



OCEAN CITY BEACH PATROL

WEEKLY BULLETIN

Week of July 20, 2020 to July 27, 2020

MONDAY, JULY 20, 2020

WEEKLY MEETING FOR OFFICERS, CREW CHIEFS, & ACCs- Masks & Social Distancing Required

CONVENTION CENTER – 40th STREET-Southwest corner on steps- 08:00hrs

Rookie Meeting & Semaphore Test -Convention Center -08:30hrs -Mandatory!

*** All rookies must attend this meeting, even if they are off probation! ***

OCBPSRA: Finished for the season

Opportunity to Compete: Crew Comps- August 8 -Caroline St. -18:30hrs

Mandatory Daily Workout: Run Day- Crew Chief determines specific workouts.

Surfing Beaches: Inlet / 3rd St. / 71st St.

Tides: High: 07:51hrs

Low: 13:53hrs

Special Events: OC Rec & Parks / Endless Summer Surf Camp- 38th St.- 17:30hrs

Beach Bonfires – 87th St., 88th St., 109th St., 107th St., 110th St., 127th St., & 140th St. -18:00hrs

Beach Weddings -56th St. -18:00hrs



Please Note!
Completed stats are due each Monday by 18:00hrs.

TUESDAY, JULY 21, 2020

JBP Academy III: Morning Section C- Day 1- 08:00hrs – 11:30hrs (Instructors report at 07:30hrs)

Afternoon Section A - Day 1- 13:00hrs- 16:30hrs

OCBPSRA: Finished for the season

Opportunity to Compete: OCBP Floor Hockey- 61st St. Bayside Tennis Courts -18:30hrs

Mandatory Daily Workout: Swim Day- Crew Chief determines specific workouts.

Surfing Beaches: Inlet / 1st St. / 69th St.

Tides: High: 08:39hrs

Low: 14:40hrs

Special Events: Beach Safety Seminar- OC Lifesaving Museum- 10:00hrs

OC Rec & Parks / Endless Summer Surf Camp- 38th St.- 17:30hrs

Beach Bonfires- 31st, 33rd, 47th, 58th, 61st, 67th, 83rd St., 86th St., 119th St., 120th St. 127th St., 141st St., 144th St., & 146th St.- 18:00hrs

OCBP Floor Hockey
Tuesdays, July 21 & 28
Aug. 4, 11, & 18
OC Bayside Tennis Courts
61st St. 18:30hrs
Free
Wear Your Athletic Shoes.
No Blades!

Additional Note About Stats!
All crew member names must be entered in the new stats' weekly spreadsheet by 18:00 each Tuesday.

S.R.T. Name:	Monday 7/20/2020	Tuesday 7/21/2020	Wednesday 7/22/2020	Thursday 7/23/2020	Friday 7/24/2020	Saturday 7/25/2020	Sunday 7/26/2020	CREW Crew
Daily Assignment								
								Totals
Rescues								
Preventative Actions								
First Aids								
Smoking Enforcement								

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 2020

JBP Academy III: Morning Section C- Day 2- 08:00hrs – 11:30hrs (Instructors report at 07:30hrs)

Afternoon Section A- Day 2- 13:00hrs- 16:30hrs

OCBPSRA: Finished for the season

Opportunity to Compete: Crew Comps- August 8 -Caroline St. -18:30hrs

Mandatory Daily Workout: Run Day- Crew Chief determines specific workouts.

Surfing Beaches: Inlet / Caroline St. / 67th St. ***Stands move tonight!

Tides: High: 09:27hrs

Low: 15:29hrs

Special Events: Beach Bonfires- 35th, 52nd, 84th, 98th, 118th, 124th 127th St., 133rd St., 138th St., 139th St. & 145th St.- 18:00hrs

Movies on the Beach -118th St. -18:30hrs

THURSDAY, JULY 23, 2020

JBP Academy III: Morning Section C- Day 3- 08:00hrs – 11:30hrs (Instructors report at 07:30hrs)

Afternoon Section A- Day 3- 13:00hrs- 16:30hrs

JBP One-Day Clinic: 13:00hrs-16:30hrs- Tell the kids on your beach before today so they can register for the clinic!

