

BLAZING SADDLES CENTER ASSOCIATION ASSISTANCE ANIMAL POLICY

Adopted April 2, 2024

OVERVIEW

The Federal Fair Housing Act and other state and local fair housing laws require that housing owners and managers provide reasonable accommodations for applicants and residents who have disabilities.¹ The Blazing Saddles Center Association (the “Association”) is committed to granting reasonable accommodations when necessary to afford persons with disabilities the equal opportunity to use and enjoy a dwelling at Blazing Saddles Center. The Association recognizes the importance of Assistance Animals and is dedicated to ensuring that Blazing Saddles residents with Assistance Animals – whether owners, renters, or guests – may keep them in their units.

Reasonable accommodations may include waiving or varying Association rules or policies to allow a disabled resident to keep a service, assistance, support or therapy animal (an “Assistance Animal”). An Assistance Animal is an animal that works, provides assistance, performs tasks for the benefit of a person with a disability, or provides emotional support that alleviates one or more identified symptoms or effects of a person’s disability. The most common Assistance Animals are dogs, although other animals may qualify as Assistance Animals. Assistance Animals are not pets under the Association’s policies, and Assistance Animals will be governed by this policy and not by the Association’s pet policies.

The Association will not deny a request to keep an Assistance Animal solely because the animal has not received formal training. Some Assistance Animals, known as “service animals”, are trained by professionals, their owners, or someone else to work or perform tasks for individuals with disabilities. Other Assistance Animals, however, do not require any special training. The relevant question is whether the animal performs the assistance or provides the benefit needed by the person with a disability to afford that person an equal opportunity to enjoy living at Blazing Saddles.

If an individual requests that the Association accommodate an Assistance Animal, the Association will not ask about the nature or extent of the person’s disability. Many times, both the disability and the assistance provided by the Assistance Animal is obvious – for example, a dog guiding an individual who is blind or has low vision, pulling a person’s wheelchair, or providing assistance with stability to a person with a mobility disability. If this is the case, no further inquiry will be made and the Association will grant the reasonable accommodation.

If it is not readily apparent that an animal is trained to aid an individual with a disability, then before granting a request for an accommodation, the Association will need to make further inquiries and obtain further documentation before granting the request. The Association will ask if the animal is required because of a disability, and may ask what work or tasks the animal has been trained to perform. We will not, however, require documentation that an animal is trained or certified or licensed as a service animal.

¹ Under fair housing laws, a person with a disability is defined as a person who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, a person who is regarded as having such an impairment, or a person with a record of such an impairment. Physical or mental impairments include, but are not limited to, orthopedic, visual, speech and hearing impairments, cerebral palsy, autism, epilepsy, muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, cancer, heart disease, diabetes, HIV, intellectual disabilities, emotional illness, drug addiction (other than addiction caused by current, illegal use of a controlled substance) and alcoholism. The term “substantially limits” suggests that the limitation is significant to a large degree. The term “major life activity” means those activities that are of central importance to daily life, including but not limited to seeing, hearing, walking, breathing, performing manual tasks, caring for one’s self, learning, and speaking.

If the disability and the need for an Assistance Animal are not readily apparent, the Association will require a statement from a health or social service professional, such as a doctor, physician's assistant, psychologist, or clinical social worker containing the information detailed on Exhibit A. We will not ask for information about the disability or the symptoms or effects of the disability that will be alleviated by the Assistance Animal.

In no case will a person requesting an accommodation for an Assistance Animal be charged any fee, deposit, or other charge for making the request or for keeping the Assistance Animal, nor will the person be required to obtain an insurance policy for keeping the Assistance Animal. Since individuals with disabilities are entitled to keep and use Assistance Animals, it is the Association's policy to make the process of obtaining approval to keep an Assistance Animal as minimally burdensome as possible.

In processing requests for Assistance Animals, the Association shall take reasonable measures to protect the confidentiality of any information or documentation disclosed in connection with the requests. Such measures may include limiting access to such information to persons specifically designated to deal with requests for reasonable accommodations, who will disclose information only to the extent necessary to determine whether to grant the request, and keeping all written requests and accompanying documentation in a secure area to which only those designated persons have access, except as otherwise required by law.

It is the responsibility of a Unit Owner or a disabled person who is a resident, tenant, or guest of the Unit Owner to inform the Association as to the need for an Assistance Animal for the Unit Owner or a resident, tenant, or guest of the Unit Owner's Unit, following the procedures set forth in Exhibit A attached hereto.

To request accommodation of an Assistance Animal, the person making the request should use the form attached to this policy as Exhibit B, or obtain a request form from the Association's management company ("Property Management") by email or postal mail at the following addresses:

Blazing Saddles Center Association
Email: webadmin@blazingsaddlescondo.com

If you require assistance in completing the form, Property Management will assist you or will fill out a form based on an oral request. The Association is using the form to record reasonable accommodation requests so that we obtain only the information necessary to make a reasonable accommodation decision and do not obtain confidential information that we do not need to make a reasonable accommodation decision.

