



Alliance of Therapy Dogs
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Code of Ethics

Alliance of Therapy Dogs (ATD) is committed to a Code of Ethics that will guide the performance, conduct and behavior of its Employees, Board of Directors, and Members (Tester/Observers, Handlers, and Supporting Members).

1. I will maintain high standards of honesty, integrity, and impartiality, free from personal considerations, favoritism, or partisan demands.
2. I will read and adhere to the ATD Rules and Regulations and procedures as published annually in the ATD Member Handbook, not only while visiting, but also when posting on social media.
3. I will treat all dogs with care and respect at all times.
4. I will uphold my volunteer duties to the highest standards and not use them to benefit my position, education, or professional title(s).
5. I will be courteous and considerate when dealing with the public, in person, electronically, and on social media, realizing that I serve the public.
6. I will visit without discrimination against any person, facility, facility employee, or any member of the public, regardless of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, disability, or national origin.
7. I will be firm, fair and consistent in the performance of my volunteer duties and shall treat others with dignity, respect, and compassion, void of all retribution, harassment, or abuse.
8. I will maintain mutual respect and professional cooperation with other ATD Members, Board of Directors and ATD employees.
9. I will act cordially and professionally toward other certified therapy dog teams regardless of registry and I will conduct myself in a manner that will not bring discredit or embarrassment to ATD when performing my volunteer duties.
10. I will seek assistance from the ATD Office or ATD Board President if I have questions or concerns about any volunteer guidelines, rules, and/or procedures, including the Code of Ethics, without fear of retribution or retaliation.
11. I will use my certified therapy dog for their intended purpose when volunteering, never misrepresenting them as a service dog.
12. I will volunteer for the benefit of those I visit without expectation or solicitation of any financial reward for these efforts.