



Southern Arizona Psychological Association (SAPA)

Legal Beagle - What psychologists need to know about service animals, the law, and psychological practice

Alan L. Goldberg, Psy.D., ABPP; J.D.

Tuesday, March 15, 2016, 12:00-1:30PM, Vero Amore

Description

Psychologists are being faced with moral, ethical, and legal dilemmas as increasing numbers of clients ask their mental health professionals for letters indicating the necessity of an emotional support animal. This presentation will help to inform psychologists about laws concerning true service animals and emotional support animals. Three Federal laws address these working animals, and states have laws as well. These laws will be discussed, as each has different definitions of the animals that are the subject of these laws. And note that some states, such as Florida have penalties for those who try to pass off their animals as "service animals" when they are actually pets.

The speaker will address differences between clinical and forensic evaluations, psychotherapy vs. assessment (and whether the same practitioner should provide both services), and how the relationship between psychotherapist and client can be irreparably harmed when the subject of the aforementioned letters is broached. Practitioner expertise as it relates to practice with individuals with disabilities will be a topic of discussion. Participants in this session will better understand law and practice issues, so as to make informed choices about the scope of their practices.

This beginning level presentation will help participants

1. Participants will be able to name and differentiate 3 laws dealing with animals, access, and handicapping conditions
2. Participants will be able to tell the difference between a service animal and an emotional support animal
3. Participants will understand at least 2 ethical & legal dilemmas they face as psychologists when asked to write a letter about a "pet" being an emotional support animal
4. Participants will be able to name 3 differences between forensic and clinical evaluations

About the Speaker

Dr. Alan L. Goldberg, is an Arizona & California licensed psychologist, board certified rehabilitation psychologist, American Psychological Association Fellow, and member of the State Bar of Arizona. He Chaired the Arizona Psychological Association's Health Psychology and Disability Issues Committee from inception in 2003 through 2010. With expertise in social justice, advocacy, psychology, and law, Goldberg has made contributions in the fields of both psychology and law. He maintains a private practice concentrating on forensic psychology issues, and he adjudicates Social Security disability cases in Arizona. He is partnered with Whitney, a 4 year old yellow Lab, who he affectionately refers to as his science project. She is a service dog who actively alerts him to hypoglycemia. During leisure time, he enjoys travel, hiking, films, friends, and caring for Whitney. To keep nimble on the adversarial side of things, he plays competitive SCRABBLE and is a prize winning tournament bowler.

Date: Tuesday, March 15, 2016

Time: 12:00 - 12:30 Lunch

12:30-1:30 Presentation

Registration Fees:

SAPA Members: Early \$26/Regular \$30/Walk-in \$40

Non-SAPA: \$38/Walk-in \$45

Students/Interns:\$15

Location: Vero Amore, 2920 N Swan Rd, Tucson, AZ 85712

CE's: 1 CE

Registration deadline is 3/7/16. Register online at SAPAonline.org or go directly to the [registration page](#). For questions about this event, contact Nancy Eldredge, Ph.D., SAPA CE Committee Chair (eldredge.nancy@gmail.com). Cancellation/refund deadline is 3/7/16.

Continuation Education Credits:



These events are offered for one (1) Category 1 CE Credit. Participants must sign in, be present for the entire presentation, and complete the Evaluation Questionnaire in order to obtain a CE Certificate. The Southern Arizona Psychological Association (SAPA) is approved by the American Psychological Association (APA) to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. SAPA maintains responsibility for all of its programs and content. Southern Arizona Psychological Association is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. Southern Arizona Psychological Association maintains responsibility for this program and its content.