

# TAIL WAGGING WARRIORS **SERVICE DOGS**

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Jordan Dove  
*[jdogdove@hotmail.com](mailto:jdogdove@hotmail.com)*

# Welcome to Tail Wagging Warriors!

Whether this is your first service dog prospect, or you are a seasoned handler, I look forward to supporting the two of you on this journey.

## **My training philosophy -**

I see and hear every dog as an individual, with their own unique perspectives, drives, and emotions that create the foundations of their behavior.

I truly believe that in order for any human-canine team to be successful, communication, empathy, trust, and understanding must be well established between the pair. I use science-based training methods, positive reinforcement, and applied animal behavior to support the growth of successful teams.

## **Program Goals -**

- Facilitate partnership, communication, and teamwork between owner trainers and their assistance dogs
- To provide a personalized program that aids in the foundational training, task training, and public access training at the pace of each individual team
- Education in disability rights, canine communication and behavior, and state of the art training methods
- An ethical approach to working animals that focuses on the overall welfare, emotional, and psychological health of each dog
- To create a supportive, accessible, and welcoming community of likeminded service dog handlers

## **My experience -**

Alongside the internships and the animal behavior certification from the University of Washington, I am a service dog handler myself. I wouldn't be the capable person I am today without him on the other side of the leash.

## What makes a legitimate service dog team?

1. A task trained dog that specifically aids one disabled individual
2. Adequate obedience and public access training

*There is no required certification used in the United States.*

## Emotional Support Dogs vs. Service Animals

Service dogs are individually *tasked trained* for a specific person, while emotional support dogs may not necessarily be trained at all. Service dogs get public access, may live in non-pet friendly housing, and have the right to fly with their handler in the cabin on all domestic flights. Emotional support dogs DO NOT have public access rights but can both live in non-pet friendly housing and fly without an additional fee.

## TASK EXAMPLES

### Mobility:

- Retrievals and carrying items
- Opening and closing doors
- Assistance removing clothing
- Turning on and off the lights
- Forward momentum
- Counterbalance and bracing

### Medical Alert/Response:

- Alert and respond to oncoming medical episode (seizures, cortisol changes, diabetes, etc.)
- Alert to changes in heart rate

### Psychiatric:

- Interrupt episodes of emotional dysregulation
- Interrupt disassociation
- Panic attack response
- Crowd control and blocking
- Pressure therapy and tactical stimulation
- Interrupt self-harming behaviors

### Hearing and Visual Assistance:

- Guide
- Locate exit
- Press buttons
- Notify handler of specific sounds/noises
- Retrieve phone
- Alert handler to person approaching

# TRAINING OVERVIEW

Training a service dog is a long and challenging process. It is by no means an easy or straight forward task, but in the end, it pays off! Every team learns at a different pace, the timeline and prices shown here are an estimate - not a guaranty.

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## Enrollment

Initial Service Dog Orientation, Task Training Plan and Training Binder  
*\$110.00*

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## Foundational Training

The first focus will be on building the foundational behaviors necessary for passing the Canine Good Citizen Evaluation. This includes leash manners, basic obedience, engagement, and working around mild to moderate distractions. During this period, we will determine whether or not your dog will be suited for the job.

*\$400.00 - \$1,500.00*

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## Task Training & Advanced Obedience

After the CGC, we will tackle task training and public access preparation. This can be done through a combination of any in person training service.

*\$400.00 - \$1,500.00*

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## Public Access Training

For the next 6 to 12 months, we will be proofing obedience, increasing public exposure, and solidifying task training. At this point, the focus shifts to building your confidence as a handler. You will learn how to navigate public spaces, understand and advocate for your dog, and train through any challenges you may encounter. *\$1,000.00 - \$2,000.00*

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## Public Access Test

The final step would be passing the public access test! Maintenance training is always recommended. *\$120.00*

# SERVICES

There is no 'one size fits all' when it comes to training. So, let's work together to create a training plan that best suits your personal needs, goals, and ability.

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## **Private Lessons**

The goal of these 1 on 1 sessions is to empower you, as your dog's partner, with the skills necessarily to communicate, problem solve, and learn together as a team.

*\$100 (+ travel fees)/60-minute lesson*

## **Walk & Trains**

This service provides an option for those who are looking to set up consistent and structured weekly training without having to be present during the session.

*\$65 (+ travel fees)/60-minute session*

## **Online Training Program**

The online program includes, 1 on 1 lessons, 24/7 training support, planning, journaling, worksheets, and access to an exclusive training group with likeminded handlers.

*\$120/month*

## **Group Training and Workshops**

Group outings provide an excellent opportunity to proof your training and meet other teams in the area.

*\$50/group lesson, \$120/workshop*

## **Board & Train**

This 2-3 week overnight service includes multiple daily training sessions, enrichment, socialization, detailed training logs, weekly private lessons, and a take home training regimen.

*\$70/day*