



Alliance of Therapy Dogs
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Rules and Regulations

These rules and regulations govern how Members must conduct themselves as representatives of Alliance of Therapy Dogs (ATD). Failure to adhere to the ATD Rules and Regulations will jeopardize your membership and nullify the liability insurance policy.

I. The Organization

- 1. ATD** is a 501c3 non-profit, volunteer organization, and donations to ATD are welcome. All requests to use the registered ATD name, logo, and slogan must be submitted in writing to the ATD Office.
- 2. Membership is a privilege**, not a right, granted by the ATD Board of Directors through the various committees appointed to represent and protect the interests and safety of the organization. A Member in good standing meets the following criteria:
 - Is current on dues.
 - Has logged at least 1 volunteer in-person ATD visit every 3 months.
 - Whose therapy dog is up to date on vaccines and has had a negative fecal test and an annual wellness exam within the past 12 months.
 - Is not presently suspended from making visits for any reason.
 - Abides by all ATD Rules and Regulations.

These ATD membership requirements are the same for Junior Handlers.

- 3. Insurance:** ATD provides liability insurance that protects you from claims of others for injury, illness, loss, and property damage resulting from therapeutic visitation with your dog. This coverage does not protect you or your dog from injury or illness as a result of participation in this program. Coverage applies to the ATD-certified handler/dog team functioning as a therapy dog team at a visit or event such as described below. Members are covered only when ATD is the primary insurance and no other insurance (whether from the facility or another organization) is in effect while they are visiting.

If you do not renew by your renewal date on time, either January 1 or July 1, there is no insurance grace period. You will not be covered by insurance on visits until you receive your new membership card.

If a claim is filed on your behalf by ATD and it is determined that you were not following the ATD rules at the time of the incident, you may be required to reimburse ATD for any monies paid out on the claim.

- 4. Dual Membership:** ATD allows dual membership with other organizations. ATD Members cannot represent ATD and another pet therapy organization that provides insurance at the same time on the same visit. Members are covered only when ATD is the primary insurance and no other insurance (whether from the facility or another organization) is in effect while they are visiting.
- 5. Volunteer Handler/Dog Teams and Dogs at Work:** The purpose of ATD visits is to provide service in a volunteer capacity. Liability insurance coverage is provided to handler/dog teams serving in a volunteer capacity only. Teams are not covered by ATD's general liability policy if the Member receives pay, wages, or other financial compensation during a visit. If a Member chooses to visit where they are working, they must do so as an unpaid volunteer. Members who use their dogs in their work can now apply to purchase separate insurance to cover them in their workplace. Information can be found on the ATD website under the Members tab.

If you take your dog to work with you, you must still complete at least 1 volunteer in-person visit every 3 months to maintain your ATD Certification. This volunteer in-person visit may be at your place of employment, but not during your paid working hours. When you are on an ATD visit, you must follow ATD rules and display the red heart tag.

- 6. Non-ATD Therapy Dogs and Animals:** ATD handlers may not bring any animals other than their certified therapy dogs on ATD visits. If a facility has free-roaming animals or family pets that might be present during a visit, ATD handlers should request that they be allowed to visit in an area away from the other animals.
- 7. Service Dogs and Two Dogs on Visits:** If a Member is on an ATD visit with a therapy dog that is also a service dog, the dog must not wear any identifying pieces of equipment including any patches that may give conflicting information such as "do not pet".

The ATD red heart tag must not be displayed while the service dog is assisting in restaurants, stores, flights, or any capacity other than on an ATD visit. ATD is not liable for damages caused by the handler's use of medical equipment during visits including, but not limited to, wheelchairs, electric chairs, scooters, walkers, canes, or crutches.

Handlers who want to take their therapy dogs into places that normally allow only service dogs must explain that their dogs are therapy dogs, not service dogs, and that they do not have legal access rights like service dogs do.

ATD does not allow Members to handle two dogs at the same time on any visit, including a service dog and a therapy dog. For safety and liability reasons, ATD will no longer grant exceptions for two dogs with 1 handler for any visits and/or events.

If a handler is certified with multiple dogs, it is acceptable for them to switch dogs on a visit. It is not acceptable for them to handle multiple dogs at the same time on the facility property. The dog not being handled must be secured safely and is not covered under ATD insurance.

- 8. Junior Handler Requirements:** The minimum age requirement for regular ATD membership is 18. When permitted by the facility, a prospective Junior Member/Handler aged 12 through 17 may accompany a Tester/Observer (T/O) on 1 visit before being tested. Prospective Junior Members are not required to do the background check.