Camp Horizon: 127th St. beach -Two Groups: 10:30hrs-12:30hrs & 13:00hrs-15:00hrs (Instructors report at 10:00hrs)

OCBPSRA: Finished for the season

Opportunity to Compete: Crew Comps- August 8 -Caroline St. -18:30hrs

Mandatory Daily Workout: Swim Day- Crew Chief determines specific workouts.

Surfing Beaches: Inlet / 66th St. / 146th St.

Tides: High: 10:16hrs

Low: 16:20hrs

Special Events: Beach Bonfires- 38th, 51st, 62nd, 115th, 119th St., 136th St., & 145th St. - 18:00hrs

Family Beach Olympics- 118th St. - 18:30hrs to 20:30hrs

Sunset Park Party Night- 8 *Track Mind* -S. Division St. Bayside- 19:00hrs

Thursday Night Fireworks -Talbot St. -22:30hrs

FRIDAY, JULY 24, 2020- Pay Day

JBP Academy III: Morning Section C- Day 4- 08:00hrs –11:30hrs (Instructors report at 07:30hrs)

Afternoon Section A- Day 4- 13:00hrs- 16:30hrs

OCBPSRA: Finished for the season

Opportunity to Compete: Crew Comps- August 8 -Caroline St. -18:30hrs

Mandatory Daily Workout: Run Day- Crew Chief determines specific workouts.

Surfing Beaches: Inlet / 64th St. / 144th St.

Tides: High: 11:06hrs

Low: 17:15hrs

Special Events: Beach Bonfires- 30th St., 31st St., 39th St., 46th St., 64th St., 100th St., 112th St., & 133rd St.- 18:00hrs

Movies on the Beach -27th St. -18:30hrs

SATURDAY, JULY 25, 2020

OCBPSRA: Finished for the season

Opportunity to Compete: Crew Comps- August 8 -Caroline St. -18:30hrs

Mandatory Daily Workout: Swim Day- Crew Chief determines specific workouts.

Surfing Beaches: 62nd St. / 142nd St.

Tides: High: 11:59hrs

Low: 18:13hrs

Special Events: Beach Weddings- 52nd St.- 18:00hrs

Beach Bonfires- 37th St., 62nd St., 125th St., 127th St., 128th St., 133rd St., 134th St., 139th St., 142nd St.- 18:00hrs

JBP One Day Clinic
Thursday afternoons
July 23, 30 & August 6, 8, 13
13:00hrs to 16:30hrs
Spread the word to kids ages
10-17 who go to the beach near
you. This weekly one-day
activity is perfect for kids who
are interested in having fun and
learning about lifeguarding.



Ocean City
Junior Beach Patrol
Looking towards the Future

Participants receive an official
OCBP t-shirt, whistle, and
sunscreen.



Keep your feet in the sand,
until the lifeguard's in the stand!



SUNDAY, JULY 26, 2020

OCBPSRA: Finished for the season

Opportunity to Compete: Crew Comps- August 8 -Caroline St. -18:30hrs

Mandatory Daily Workout: Run Day- Crew Chief determines specific workouts.

Surfing Beaches: 60th St. / 140th St.

Tides: High: 12:55hrs

Low: 06:46hrs

Special Events: Beach Bonfires- 34th St., 36th St., 56th St., 91st St., 124th St., 129th St., & 137th St.- 18:00hrs

Sundaes in the Park Concert & Fireworks- *Groovalicious*- Northside Park- 19:00hrs

MONDAY, JULY 27, 2020

WEEKLY MEETING FOR OFFICERS, CREW CHIEFS, & ACCs- Masks & Social Distancing Required

CONVENTION CENTER – 40th STREET-Southwest corner on steps- 08:00hrs

Rookie Meeting & Semaphore Test -Convention Center -08:30hrs -Mandatory!

