BONAFIDE THERAPY DOGS 2023 - WAIVER/RULES AND REGULATIONS

 Each member must renew this waiver once a year.

 Original signature needed- No Faxes, Scans or Copies

1) The dog must be under control and guidance of their handler at all times during visits/special events. The dog is **always on a leash,** and the **handler always holding the leash.** Retractable or chain leashes/collars are not permitted. **No dogs are to be placed on a person's lap or on a bed. Small breed dogs must be held by the handler and at a safe distance for petting only.**

2) **Handlers must be dressed appropriately; We ask that you wear a white shirt, any color long pants and closed shoes such as sneakers, sketchers, or any other rubber soled shoe. No bare midriffs, spaghetti straps, torn clothing or flip flops**. **A** **BTD photo ID badge if given to you, must be worn by the handler where it is visible at all times during all visits/special events. ID badges are given out on a certain basis, and they are only good with our organization, and are to be used only with our group in the state of Florida.**

3**) Dogs must be clean, well groomed and wear a flat buckle collar, Therapy Dog harness, martingale or other limited slip collars during the visit /special event. Equipment used for training purposes are prohibited (Prong Collars, Metal Chokers) from being used on all visits/special events.**

4) **BTD** dogs are not allowed food treats during visits/special events, except as a reward given by the handler during a demonstration, trick, and after they have moved away from the patient, resident, child.

5) **BTD** Therapy Dog teams provide emotional support, and are not to be used for physical therapy or pulling clients in wheeled apparatus. Any physical interaction, other than petting or general affectionate contact is prohibited.

6) Female dogs must **not** be in estrus when participating in visits/ special events.

7) In order to maintain the integrity of all **BTD** therapy team membership you may not use **BTD** for personal or financial gain. This rule applies to but not limited to the following: access public accommodations generally not open to dogs, for the sale of dogs, or as a title to enhance the dog's pedigree.

8) **BTD** teams maintain high standards of courtesy and professionalism while representing **BTD**. Teams will be well prepared during all visits/special events. Negative talk/behavior about other **BTD** team members or staff and /or other organizations is not acceptable and is grounds for revocation of registration.

9) Any incident involving any dogs, people, or property during a visit/ special event must be reported immediately to a **BTD** staff member. **BTD** reserves the right to investigate any and all incidents and will conclude its investigation within 30 days. Team registration might be temporarily suspended pending the investigation.

10) Each **BTD** team must take a yearly refresher class upon yearly renewal at no cost to them before the yearly insurance is paid. Classes will be conducted by an AKC Certified Evaluator. As a member you are allowed at no cost to jump into any class, to keep your dog updated on their training, and new techniques as long as the insurance is paid after the evaluation.

11) All photos taken are the property of Bonafide Therapy Dogs, Inc., and cannot be used for any purpose unless permission was granted for use by **BTD**. All photos must include Bonafide Therapy Dogs as an @ or Hashtag #

**Insurance: BTD**Volunteer General liability Insurance covers each currently registered member/team ***only while volunteering in a scheduled group event held by BTD*. *(You are not covered under our policy if you go into a facility by yourself, or go out of state)***The **BTD**insurance ***will not*** cover injuries and/or damages if a team is in violation of **BTD** rules. Handlers agree to indemnify and hold harmless **BTD**for injuries and/or damages. Paid professionals who use their therapy dogs while on the job ***are not covered*** under**BTD**Volunteer General liability Insurance. Handlers under 18 years of age must be accompanied by their parent for all visiting/events and must be approved by **BTD** prior to each visit**.**

**Member Guarantee:** My sole reason for becoming a **BTD**Team is to share companionship & comfort. My signature indicates I have read the above Rules and Regulations of **BTD**, Inc., and will always abide by these Rules while representing **BTD*.*** Violation of any**BTD**Rule or Regulation may result in my immediate suspension of visiting or dismissal from **BTD*. No refunds will be given if suspended, or decided by the BTD board.***

***SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***

***PRINTED NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ PARENT SIGNATURE (If under 18 yrs. of age) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_DATE: \_\_\_***