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GOLETA VALLEY LIBRARY SERVICE ANIMALS POLICY

PERMITTABLE SERVICE ANIMALS

Only animals that are legally recognized as service animals are permitted inside the library.

A recognized “service animal” is a *dog* or *miniature horse* that is “trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability... Other species of animals, whether wild or domestic, trained or untrained, are not service animals for the purposes of this definition.” 28 C.F.R. § 35.104.

Acceptable work for service animals includes, *but is not limited to*: assisting those hard of hearing, vision, or equilibrium problems, non-violent protection or rescue, pulling a wheelchair, assisting individuals in seizures. Service animals in training are permissible.

ANIMALS THAT ARE NOT RECOGNIZED

Federal law does NOT acknowledge dogs as a crime deterrent or emotional support, well-being, comfort, or companionship.

EXCLUSIONS

Any animal posing a direct threat. Any legally recognized service animal that presents “a direct threat to the health or safety of others.”

Uncontrollable & un-housebroken animals. If an animals’ behavior rises to a level in which a person would also be asked to leave the premises, exclusion is allowable. Animals that demonstrate that they are not housebroken are also to be excluded.

Leash/Restraint requirements. Federal law requires the use of a leash or tether unless the handler’s disability makes them unable to do so or the restraint would affect the animal’s performance of its tasks.