***** All rookies must attend this meeting, even if they are off probation! *****

OCBPSRA: Finished for the season

Opportunity to Compete: Crew Comps- August 8 -Caroline St. -18:30hrs

Mandatory Daily Workout: Run Day- Crew Chief determines specific workouts.

Surfing Beaches: Inlet / 58th St. / 138th St.

Tides: High: 13:55hrs

Low: 07:38hrs

Special Events: USSSA Fast Pitch Eastern World Series Tournament Opening Ceremonies- Inlet- 15:00hrs -17:30hrs

Beach Bonfires- 32nd St., 39th St., 52nd St., 94th St., 95th St., 110th St., 113th St., 118th St., 131st St., 137th St. & 146th St.- 18:00hrs

Jesus at the Beach Festival- Caroline St.- 19:00hrs to 22:00hrs

UPCOMING 2020 BEACH PATROL EVENTS

July 21-24	JBP Camp Session III- A.M., P.M. & One-Day on July 23
July 24	Pay Day
July 28-31	JBP Session IV- A.M., P.M. & One-Day on July 30
July 31	OCBP Paintball Night -West OC -18:45hrs
Aug. 1, 5, 8, & 15	Pre-Employment Physical Skills Evaluations for 2021 -Dorchester St. -09:00hrs
Aug. 4-7	JBP Session V- A.M., P.M. & One-Day on Aug. 6
Aug 8.	Crew Comps -Caroline St. -18:30hrs
Aug. 11-14	OCBPSRA SRT 2 / Round 3- Dorchester St.- 08:00hrs

Upcoming Town of Ocean City Special Events

Endless Summer Surf Camp	July 20-21	38 th St.	17:30hrs-19:30hrs
Movies on the Beach	July 22, 29	118 th St.	20:00hrs
Family Beach Olympics	July 23, 30	118 th St.	18:30hrs
Sunset Park Party Nights	July 23	S. Division St.	19:00hrs
Thursday's Downtown Beach Fireworks	July 23, 30	Talbot St. beach	22:30hrs
Movies on the Beach	July 24, 31	27 th St.	20:00hrs
Sundaes in the Park	July 26	Northside Park	19:00hrs
Jesus at the Beach Festival	July 27-29	N. Division St.	22:00hrs
White Marlin Open	August 3-7	OC Fishing Center	Daily
Endless Summer Surfing Camp	August 10-11	38 th St.	17:30hrs-19:30hrs
OC Air Show	August 15-16	14 th -17 th St.	10:00hrs



OCBP Surf Rescue Association – Price List

Whistles \$6.00	Lanyards \$6.00	OCBP Stickers—Small--\$2.00 or 3 for \$5.00
Long-sleeve Tie-Dyed T-shirts- \$20.00		Large—\$3.00 or 2 for \$5.00
Charcoal long-sleeve jerseys- \$30.00		Car window sticker Ocean City Beach Patrol—\$2.00
Grey Zippered Hoodie- \$30.00		Swim Caps -\$5.00
Grey or white short-sleeve T-Shirt—\$10.00		OCBP Headbands- \$15.00/2 for \$25.00
Grey Long-sleeve T-shirts—\$15.00		Buoy Key Chains \$5.00
Grey Sweatshirts—\$25.00		OCBP Socks- \$11.00/2 for \$20.00
Grey Sweatpants—\$20.00		

