

GOLDEN PAW AWARD PROGRAM Program Summary



Purpose

Under the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals with a disability using a service dog are permitted access to public places. Obtaining public access with a service dog may be challenging and difficult. When we find or hear of a business or public institution that offers US veterans and their service dogs unrestricted public access and accommodations, the *Golly, Miss Molly Blog* desires to recognize and honor those entities. By acknowledging these businesses and public institutions, we hope to reinforce this pattern of excellent, unrestricted access and help others learn about public access requirements under ADA.

Program Description

Using the *Golly Miss Molly Blog*, US veterans and their family caregivers are invited to submit the names of organizations (business and public institutions) that provide excellent, unrestricted public access to the veteran and his/her service dog.

Molly's Dog Tags Certificates are awarded to an entity that offers excellent, unrestricted public access. A Molly's Dog Tag certificate is issued and delivered to that recognized entity. The name and address of the entity will be posted on the *Golly, Miss Molly* website.

Golden Paw Award will be given once annually. Any entity that has received a Molly's Dog Tags certificate in the award year shall be eligible for the Golden Paw Award. Readers of the *Golly, Miss Molly Blog* will be asked to vote on-line for the organization they believed provided the best accommodations and public access to a US Veteran and his/her service dog.

A plaque will be given with the name of the selected entity with the wording, ". . . for excellent, unrestricted public access under ADA to a US Veteran and his/her service dog." The name of this entity will be posted on the *Golly, Miss Molly* website.

Adaptable Program

Should a US Veteran or his/her family caregiver desire to create a local Golden Paw Program of their own, they may do so and may adapt the certificate or elements of this program. Those who do create their own Golden Paw Program will be encouraged to share news of their program with the *Golly, Miss Molly Blog* Administrator so that the program may be mentioned on the Blog. The Blog Administrator will assist anyone desiring to create his/her own program, if assistance is needed.

The graphic art for the certificate is provided by www.123rf. The art may be used only for non-profit purposes. Arrangements need to be made between the user and www.123rf to use these graphics in any other manner.

Program Administrator

The contact information for the Program Administrator is listed in the box to the right

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