Junior Member/Handlers, ages 12 to 15, must be accompanied at all times by a certified ATD handler, with or without a dog, and a parent or guardian during testing and on all visits. If the parent or guardian is also an ATD-certified Handler, they may not bring an additional dog but may handle the Junior Handler's dog if also certified with that dog. The parent or guardian and ATD Member supervising a junior team may supervise only 1 team at a time. Junior Handlers ages 16 and 17 are not required to have a parent or guardian accompany them but must be accompanied by an ATD-certified Handler. A parent or guardian must sign the Junior Handler's Assumption of Risk and Release of Liability form. Upon reaching the age of 18, the handler is required to contact the ATD Office and sign an Assumption of Risk and Release of Liability form for the ATD Member files.

II. Visits

- 9. Visit Definition:** An official ATD therapy dog in-person visit means the primary reason is to provide pet therapy with a mutual understanding between the handler and the facility or person receiving the visit that the handler/dog team will provide volunteer animal-assisted therapy while following ATD's Rules and Regulations. This interaction as described will be covered by ATD's liability insurance so long as all Rules and Regulations are followed.
- 10. Facility or Sponsoring Organization Regulations:** Therapy dog teams must strictly adhere to all ATD Rules and Regulations as well as the rules and regulations of each facility or sponsoring organization. If facility rules are unclear, ask a staff member or activities director to explain them. If a facility rule is in conflict with an ATD rule, contact the ATD Office for guidance.
- 11. Visits and Functions:** Therapy dog visits may include but are not limited to visits to a hospital, nursing home, library, school, detention center, hospice care center, etc. Therapy dog functions are community events such as parades, educational seminars, dog breed showcases, public education, or events promoting or

describing ATD. At such events, if the dog displays the official red heart ATD identification tag, the team represents ATD. Dogs may not wear ATD identification, including the red heart tag, at any other time. Identification from other independently insured pet therapy organizations is prohibited when representing ATD.

- **Visit Start and End Duration:** An in-person visit or event begins as soon as you and your dog exit the vehicle and/or step onto the facility property. It does not end until you leave the facility property.
- **Frequency of Visits:** ATD requires a minimum of 1 in-person visit every 3 months from the date of the last visit per handler/dog team. If a team fails to make the required visits, refer to Rules and Regulations No. 21.
- **Logging visits:** Logging at least 1 in-person visit every 3 months is mandatory. This can be done through the ATD Member Portal or by contacting the ATD Office for other options. All logged visits must be a visit covered by ATD insurance. Any visits not meeting these requirements will be deleted from the portal.
 - **Virtual or Noncontact Visits:** Non in-person visits can be logged in the ATD Member Portal only if ATD rules are followed. In order to maintain your ATD membership, you must participate in and log at least 1 in-person visit every 3 months from the date of your last in-person visit.
 - **Bringing Your Dog to Work:** Only volunteer visits may be logged. Refer to Rules and Regulations No. 5 to determine how to satisfy this requirement.
- **Requests:** Any ATD visit requests sent out by the ATD Office must be responded to and attended as an ATD team with ATD insurance.

12. Items Required on In-Person Visits:

- Membership card.
- Dogs must wear the official red heart ATD identification tag on the collar, harness, vest, or leash when representing ATD on visits or at events.
- Written proof of the dog's vaccinations is readily available at each visit, either carried with on the visit, or in the car, and available upon request.

13. Behavior of Dogs: Dogs must remain under control at all times. Any inappropriate behaviors must be quickly and quietly corrected. Barks should be quieted, and jumping or pawing dogs should be quickly moved away while apologizing and checking to see if the person is OK. If not quickly corrected, the team must leave the property. ATD Rules and Regulations prohibit any dog from displaying aggressive behaviors toward humans and/or other dogs. Any dog doing so must be immediately removed from the visit and reported to the ATD Office within 24 hours. (See Rule

No. 51 for details.)

- 14. Ask Before Entering:** Always ask for permission to enter a room before approaching the person you intend to visit. If you are entering a room, make sure everyone in the room wishes to have the dog visit. If 1 person does not want a visit, ask that person if it is OK to visit with others in the room. If not, do not enter the room.
- 15. Guests on Visits:** Anyone accompanying an ATD-certified team on a visit (e.g., family member, spouse, friend) must not require assistance from the handler and must be at least 18 years old. Facilities must give permission for all visitors.
- 16. Treats on Visits:** Only the handler may give treats to their dog. Do not allow those you visit to give your dog treats.
- 17. Do Not Give Food, Water, or Assistance to a Patient or Resident, Even if Asked:** Notify a staff member if help is needed.