<u>Stats.</u>	<u>Week 8</u> 7/6/20 to 7/12/20	<u>Week 8</u> Year-To- Date 2020	<u>Week 8</u> 7/8/19 to 7/14/19	<u>Week 8</u> Year-To- Date 2019	<u>Week 8</u> 7/9/18 to 7/15/18	<u>Week 8</u> Year-To- Date 2018
Action						
Preventions	13000	72523	6895	57396	32790	113649
Rescues	460	2263	59	918	1144	2482
Minor First Aid	158	773	209	4535	291	975
Ambulance Calls	16	66	18	63	23	63
Police Calls	5	37	8	37	5	35
USCG/MDNRP	1	3	0	0	0	1
Lost/Found Persons	24	152	17	126	45	189
N. Surf Beach Population	262	823	283	749	212	555
S. Surf Beach Population	180	1150	245	1470	208	1052
Inlet Surf Beach Population	4	108	69	244	146	377
Beach Wheelchair Usage	10	98	32	195	32	167
Smoking Enforcement	1168	6317	673	5468	1604	6745
Missed Work Days Due to Injury	4	9	2	28	3	29
Missed Days-Non Job Related	21	59	0	17	4	9

OCEAN CITY BEACH PATROL

Tryouts for 2021 Season

\$15.25 hr Paid Training (all certifications provided)



August 1, 2020 (Saturday) – OC, MD
 August 5, 2020 (Wednesday) – OC, MD
 August 8, 2020 (Saturday) – OC, MD
 August 15, 2020 (Saturday) – OC, MD
 Registration 9:00 AM Dorchester Street and Boardwalk

To register for a test or learn about additional off-site testing, visit our website

www.ococean.com/ocbp

2020-2021 OCBP Testing Opportunities

Pre-Employment Physical Skills Evaluation (testing) for the 2021 Season

August 1, 2020 (Saturday)- Ocean City, MD

August 5, 2020 (Wednesday)- Ocean City, MD

August 8, 2020 (Saturday)- Ocean City, MD

August 15, 2020 (Saturday)- Ocean City, MD

Registration at 09:00hrs; test begins at 10:00hrs

Recruiting cards are available for distribution to potential candidates.

See your Crew Chief to obtain some of these cards.



Keep your feet in the sand,
until the lifeguard's in the stand!



Maximize Your Recruiting Skills for the Test and This Hydro Flask Can Be Yours!!!

Here's how: If the person you recruit identifies you on the Pre-Employment Physical Skills Evaluation registration form, you will receive a 40 oz. OCBP Hydro Flask.

See 1st Lt. Lee to claim yours after the test. (Offer limited to 1 Hydro Flask per recruiter)

OCBPSRA Courses- 2020



SRT II Round 3 –(Final round this summer)

Aug. 11, Aug. 12, Aug. 13, Aug. 14
Dorchester St. 08:00hrs

Required for ACC next summer



From: Douglas R. Miller
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 5:11 PM
To: Butch Arbin
Cc: Edward Kovacs
Subject: Good Work

On many late Sunday afternoons I go to the Beach at 139th.

Today I watched three times our SRTs deal with swimmers in a rip. They handled each situation with great teamwork, efficiency and professionalism. Very impressive.

From: Julie L.
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 5:09 PM
To: Butch Arbin
Subject: Re: Rob-lifeguard @32nd street

Hi Butch, I am writing to you in regards to one of your lifeguards, Rob. He is a guard on 32nd Street, in front of the Hilton. I wanted to pass on my deepest admiration and thanks for his abilities and caring while performing his job. He helped our daughter, amongst others, yesterday while on guard. Our daughter cut her foot rather badly and then proceeded to turn blue and pass out. Rob was there from the first drop of blood until the ambulance arrived. He kept his cool throughout while showing true and genuine concern. Thankfully it all turned out well and no real harm was done; however, it was a scary situation to say the least. I am a small business owner myself and would have great pride in him if he were one of my employees. I hope he goes far in his endeavors and knows that he brought a little hope back to me and my family.

Best regards
 Don L./ Old World Masonry

From: Kyle Skilling
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 2:50 PM
To: Butch Arbin
Subject: Employee commendation

Spent my off day at the plaza on 7/14/20. A navy helicopter did a flyover very low and caused multiple umbrellas in the area to fly in the air, one of which caused an injury to a woman in the group adjacent to mine. When I notified Chase Kipke of the injury he performed very well! Chase used proper COVID safety protocols and used his mask and gloves to treat the open wound. He kept calm and acted professionally, nice work Kipke.

