

WAIVER OF LIABILITY AND RELEASE OF CLAIMS

CAUTION: THIS DOCUMENT AFFECTS YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS. READ BEFORE SIGNING.

_____, (“minor”) and _____, (“parent”) state and agree as follows:
(Print name of minor) (Print name of parent)

1. Minor wishes to be a volunteer at West Suburban Humane Society (“WSHS”). Minor and parent understand that the opportunity to become a volunteer at WSHS is a benefit that WSHS is granting minor and parent, and in consideration of receiving that benefit, minor and parent consent to the terms of this waiver and release. Minor and parent understand that WSHS’s agreement to allow minor to become a volunteer for WSHS is completely dependent upon minor and parent’s agreement to the terms of this waiver and release.
2. Minor and parent understand that becoming a volunteer at WSHS creates a risk of injury to me in several different ways, including, but not limited to, the following:
 - A. Minor and parent understand that becoming a volunteer at WSHS involves close contact with animals, whose behavior is not known or predictable, and which can include, but is not limited to, biting, scratching, and the transmission of disease. Minor and parent understand that the health status of the animals with which minor and parent will be in close contact is not always known to WSHS. Minor and parent understand that close contact with animals creates a risk of injury to minor.
 - B. Minor and parent understand that the condition of the premises at WSHS may also create a risk of injury to minor, including but not limited to a risk of falling on slippery or uneven floors, falling due to the presence of objects on the floors, or a risk of objects falling on me.
 - C. Minor and parent understand that becoming a volunteer at WSHS creates other risks of injury to me that cannot be specifically foreseen or enumerated.
3. Minor and parent have been given an opportunity to ask questions of a WSHS employee regarding possible risks to minor created by minor becoming a volunteer at WSHS. Any such questions have been answered to minor and parent’s satisfaction. Minor and parent further understand that if questions arise during the course of minor’s volunteer experience, WSHS employees are available to answer any such questions. Minor and parent agree that minor and parent’s decision for minor to continue volunteering at WSHS will be an indication that any such additional questions have been answered to minor and parent’s satisfaction.
4. Minor and parent have discussed possible risks to minor created by minor becoming a volunteer at WSHS. Minor agrees that he/she has a complete understanding of the nature and extend of such risks, including an understanding that some risks cannot be specifically foreseen or enumerated. Parent also believes that minor has a complete understanding of the nature and extent of such risks, including an understanding that some risks cannot be specifically foreseen or enumerated.
5. Minor and parent hereby explicitly and voluntarily assume any and all risks of injury to minor that are created by minor becoming a volunteer at WSHS. Minor and parent further hereby release WSHS (including all officers, directors, members, employees, and volunteers thereof)

from any liability and waive any claim or cause of action either minor or parent may have against WSHS (including all officers, directors, members, employees, and volunteers thereof), under whatever legal theory and whether based on statute or common law, arising out of any injury minor may sustain in the course of volunteering at WSHS. Minor and parent understand that this release of liability and waiver of claims is intended to completely protect WSHS (including all officers, directors, members, employees, and volunteers thereof) arising out of any injury minor may sustain in the course of volunteering at WSHS.

6. Minor and parent understand that WSHS cannot provide insurance coverage, whether self-provided or through a third-party, to pay for medical expenses incurred by volunteers as a result of injuries sustained during the course of volunteering at WSHS. Based on this understanding, and based on minor and parent's agreement to waive any and all claims against WSHS for injuries sustained in the course of volunteering at WSHS, minor and parent agree that, during the course of volunteering at WSHS, minor and parent will carry adequate insurance coverage to pay for any medical expenses incurred as a result of injuries minor and parent may sustain during the course of volunteering at WSHS.
7. Minor agrees to follow the WSHS policies written below while volunteering at WSHS.
8. Minor and parent agree that the validity of this release of liability and waiver of claims is to be governed by Illinois law in all circumstances.
9. Minor and parent have read and understand this document completely. Minor and parent have been given an opportunity to ask questions of a WSHS employee regarding the terms of this document, and any such questions have been answered to minor and parent's satisfaction. Minor and parent have also discussed this document with each other. Minor understands the terms of this document completely. Parent also believes that minor understands this document completely.

Signature (Minor) Date

Signature (Parent) Date

WSHS Rules and Regulations

- Do not put your fingers in any of the animals' cages during open business hours.
- No animals are to be taken off premises for any reason.
- Any animal on hold should not be handled or shown to the public.
- Follow all notes and special instructions written on the cage cards.
- No treats or improper toys should be given i.e., rawhides for the dogs, straws for the cats.
- No roughhousing or inappropriate play with the animals.