Read and obey all warning signs on room doors, such as “ISOLATION” or “INFECTIOUS, DO NOT ENTER.” Handlers must stay alert to their surroundings at all times. If any facility rules conflict directly with ATD, please contact the ATD Office.

- 18. Walking the Dog in a Facility:** Dogs may not precede handlers down halls, around corners, at doorways, or at stairways. Stand back while waiting for an elevator door to open. When the door opens, wait to assure safe exit of passengers. If the elevator is occupied, the handler must ask permission to enter with the dog.
- 19. Mobile and Smart Devices:** Member/Handlers must not make or receive calls or text messages using a cellphone or smart device inside a facility. Pagers, cellphones and smart devices must be set on silent or vibrate while inside a facility. If the use of a phone becomes necessary, handlers must excuse themselves temporarily and complete the call outside the facility.

Handlers using their personal cellphone to take photos must follow ATD photo guidelines. (See VII. Safety Precautions No. 45 and IX. Legal Issues No. 49.)

III. Member Handler/Dog Team Annual Review and Reevaluation

- 20. Annual Review:** Members must pass an annual Member Review that shows their familiarity with the ATD rules. Renewals will not be finalized until 100% accuracy is achieved.
- 21. Reevaluation:** If ATD has been alerted to a possible high-risk or behavior issue with a Member or a Member’s dog, ATD may request that the team be reevaluated. When there is no T/O in the general area who can give an unbiased report or

evaluate the handler/dog team fairly, ATD may choose to send 1 of the Directors to the area to reevaluate the handler/dog team at ATD's expense.

If a team fails to make and log 1 in-person visit every 3 months, they must complete another Handling Assessment and 1 Observation with an ATD T/O, using ATD Certification Test paperwork.

If a team fails to make and log 1 in-person visit within 6 months of a previous visit, another Handling Assessment and 3 Observations must be completed with an ATD T/O, using ATD Certification paperwork to reinstate membership. The team becomes inactive, and insurance is suspended until retested, and paperwork is approved by the ATD Office.

In the event a retest and/or reobservation is required or requested for any reason, the T/O shall:

- Use the current test and/or observation paperwork.
- Follow the current guidelines for testing and/or observing.

If the team passes, the handler shall submit the paperwork to the Office within 7 days by standard mail, fax or email.

If the team fails, the team shall refrain from visiting until they hear from the Office. The T/O will send the paperwork to the Office within 7 days.

IV. Health Requirements

22. Dog Health Requirements: Dogs must have an annual wellness examination, including a fecal check, by a veterinarian within the past 12 months. They must be current on their rabies vaccination and any other vaccines as advised by their veterinarian. Veterinary reports of rabies titer levels of 0.5 IU or greater are acceptable and must be measured every two years to ensure levels remain acceptable. Maternity leave is required for pregnant bitches from 30 days prior to whelping date to 60 days after whelping. Bitches in season will not participate in therapy visits. Dogs who have any fresh wounds, recent surgery, injuries, or infections may not do pet therapy visits until recovered and healed. Dogs may not wear diapers or belly bands during visits.

23. Chemical Substances: ATD Members will not provide chemical substances or apply them to their dog unless authorized or provided by the facility. Substances include but are not limited to, hand sanitizers, hand wipes, or lotions.

24. Certified Dog Developing Disabilities and/or Stress: The Member/Handler must notify the ATD Office if the dog has developed any disability since the initial testing or shows signs of physical and/or mental distress during visits. The Handler/dog team will need to be retested with 1 Observation before continuing any visits.

25. Handler Health Requirements and Developing Medical Issues: Handlers who have any fresh wounds, recent surgery, other injuries, infections, or any condition which may inhibit their ability to handle the dog safely may not do pet therapy visits until recovered and healed. Any Member/Handler who has had any change in medical condition since initial testing, even if temporary, that may impede their ability to safely handle their dog must notify the ATD Office. Examples of these medical conditions include but are not limited to: stroke, broken limb, weakened strength, change in disability, change in mental or emotional condition, etc. These Member/handlers may need to be retested and/or observed before continuing any visits.

