

**UUFSD Policy and Procedure Document****Policy ID: 752****Title: Pets**

Date Approved: November 16, 2014 by the Board of Directors

**Purpose**

The intent of this pet policy is to keep UUFSD a safe and welcoming place for everyone. We recognize and affirm our 7<sup>th</sup> principle: Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part. We recognize the deep connection many people have with their pets. However, we also recognize that some people are allergic to animals and some are uncomfortable around animals. The presence of pets, even on a leash, can be distracting during a worship service, and animal behavior is not always predictable or controllable.

**Policy**

In response to concerns about hygiene, safety, and desire for reverence in worship, we hereby ask members and guests not to bring pets to the Fellowship on Sundays. Service animals are not covered by this policy.<sup>1</sup>

At other times of the week, if pets are brought to the Fellowship, they must be on a leash or in a crate and supervised at all times. Pets are not allowed in the kitchen or other areas where food is being prepared or served at any time. Pets that are visiting the campus must be house-trained. Owners are expected to clean up any mess from their pets. Owners will be held responsible for any costs incurred due to soiling or other damage to Fellowship property by visiting animals.

**Procedure**

This policy is intended to be flexibly enforced. Communication is the first resort. If a pet is in violation of this policy, the responsible person enforcing the policy shall request the owner of the pet to respect the policy going forward. If necessary the responsible person shall ask the owner of the pet to remove the pet from the Fellowship grounds.

During Sundays, the Board greeter on duty shall be responsible for enforcing this policy. During the week, the Congregational Administrator shall be responsible. At specific events, such as Saturday work parties, the coordinator or chairman of the event shall be responsible.

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<sup>1</sup> Under current regulations of the Americans with Disabilities Act, a service animal is a dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for a person with a disability. The work or task a dog has been trained to provide must be directly related to the person's disability. Dogs whose sole function is to provide comfort or emotional support do not qualify as service animals under the ADA.