Kyle Skilling



OCBP ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

As part of it's mission to support the Ocean City Beach Patrol and the guards who serve, the OCBP Alumni Association announces it's **Second Annual Scholarship Challenge**. The prize: a one time **\$500 College Scholarship** award to a current OCBP SRT.

Who is eligible?
 The Challenge is open to any current OCBP SRT in good standing, who is enrolled in or entering a 2 or 4 year college in the Fall of 2020. Applicants must be registered for classes.

What is the Challenge?
 A 500 word essay on the topic:
"How has saving the lives of others ended up changing yours?"
 (450 minimum / 550 maximum.)

How do you submit your essay?
 Essays are to be emailed as a .pdf file to [Ward Kovacs \(wkovacs@oceancitymd.gov\)](mailto:Ward Kovacs (wkovacs@oceancitymd.gov)). Title your file using your **birthday as the code**. For instance, if you were born on July 4, 2001 you would title the file "07042001". This is meant to avoid favoritism. Make sure in your email that Ward knows who you are.

What are the judges looking for in an essay?
 A thoughtful examination of what life on the OCBP and saving the lives of others has meant to you. Essays will be judged on Ideas, Presentation, Grammar and Spelling. Plagiarism will result in automatic disqualification.

What are the important dates to know for the challenge?
 All submissions are due before midnight **August 7, 2020**.
 The winning essay will be announced **August 14, 2020**.
 The Scholarship prize will be issued immediately afterwards.

OCBP Alumni Association

From: jcstitley@
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 4:33 PM
To: Edward Kovacs; Butch Arbin
Subject: Message from the Town website

Just wanted to pass on how impressed my wife and I were just a few minutes ago watching 2 of your lifeguards rescue a man caught in a rip current. We have always been impressed over the many trips down here with the Quick actions and Professionalism of your crews. This one was very impressive it took 2 Guards fighting the currents and limited help from the person they were revising to successful Swim him to shore. Dragging him like a well oiled machine! Not sure of their names but it was in front of the Grand hotel on July 15th at 4:15pm!
 Please share our appreciation with them!!
 Job well done!!
 Chip & Jan Stitley

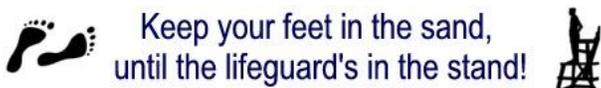


Private Evening Play for OCBP Only!

Friday, July 31 18:45hrs

\$35.00 per person

See Sgt. Weingard for more info.



OCBP Question-of-the-Week for The Worcester County Times

This Week's Question: Why do the lifeguards make people leave the beach when it is just thundering or a little bit of lightning?

The Ocean City Beach Patrol is in constant contact with the weather service and is aware of the current weather situation at all times. Recent developments in lightning detection and monitoring technologies give us more accurate and timely information on potentially dangerous developing cloud to ground lightning and we use this information to help assure you and your family's safety. With the launch of NOAA's most advanced weather satellites ever developed (GOES-R and GOES-S), in recent years, real-time lightning detection is more accurate and readily available than ever and will assist us in providing early warning of these deadly events.

According to the National Weather Service, lightning kills an average of 49 people each year in the United States and hundreds more are injured. An analysis of lightning victims from 2006 to 2019 showed that 418 people were struck and killed by lightning in the United States, including 20 in 2019. Other important facts indicate that of all fatalities most occur in July and on the beach or near water. Many times weather conditions vary from one end of Ocean City to the other. It can be sunny and mild in the south by the boardwalk and lightening and showers just 9 miles north. In fact, there are many documented cases throughout the country of people being hit by lightning while the sun is shining (called a bolt from the blue). This phenomena was recently featured on the Weather Channel and is far more common than previously thought. In fact, the National Weather Service has changed the recorded warnings that are transmitted on the Weather radio system when there is a threat of thunder storms, to say "If you hear thunder, then you are close enough to be struck by lightning"!