26. Alcohol, Drugs, Tobacco or Related Products: Handlers are prohibited from using or being under the influence of alcohol, drugs, tobacco or related products while on an ATD visit that could impair their safety or judgment.

V. Grooming Requirements

27. Dog Grooming Requirements: Participating dogs must be clean and well-groomed, have trimmed and/or filed nails, clean teeth, be free of internal and external parasites, and be in good general health. If used, topical flea and tick preventative must be applied a minimum of 3 days prior to any pet therapy visits. Flea and tick prevention collars shall not be worn during ATD visits.

28. Handler Grooming Requirements: While participating in therapy visits, handlers must be clean and well-groomed.

29. Olfactory Sensitivity: Avoid using perfumes, colognes, and other scented oils on both the handler and the dog. Handlers who smoke or are exposed to smoke should minimize their smoke exposure before entering a facility. Never try to cover smoke or other odors with perfume or scented oils.

VI. Attire and Equipment

30. Handler Attire: Skimpy or tight-fitting attire, including short shorts, tank tops, and bare midriffs, is not allowed. Wear sensible, safe walking shoes with backs or at least a strap around the heel (no flip-flops, high heels, spike heels, or shoes without backs).

31. Dog Equipment: Items must be specifically designed for the use of dogs and are detailed below. ATD does not allow retractable, elastic, bungee, slip or chain leashes; clickers; pinch, pronged (metal or plastic), spiked or electronic training collars.

- **Collars:** The collar must be the appropriate size and properly fit the dog. The dog should not be able to get out of the collar when on a loose leash. A properly fitted collar will not add significant length to the leash (see leash requirements below).

Slip/limited slip, buckle, quick release, martingale, or any other smooth collars made of chain, nylon, BioThane®, or leather, are acceptable. Slip and martingale-style collars should be worn correctly so that they release and/or do not allow the dog to slip or back out of them.

- **Leashes:** Leashes must be 4 feet in length or shorter, including any additional length from the collar. Leashes must be strong enough for the size and strength of the dog, in good condition, and made of material that has not been disallowed above. Leashes may not be tied to make them 4 feet in length or shorter. A convertible leash that is designed to be adjusted to 4 feet or shorter may be used as long as it is used only at the 4-foot or shorter length.
- **Head Halters and Harnesses:** Head halters and harnesses must be made of webbing or leather and fastened with metal, or plastic buckles or rings. Head and body halters or harnesses fastened solely with Velcro®-style fastener or metal clothing snaps are not allowed. The leash may be attached to the collar, halter, or harness. Dogs wearing a body halter or harness, or a head halter, must also wear an approved collar.
- **Strollers:** All strollers must be made specifically for animals.
 - ATD Members who wish to use a stroller for an already-certified dog must have a T/O perform the Handling Assessment portion of the Certification Test and observe them 1 time with their dog in the stroller. The handler must demonstrate that they can keep their dog safe, and they can control the head while visiting using the stroller.
 - All handlers, including existing ATD Members, must submit the Handling Assessment and Observation forms to the ATD Office, along with a photo showing that the dog is wearing an approved collar and on a 4-foot or shorter leash held by the handler.
 - Dogs must wear the approved ATD equipment while in the stroller. The handler must always hold the leash in their hand.

VII. Safety Precautions

32. Tester/Observer Feedback:

The main purpose of the T/O role is to assess the skills of teams seeking certification and to coach prospective and current Members. The T/O provides constructive and encouraging feedback that helps teams (both the handler and the dog) improve their skills and confidence in providing animal-assisted activities or therapy.

If you are on a visit and there is a T/O present, feel free to ask any questions you may have.

In the excitement and activity of a visit, it is sometimes easy to forget the rules that are in place to ensure the safety of the team and those they visit. If a T/O approaches you and provides feedback about the rules, please accept that advice in the spirit in which it is given.

