

**THE LAWSON HILL PROPERTY OWNERS' COMPANY  
POLICY, PROCEDURES, AND RULES  
CONCERNING AN ASSISTANCE DOG**

The Board of Directors for The Lawson Hill Property Owners' Company ("LHPOC") adopts the following policy, procedures, and rules concerning assistance dogs ("Policy") to provide guidance regarding such requests in compliance with the Federal Fair Housing Act Amendments of 1988, as amended, and the Colorado Fair Housing Act, (collectively "FHA")

1. Background. The FHA prohibits discrimination in housing on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, familial status, national origin, ancestry, or disability.

The FHA makes it unlawful for LHPOC to refuse to make a reasonable accommodation in rules, policies, practices, or services that a person with a disability may need in order to have equal opportunity to use and enjoy their home. These laws require LHPOC to consider a disabled person's reasonable accommodation request to keep a service dog or emotional support dog (collectively "assistance dog") in their home despite the fact the Lawson Hill Declaration and PUD prohibit dogs.

The FHA requires LHPOC to modify or make an exception to the "no dog" restriction when it may be necessary to permit a person with a disability to utilize an assistance dog in the Lawson Hill Community. Therefore, if a resident request an assistance dog that is reasonably related to their disability, then the request may be granted as a reasonable accommodation.

A person meets the definition of disabled under the FHA if the individual:

- has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more life activities;
- has a record of having such impairment; or
- is regarded as having such impairment.

2. Policy and Procedure.

- a. A resident makes an application for a support animal exception to San Miguel County. As the Lawson Hill Declaration and PUD strictly prohibit dogs, the resident must first comply with the San Miguel County application process and present the approved permit for the assistance dog to LHPOC to be acknowledged and signed prior to obtaining a dog.

The approved signed County application must then be provided to LHPOC. The LHPOC keeps on file all approvals. Fines may be levied against a dog owner who has not complied with this process.

The LHPOC requires annual written proof that the assistance dog accommodation is still necessary and approved by San Miguel County.

Resident will be given a 10-day grace period beyond expiration of a permit to provide proof of current accommodation status. After the grace period fines for lack of a current permit will be applied under the standard No Dog fines established for the entire community.

- b. LHPOC will make reasonable accommodations to its rules and regulations to allow the assistance dog in the Lawson Hill Community upon proper documentation that San Miguel County has issued a permit approving the exception for the ESA dog, subject to the conditions and rules outlined in this Policy.

3. Review. If a disability is not readily apparent to the untrained person, LHPOC reserves the right to request updates of information regarding the continuing nature of a disability and its limitation on one or more major life activities on a periodic basis. Requests for updated information will not be made more often than once per year. If the condition that was the basis for the accommodation has improved to the point where it no longer limits one or more major life activities, LHPOC reserves the right to request San Miguel County revoke the assistance dog accommodation.
  
4. Confidentiality.
  - a. Since the Lawson Hill Declaration and PUD prohibits dogs, to avoid any confusion on the part of other residents, LHPOC reserves the right to advise other residents in the community that an approved assistance dog is allowed as a reasonable accommodation for a disability under the terms of federal and state law.
  
  - b. Any medical information provided to the LHPOC with regard to application for accommodation will remain confidential, to the extent permitted by law, and will be available only to authorized representatives of the LHPOC who may need to periodically verify and re-validate the information provided.
  
5. Rules for Authorized Assistance Dogs.
  - a. The resident must comply with all the terms, conditions, and rules outlined in the San Miguel Application and Permit for Service Animal or Emotional Support Animal and this Assistance Dog Policy.
  
  - b. The assistance dog must be harnessed, leashed, or tethered on a six-foot (6') lead or shorter and under the control of the disabled individual at all times while walking outside the residence and in the Community.
  
  - c. The disabled person must accompany the assistance dog when outside the residence's enclosed deck or DRB approved fenced yard area. A disabled child's parents may help with the assistance dog.
  
  - d. Best efforts are required to ensure the assistance dog relieves itself only on the property it resides. However, any pet waste deposited on another's property or on the LHPOC common areas must be immediately removed and disposed of in appropriate trash containers of the assistance dog's residence.
  
  - e. The assistance dog may not be allowed to bother or constitute a nuisance to other owners and neighboring residences, including but not limited to, incessant or excessive barking, whining, howling or other animal noises.
  
  - f. Certain common areas in LHPOC that are mainly frequented by children are specifically designated as No Dog areas. These include the park or on the grass at the Top of the Hill playground and picnic area park (next to the daycare), and within the fenced area of the multi-use playing field. Assistance dogs are not permitted at any time on the section of the Galloping Goose Trail located within the Lawson Hill PUD or any portion of Keystone Gorge Trail.
  
  - g. The emotional support animal is not permitted in any business or on the property of any business within the Lawson Hill subdivision /PUD.

- h. The assistance dog must remain current on all vaccines and licenses as required by local governmental regulations.
  - i. Any damage or injury to property or persons caused by the keeping or maintaining of the assistance dog is the responsibility of the dog's owner.
  - j. The assistance dog may only remain in the Community for as long as the condition that was the basis for the disability accommodation continues.
6. Fine Schedule: The following fines are the guidelines for violations of this policy and San Miguel County Permit.

First violation: Notice of complaint and warning letter  
Second violation: \$50.00  
Third violation: \$100.00  
Fourth violation: \$200.00  
Subsequent violations: \$250.00 per occurrence

The Association reserves the right to fine for first violations that involve health and safety issues and other violations where a warning may not be deemed necessary by the Board in its reasonable discretion. Additionally, upon prior written notice, the Board reserves the right to levy fines in excess of the schedule, if the fines in this schedule are not likely to provide effective incentives to induce compliance. Any violation of the same type occurring within 3 month(s) of the prior violation may be treated as a subsequent violation which, in the Board's sole discretion, may be assessed a fine beginning at the next level without requiring an additional warning.

The Board may waive fines if, in its reasonable discretion, waiver is appropriate under the circumstances. Additionally, the Board may condition the waiver upon the violator coming into compliance with this Policy.

7. Enforcement of Assistance Dog Violations. Violations of this Policy, the Declaration, and the rules and regulations of the LHPOC, as may be amended from time to time, related to the assistance dog may result in the issuance of fines in accordance with the above-referenced fine schedule and the LHPOC's covenant enforcement policy, a request for removal of the assistance dog, and/or any other remedy provided in the Declaration or by applicable law.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the undersigned certifies that this Policy was adopted by the Board of Directors of the LHPOC on this 15 day of July 2020.

**THE LAWSON HILL PROPERTY OWNERS' COMPANY,**  
a Colorado nonprofit corporation

By: Bill de Alva

Bill de Alva, President LHPOC