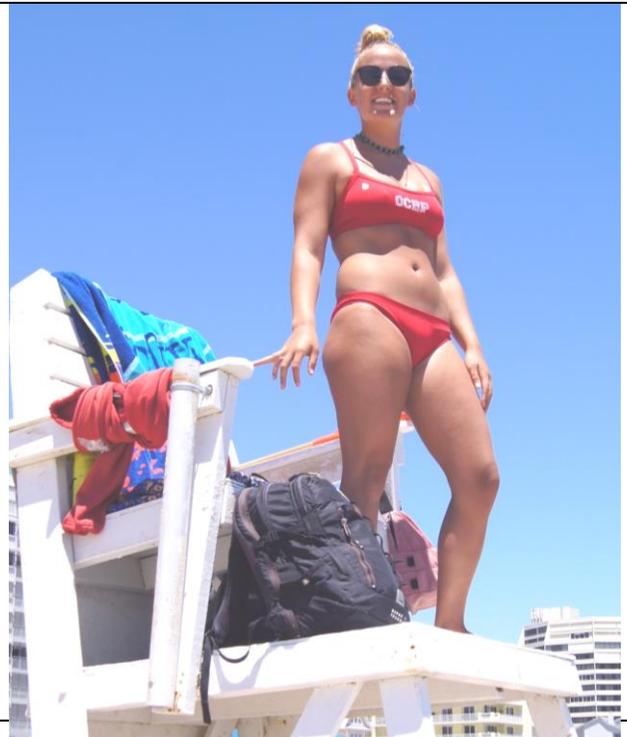
The Beach Patrol is not only in constant contact with the weather service, but they have constant communication with each other up and down the beach as well. The Beach Patrol, like other modern emergency services, relies on two-way radio systems. However, they still use two systems that do not rely on any technology: whistle blasts and semaphore. The Beach Patrol's primary concern is your safety and will clear the beaches if it is not safe. There have been at least 10 documented cases of people who have been struck by lightning while on the beach (not in the water) in Ocean City with several resulting in death. While vacationing on the beaches in OC you may or may not notice the lifeguards communicating with each other, but please heed their warnings and leave the beach if asked to do so even if you do not see lightening. By complying with the directive of your Surf Rescue Technician to leave the beach immediately, you not only protect yourself but also allow our personnel to take safe cover without being delayed while trying to convince adults that it is unsafe to remain on the beach. We have had our own personnel struck by lightning and we need to keep them safe as well. With the constant monitoring of the weather and communication systems, your Surf Rescue Technician will be aware of dangers that you might not be able to see. A beach is listed as one of the most vulnerable places to be during an electrical storm, according to weather researchers. Just remember for your safety... "If thunder roars, GO indoors!"

To get current information about the beach patrol as well as daily stats and current beach conditions, you can follow the beach patrol on Instagram or "like us" on the Official OCBP Facebook page. We can't wait to be a part of your wonderful experiences in Ocean City, because we are glad you are here, and always remember to "Keep your feet in the sand until the lifeguard's in the stand!"

Guard of the Week: SRT Jackie Walker

SRT Jackie Walker has been a part of the Beach Patrol for most of her life starting as a part of our award winning Junior Beach Patrol program. After successfully completing all four levels of the Junior Beach Patrol camp, Jackie applied for a paid position as a Junior Beach Patrol Assistant Instructor. After serving in that role for two years, she tried out to become a Surf Rescue Technician and is now in her sixth year with the Beach Patrol. She is in Crew 12 in the north area of Ocean City which covers the beach from 81st Street to 91st Street. Jackie helps out with our Junior Beach Patrol Program. In her free time she enjoys running. In the off season she attends school at Elon University. SRT Walker and the other lifeguards of the Ocean City Beach Patrol are glad to answer any of your beach and water safety questions. If you are interested in becoming part of the Junior Beach Patrol or think you would like a position with the Patrol like Jackie's, ask any of our guards or visit our website at www.ococean.com/ocbp.