- 33. 2-foot Rule:** Dogs must always be kept at least 2 feet from other dogs and animals while representing ATD on a visit or event to discourage play, to ensure that dogs have enough personal space for focusing on the person being visited, and to prevent any interaction between dogs that could possibly lead to an injury to a third party, the handlers or their dogs. This also applies to dogs that live in the same household. If a dog prefers more than 2 feet, the handler should be sure to provide for the dog's needs. Insurance is not in effect if your dog is less than 2 feet from another animal, including when posing for photos.
- 34. Staring:** Do not let your dog stare (even from a distance) at another dog, as this can be a threatening signal to other dogs.
- 35. Avoid Close Proximity:** Never allow your dog to approach a person's lap or bed when another dog is already there. Take extra precautions in doorways, elevators or any tight, confined areas.
- 36. Facility Animals:** If a facility has free-roaming animals or family pets that might be present during a visit, ATD handlers should request that they be allowed to visit in an area away from the other animals.
- 37. Your Dog is Your First Priority:** While participating on an official ATD visit, handlers must have their attention on their dogs for the safety and welfare of their therapy dogs as well as those whom they visit. Do not become so comfortable that you become careless. Excuse yourself and your dog from any situation you do not believe will be a positive experience for all involved. Never put yourself or your dog in a questionable or threatening situation.

Handlers should evaluate their dog's health and attitude, as well as their own, prior to every visit.

- 38. Stay Alert:** ATD handlers must be alert to their surroundings at all times. Handlers may not participate in activities that take their attention away from their dogs, including, but not limited to, reading to a group, directing a group game like bingo, engaging in physical activity or playing the piano.
- 39. Hold the Leash:** The leash must be attached to the dog and held by the Member's hand at all times during an ATD visit. The leash must be held by the Member's hand and may not be hooked or attached to the Member's body, belt, chair, wall, purse, or another person, etc.
- 40. Maintaining Control:** During visits, always keep your eyes on your dog and work as a team to help people know the best way to interact with your dog. Immediately intervene if you see any signs of stress in your dog. Maintain control of your dog's head at all times. There are a number of ways to do this, including, but not limited to, holding your dog's collar, facing your dog away from the person they are visiting, and/or gently holding your dog's face or chin.

Facial kisses and licks are not allowed in front of the ears of a human or dog.

- 41. Only the Certified Handler May Handle Their Dog:** Handlers must never leave their dog alone with staff, patients, visitors, uncertified handlers, or handlers with other dogs.
- 42. Dogs Being Held by Someone Else:** If the Handler is comfortable, and facility policy allows, ATD allows dogs weighing 15 pounds or less to be held. However:
- You must hold the dog's leash, support your dog while physically controlling the head, and follow all ATD Rules and Guidelines.
 - Do not allow someone to walk around while holding your dog.
 - We recommend seeking a place for the person to sit for the interaction.
 - In the absence of a place to sit, you must assess the situation for the safety of your dog, and the person holding your dog.
- 43. Others Leash Walking Handler's Dog:** If 1 additional person wants to walk the dog, the handler may use two leashes or a 4-foot or shorter 2-loop leash with the handler always holding the shorter leash or loop so that the handler always maintains control of the dog.
- 44. Dogs on Laps and Furniture:** The ATD Handler must know and strictly adhere to the facility policy concerning dogs on any laps or furniture and have permission from the resident or patient. This is for all furniture, including, but not limited to, chairs, couches, wheelchairs, beds, or physical therapy beds and pads. The Handler must be in control of the dog's head at all times.
- **Laps:** If the facility policy allows, and permission from the patient or guardian is given, ATD allows dogs weighing 15 pounds or less to be placed in a person's lap. When placing a dog in someone's lap, be sure to face the dog away from the person's face, presenting the back and shoulders to be petted. Do not present the dog face-to-face with the person.
 - **Occupied Furniture:** Dogs weighing 50 pounds or less can be placed onto furniture occupied by a resident or patient. The Handler must lift the dog onto and remove it from the occupied bed, chair, or locked wheelchair without injury to the resident or patient. Dogs are never allowed to jump up or down from any furniture. Dogs weighing more than 50 pounds may never be placed onto occupied furniture. If using paws up on a bed or chair, the Handler must control the movement of the dog to avoid injury to the patient. Regarding linens or coverings, refer to a facility's procedures about placing a dog on a resident's or patient's bed, chair or lap.
 - For safety reasons, ATD will allow only 1 dog at a time on any occupied furniture as described above.
 - Be cautious around patients who might have existing or recent injuries or surgery with regard to placement of the dog so as not to cause an injury with the dog's feet or body weight. Always ask if the person has a sore spot or if there is an area that you should avoid when placing the dog near them. Remember to watch

for tubes, lines, and other medical equipment.

- **Unoccupied Furniture:** When space allows, dogs of any size may be lifted and safely placed by the handler onto unoccupied furniture such as a couch or loveseat.

45. Photos and Videos of Your Dog: Dogs must be on a leash when posing for photos or videos while on a visit. The Handler may only drop the leash for a photo or video if the dog is not posing with a person or any other animal(s).

