

Service Animals and Animals in Food Establishments

ADA Requirements Regarding Service Animals

Information on the ADA 2010 Revised Requirements on Service Animals is available on the ADA's website: http://www.ada.gov/service_animals_2010.htm.

- Service animals are defined as dogs that are individually trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities. Examples of such work or tasks include:
 - Guiding people who are blind
 - > Alerting people who are deaf
 - > Pulling a wheelchair
 - > Alerting and protecting a person who is having a seizure
 - > Reminding a person with mental illness to take prescribed medications
 - Calming a person with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) during an anxiety attack

Service animals are working animals, not pets. The work or task a dog has been trained to provide must be directly related to the person's disability. Dogs whose sole function is to provide comfort or emotional support do not qualify as service animals under the ADA.

Specific ADA Rules Related to Service Animals in Food Establishments

 Establishments that sell or prepare food must allow service animals in public areas even if state or local health codes prohibit animals on the premises.

Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD)/Clark County Regulations

Information on the SNHD's regulations on animals in food establishments can be found on the SNHD website at: <u>http://www.southernnevadahealthdistrict.org/ferl/animals-in-food-</u>establishments.php.

Pets and comfort/support animals are not identified as service animals and are not allowed on the premises of a food establishment. Premises include an outdoor dining area that adjoins the physical facility under the control of the permit holder. Additionally, if food establishment personnel serve food to an outdoor area removed from the actual food establishment, they are not to touch pets or service animals.

Establishments that allow <u>pets</u> on their outdoor patios have applied for special approval from the SNHD. With this approval, pets are only allowed on outdoor patios.

When animals are allowed, they shall not be allowed on the seats and/or tables in a <u>food</u> establishment (Regulation 6-501.21(C)).

It is unlawful for a person to fraudulently misrepresent an animal as a service animal (<u>NRS</u> 426.805).