Testing for our 2021 season will begin this August. Anyone can get a job... But with the Ocean City Beach Patrol, YOU can make a difference!



**Keep your feet in the sand,
until the lifeguard's in the stand!**





OCEAN CITY BEACH PATROL



Guide to Dealing with Service Animals

The Department of Justice published revised final regulations implementing the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) for title II (State and local government services) and title III (public accommodations and commercial facilities) on September 15, 2010, in the Federal Register. These requirements, or rules, clarify and refine issues that have arisen over the past 20 years and contain new, and updated, requirements, including the 2010 Standards for Accessible Design (2010 Standards).

What qualifies as a service animal?

Beginning on March 15, 2011, only dogs are recognized as service animals under titles II and III of the ADA. A service animal is a dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for a person with a disability.

How “Service Animal” Is Defined

Service animals are defined as dogs that are individually trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities. Examples of such work or tasks include guiding people who are blind, alerting people who are deaf, pulling a wheelchair, alerting and protecting a person who is having a seizure, reminding a person with mental illness to take prescribed medications, calming a person with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) during an anxiety attack, or performing other duties. Service animals are working animals, not pets. 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.

Service Animals Must Be Under Control

Under the ADA, service animals must be harnessed, leashed, or tethered, unless these devices interfere with the service animal’s work or the individual’s disability prevents using these devices.

Inquiries Related to Service Animals

When it is not obvious what service an animal provides, only limited inquiries are allowed. Beach Patrol staff may ask two questions:

- (1) Is the dog a service animal required because of a disability?
- (2) What work or task has the dog been trained to perform?

You may not ask about the person’s disability, require medical documentation, require a special identification card or training documentation for the dog, or ask that the dog demonstrate its ability to perform the work or task.

Updated -Tuesday, August 09, 2016 Ocean City Beach Patrol



Frequently Asked Questions about Service Animals and the ADA

The Department of Justice continues to receive many questions about how the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) applies to service animals. The ADA requires State and local government agencies, businesses, and non-profit organizations (covered entities) that provide goods or services to the public to make "reasonable modifications" in their policies, practices,

DEFINITION OF SERVICE ANIMAL

Q1: What is a service animal?

A: Under the ADA, a service animal is defined as a dog that has been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for an individual with a disability. The task(s) performed by the dog must be directly related to the person's disability.

Q2: What does "do work or perform tasks" mean?

A: The dog must be trained to take a specific action when needed to assist the person with a disability. For example, a person with diabetes may have a dog that is trained to alert him when his blood sugar reaches high or low levels. A person with depression may have a dog that is trained to remind her to take her medication. Or, a person who has epilepsy may have a dog that is trained to detect the onset of a seizure and then help the person remain safe during the seizure.

Q3: Are emotional support, therapy, comfort, or companion animals considered service animals under the ADA?

A: No. These terms are used to describe animals that provide comfort just by being with a person. Because they have not been trained to perform a specific job or task, they do not qualify as service animals under the ADA. However, some State or local governments have laws that allow people to take emotional support animals into public places. You may check with your State and local government agencies to find out about these laws.

GENERAL RULES

Q7: What questions can a covered entity's employees ask to determine if a dog is a service animal?

A: In situations where it is not obvious that the dog is a service animal, staff may ask only two specific questions: (1) is the dog a service animal required because of a disability? and (2) what work or task has the dog been trained to perform? Staff are not allowed to request any documentation for the dog, require that the dog demonstrate its task, or inquire about the nature of the person's disability.

Q8: Do service animals have to wear a vest or patch or special harness identifying them as service animals?

A: No. The ADA does not require service animals to wear a vest, ID tag, or specific harness.