For group photos, all leashes must be held, and the Two-foot Rule must be observed. Your dog is your first priority. When taking photos or videos, always consider the safety and appropriateness of the situation. (See Rule 38.)

For more information, refer to Rule No. 49.

46. Dog Tricks and Demonstrations: Only if safe conditions exist, and it is necessary for the success of the trick, the handler may drop the leash or the dog may be taken off the leash when performing tricks, demonstrations, and when assisting with therapy. This applies to only 1 dog at a time. As soon as the trick or demonstration is complete, and before interacting with people, the dog must be leashed and the leash held in the handler's hand.

VIII. Special Permission

47. Special Permission: It is ATD's policy not to grant exceptions to the rules due to safety and insurance reasons. Please note, 2 dogs with 1 handler are never allowed on any visit while representing ATD.

ATD sometimes grants special permission for certain circumstances. Members may apply to the Certification Committee by submitting a cover letter explaining the reason for their request. If the request involves special equipment, such as a dog carrier or cart, a photo of the dog with the equipment is required. Certain requests may also require letters of reference from someone directly involved or those who will need to be aware of these situations, such as a facility, hospital, school, etc. Obtain the appropriate information from the ATD Office.

Special permission might be granted for the following:

- 2 or more dogs off lead at the same time, each with their own handler, participating in a trick, demonstration or presentation.
- Special equipment or devices such as carts, dog carriers, etc.

IX. Legal Issues

48. Privacy: Observe all rules of privacy and confidentiality as required by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). Never discuss a patient's health or personal issues with the patient or anyone else. Handlers may not share

identifying information about those they visit.

49. Media Authorization: If photos or videos are allowed at a facility or function, for the privacy of those we visit and to protect both ATD and our Members from liability, Members must have an ATD Media Authorization Release Form signed prior to taking any photo or video that identifies any individual (e.g. face, tattoo, birthmark, scar, etc.). If you have a signed ATD Media Authorization Release Form and are posting or publishing a photo or video on your own, you should keep the form on file for your own protection. The signed ATD Media Authorization Release Form must accompany any submission to an ATD-managed publication or social media platform. ATD keeps them on file and does not delete them. A facility or organization photo release may not be used in place of the ATD Media Authorization Release Form.

50. Distribution of Materials and Information During Visits: Members shall not distribute commercial, religious, or political materials and/or information during visits or events sponsored by ATD. Upon request, information may be provided about ATD, local therapy dog groups, and other dog-related topics.

51. Incident: An incident is defined as an event that negatively impacts the visit through behavior, injury, or damage to property involving you or your dog. If an incident to an employee, resident, visitor or dog occurs while representing ATD:

- Immediately contact the facility's supervisor on duty.
- For any incident, end the visit immediately and secure your dog.
- Document the incident on all required forms for the facility.
- Immediately contact the ATD Office and report the incident. If after hours or during a weekend, please leave a voicemail message at 877-843-7364 and contact the ATD Office during the next business day.
- Complete the Incident Report Form at www.therapydogs.com, under the Members tab, or email the ATD Office at office@therapydogs.com.

52. Suspected Dog Bite: Whether it is on an ATD visit or not, if a certified dog is suspected of a dog bite, whether to another dog or to a person, the incident must be reported to the ATD Office within 24 hours. If on an ATD visit, end the visit immediately.

- If after hours or during a weekend, leave a voicemail message 877-843-7364 and contact the ATD Office the next business day.
- Complete the Incident Report Form under the Members tab or email the ATD Office at office@therapydogs.com.
- The dog shall not participate in any pet therapy activity until the bite incident is investigated by ATD.
- The Member must notify the ATD Office if a dog has been deemed dangerous, aggressive, or is given a similar designation as defined by local laws as a result of an incident and documentation verifies it. The certified dog's membership will then be terminated.

53. Felonies: If a Member has been convicted of a felony that has not been previously reported to the ATD Office, they must report it.

X. In Conclusion

ATD reserves the right to deny, revoke or not renew membership. At the discretion of the ATD Board of Directors, a handler/dog team will be asked to temporarily or permanently refrain from further visits under the name of ATD if they fail to comply strictly with these Rules and Regulations (or) as referenced in the ATD Policies or Bylaws. Should a permanent action be necessary, the handler will be requested to return the official red heart ATD identification tag and membership card to the ATD Office.