If the disability and the need for an Assistance Animal are not readily apparent, the request form will need to be accompanied by the statement described in Section 2 of Exhibit A attached to this policy. To ensure the safety of all Blazing Saddles residents and compliance with local laws, all requests will need to be accompanied by the documentation described in Section 3 of Exhibit A.

Once a completed request is received, Property Management will provide a response within ten (10) days. The person making the request should allow adequate time for obtaining additional information that may be requested to complete the review process. Prior to denying a request, the Association will attempt to engage in an interactive process with the person making the request in which the parties discuss possible alternative accommodations that might effectively meet the person's disability-related needs. The Association recognizes that a person with a disability is generally in the best position to know whether or not a particular accommodation will be effective in meeting his or her needs. If a request is denied, an

explanation for the denial will be included in the written notification of denial.

Assistance Animals will be required to comply with reasonable behavior rules. The Association also can require Assistance Animals to be licensed, if required by the applicable governmental authority. A Unit Owner and the Unit Owner's tenant can be held liable for any damage actually caused by an Assistance Animal registered for such Unit Owner's Unit. Additionally, a Unit Owner and the Unit Owner's tenant can be fined by the Association for nuisances caused by an Assistance Animal.

If an Assistance Animal is unruly or disruptive (aggressively jumping, nipping, biting, excessive barking, etc.), fair housing laws allow the Association to require the owner of the Assistance Animal to remove the animal from a Common Elements or Limited Common Elements. If the animal's inappropriate behavior continues, the Association may require that the resident not bring the animal into a Common Element or Limited Common Element until steps have been taken to mitigate the objectionable behavior (such as refresher training). If mitigation is not undertaken or is not effective to stop the objectionable behavior, or if the Association reasonably believes the Assistance Animal to pose a threat of physical harm to any other resident or visitor to Blazing Saddles, the Association may require that the animal be removed from Blazing Saddles.

EXHIBIT A

Procedure for Requesting Accommodation of an Assistance Animal at Blazing Saddles

1. **Formal Request** – The Unit Owner must provide a letter requesting the accommodation of an Assistance Animal and describing the type of animal being requested. If the Unit Owner is the disabled person to be assisted by the Assistance Animal and he or she does not want to put this request in writing, then he or she can call Property Management to make the request by phone and describe the Assistance Animal. However, the written documentation required below will still be required.
2. **Documentation Establishing Need for Assistance Animal** – If the disability and the need for an Assistance Animal is not readily apparent, the request to the Association must include a letter from a health care or mental care professional (a medical doctor, psychologist, licensed therapist, etc.) who has diagnosed the disability and prescribed the Assistance Animal in order to ameliorate the effects of the disability. This letter does not need to disclose any of the patient’s medical history or any details regarding the disability. However, it does need to state substantially as follows:
 - that the patient is a patient of the health care or mental care professional providing the letter;
 - that the patient’s condition meets the definition of “disability” in the Fair Housing Act, the Americans with Disability Act, or the Rehabilitation Act of 1973;
 - that the health care or mental care professional understands the patient’s history and the functional limitations imposed by his or her disability;
 - that there is a relationship between the disability and the service, support, or assistance the Assistance Animal provides; and
 - that the health care or mental care professional has prescribed the Assistance Animal in order to ameliorate the effects of the disability and that the Assistance Animal is necessary to allow the patient an equal opportunity to use and enjoy housing in Blazing Saddles.
3. **County Registration and Vaccinations/Inoculations** – The Unit Owner making the request must send Property Management a current copy of the Assistance Animal’s Summit County registration or license and a veterinary record showing that the Assistance Animal’s vaccinations and inoculations are current. Required vaccinations for dogs shall include a vaccination for rabies and any other vaccinations required by Summit County. The Unit Owner will be responsible to ensure that Property Management receives updated Summit County registration or license and vaccination/inoculation records throughout the duration of the Assistance Animal’s stay.
4. **Animal Supervision** – The Unit Owner and the owner of the Assistance Animal, if different from the Unit Owner, are responsible for ensuring that the Assistance Animal is cared for and supervised. The owner of the Assistance Animal shall retain full control of the Assistance Animal at all times and ensure that the Assistance Animal is well behaved, is not disruptive to other people, and does not cause damage to a Common Element or Limited Common Element at Blazing Saddles. If the owner of the Assistance Animal does not comply with these requirements, then the Unit Owner will be responsible for fines assessed by the Association and other consequences, including the potential removal of the Assistance Animal as detailed in item 7 below. Any fines or assessments for actual damages will constitute a lien against the Unit Owner’s Unit to the extent provided in the governing documents of the Association. The responsibility of the Unit Owner and the owner of the Assistance Animal includes ensuring that:

- when the Assistance Animal is in a Common Element or Limited Common Element, the Assistance Animal will not be left unattended, and will be on a leash or in a carrier, and under the direct control of its owner;
 - the Assistance Animal will not be allowed to jump, snarl, or nip another person or animal;
 - the Assistance Animal will not be allowed to bark continuously or incessantly for a period of 10 minutes or intermittently for ½ hour or more to the disturbance of another person at any time of day or night;
 - feces from the Assistance Animal will be promptly picked up and taken back to the Owner's Unit or properly disposed of in a garbage receptacle, and not disposed of under bushes, in other types of vegetation, or under snow, and failure to properly dispose of animal feces may result in a fine pursuant to the Association's governing documents, rules and regulations;
 - during winter months, liquid waste from the Assistance Animal will be covered with snow, so as to conceal discoloration, and during the rest of the year, liquid waste should not cause damage to grass or be placed on the side of a building;
 - if assistance is needed with cleanup of the Assistance Animal's waste, this will be arranged for by the owner of the Assistance Animal at such owners' expense and will not be a responsibility of the Association or Property Management.
5. **Insurance** – The Association does not require any specific insurance as a condition to allowing an Assistance Animal at Blazing Saddles. However, each Unit Owner in the Association is required to maintain a homeowner's insurance policy and, to the extent allowed Colorado law, is responsible for covering the Association's deductible for any casualty loss occurring within their Unit or that otherwise damages their Unit, regardless of fault. Additionally, each Unit Owner is instructed to obtain adequate homeowner's insurance for their personal property and liability exposure. Unit Owners are advised to review options for ensuring adequate coverage to protect against the actions of any tenant or guest, including any damage done by an Assistance Animal owned by such tenant or guest. Although a Unit Owner can require all tenants to have a renter's insurance policy, a Unit Owner cannot require that a tenant carry a specific policy as a condition to having an Assistance Animal in a Unit. A Unit Owner also can decide to add as tenant as a co-insured under the Unit Owner's homeowner's policy. The Association encourages all Unit Owners to contact a competent insurance agent who is familiar with condominium insurance and make sure that their homeowner's policies cover the Association's deductible amount and adequately address their liability risks and other exposures.
6. **Rental Agreements** – Unit Owners will be held accountable for all violations by their tenants and guests of the provisions of the Association's governing documents, including the Association's rules and regulations (collectively, "Rules") and are required to address any such violation. All lease and rental agreements affecting any Unit in Blazing Saddles must be in writing and must require compliance with all Rules, including, if applicable, all rules pertaining to Assistance Animals.
7. **Removal of an Assistance Animal** – If an Assistance Animal is unruly or disruptive (aggressively jumping, nipping, barking, etc.), the Association may require that the owner of the Assistance Animal remove the animal from a Common Element or Limited Common Element. If the animal's inappropriate behavior continues after notice from the Association to the owner, the Association may require that the owner not bring the animal into a Common Element or Limited Common Element until steps have been taken to mitigate the behavior (such as refresher training). If mitigation is not undertaken or if it is not

effective to stop the objectionable behavior, or if the Association reasonably believes the Assistance Animal to pose a threat of physical harm to any other resident of or visitor to Blazing Saddles, the Association may require that the animal be removed from Blazing Saddles.

EXHIBIT B
FORM TO REQUEST AN ASSISTANCE ANIMAL

If you or a member of your household or someone associated with you has a disability and you feel that there is a need for an Assistance Animal as a reasonable accommodation for the person with a disability to use and enjoy a dwelling unit or a common area at Blazing Saddles Center, please complete this form and return it to webadmin@blazingsaddlescondo.com. Please check all items that apply and answer all questions. We will answer this request in writing within ten (10) days. If you require assistance in completing this form, please Email: webadmin@blazingsaddlescondo.com for assistance in completing this form or to make an oral request for a reasonable accommodation.

Name: _____

Today's date: _____

The person who has a disability requiring a reasonable accommodation is (please check one):

Me A person associated or living with me

Name of person with disability: _____

Phone#: _____

Address: _____

I am requesting accommodation of an assistance animal so that a person with a disability can have an equal opportunity to use and enjoy the premises.

Designate the species, e.g., "dog," "cat," "bird": _____

If the request is to keep an animal that is trained to perform work or do tasks for an individual with a disability:

Is the animal required because of a disability? Yes No

State at least one task or type of work that the animal has been trained to perform:

OR

If the request is to keep an animal that is not trained to perform work or do tasks for an individual with a disability, provide a statement from a health or social service professional containing substantially the following statements:

- that the patient is a patient of the health care or mental care professional providing the letter;
- that the patient's condition meets the definition of "disability" in the Fair Housing Act, the Americans with Disability Act, or the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (please do not provide any information regarding the nature or extent of the disability);
- that the health care or mental care professional understands the patient's history and the functional limitations imposed by his or her disability;

