly assume all risks associated with any and all of my volunteer activities.
- 2) I agree that I am offering volunteer services to FOHA at my own risk and that FOHA has offered no representations as to the safety of my volunteer activities.
- 3) I agree to waive and release FOHA and its officers, directors, employees, and volunteers from any and all claims, losses, liabilities, damages, and costs resulting from any injury to me arising out of my volunteer activities.
- 4) I agree to abide by the instructions given to me by the volunteers and adoption coordinators and to take special care not to engage in any conduct that puts animals, volunteers, adopters, staff, etc. at risk.
- 5) I agree to conduct myself in a professional manner while participating in volunteer activities or otherwise representing FOHA and adhere to the following codes of conduct:
 - Treat the FOHA animals with compassion and tenderness. No mistreatment of the animals will be tolerated.
 - Treat visitors, potential adopters, volunteers, staff, and the public with respect and courtesy. I will not display discourtesy or abusive language to, or speak disrespectfully of, shelter patrons, other volunteers, shelter management, the FOHA board, other shelters, or Animal Control agencies while representing FOHA.
 - Follow all rules and obey all boundaries and special instructions set forth by FOHA Management and staff while at the shelter, the Treasure Hound, or while representing FOHA at off-site or public events.
 - Except in the case of an emergency, refrain from moving any animals from one run or building to another without prior consent from, or advance notification of, FOHA shelter staff or FOHA management.
 - Except in the case of an emergency, refrain from moving any animals or equipment from the FOHA premises without prior consent from, or advance notification of, FOHA shelter staff or FOHA management.
 - Sign in each time I come to the shelter to volunteer. Volunteers are required to sign in the FOHA Volunteer Sign-in Log.

- Respect the independence and authority of volunteers serving on a particular team. I will not interfere or otherwise undermine another volunteer or staff member's work.
- Refrain from spreading inappropriate or false information to fellow volunteers, kennel staff or the public.
- Immediately report any serious misconduct, inappropriate behavior, or allegations of financial or other malfeasance to FOHA management.
- Report all incidents, injuries, animal bites, fire, theft, or unusual incidents to appropriate authorities and/or to FOHA management immediately after occurrence or discovery.
- Treat FOHA facilities and equipment with respect and care. I will not tamper with FOHA computers, safety measures or devices such as fire alarms, fire extinguishers, exit signs, emergency phone systems, smoke or heat detectors, fire hoses, security systems, and locked exterior doors.
- Deal fairly with FOHA colleagues, staff members, visitors, volunteers, etc, without regard to their gender, race, ethnicity, religion, creed, age, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, ancestry, citizenship, military status, veteran status, handicap, or disability.
- Refrain from bringing onto FOHA's property any dangerous materials such as explosives, unauthorized firearms, weapons, or other similar items.
- Refrain from any handling or care of FOHA animals while under the influence of alcohol.

6) By signing below, I acknowledge that I am at least 18 years of age. I certify that I have never been convicted of any crime or misdemeanor involving animal cruelty, neglect, or abandonment. I have read and thoroughly understand this waiver and that all of the statements I have made in connection with becoming a volunteer at FOHA are true.

Signature

Date

Print FULL Name

Address _____

Phone (H) _____

Phone (C) _____

Email _____

Previous Names (required by state of Virginia) _____