

Office of Darren Rafel, LCSW

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April 7, 2026

Emotional Support Animals for April Smith DOB 03/27/2006

To Whom It May Concern,

April Smith's mental health has been evaluated and reviewed. I am familiar with the patient's symptomology, history and limitations imposed by their disability.

April Smith has been diagnosed with Generalized Anxiety Disorder and depression. This diagnosis substantially limits one or more of my patient's major life activities. This diagnosis meets the definition of disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Fair Housing Act, and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 §504.

In order to help reduce impairment and alleviate difficulties as a result of April Smith's diagnosis, I am recommending emotional support animals to accompany them. Reasonable accommodations should be given to April Smith and they should be allowed to live with their emotional support animals. April Smith has two cats that each serve a distinct purpose in helping to alleviate symptoms in one of the two conditions listed above.

This letter meets the legal requirements under the (Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968)), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Pub. L. No. 93-112, 87 Stat. 394 (Sept. 26, 1973), codified at 29 U.S.C. 5701 et seq.), the Americans with Disabilities Act (Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Pub. L. No. 101-336, 104 Stat. 328 (1990). and The Department of Transportation (DOT) 14 CFR Part 382 "final order" (12/02/2020)

Any assessment of the appropriateness of the emotional support animal's behavior is beyond the scope of the practice of the evaluator. This assessment and accommodations are valid for one year from the date of issuance. The pet owner assumes all responsibility for the training, safety, cleanliness, health and conduct of their animals at all times.

Luna, Cat, Tabby, 15 lbs.

Teddy, Cat, Tabby, 14 lbs.

Sincerely,



Darren Rafel, LCSW VA License #0904014755 NPI #1629605142

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