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April 26, 2026

Emotional Support Animals for Melissa Ruiz Leverman DOB 06/24/1993

To Whom It May Concern,

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

Melissa Ruiz Leverman has been diagnosed with mental health conditions recognized by the DSM-5 that involve symptoms relating to anxiety 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 Melissa Ruiz Leverman's diagnosis, I am recommending emotional support animals to accompany them. Reasonable accommodations should be given to Melissa Ruiz Leverman and they should be allowed to live with their emotional support animals. Melissa Ruiz Leverman has two dogs that each serve a distinct purpose in helping to alleviate symptoms in the conditions mentioned 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 29U.S.C. 5 701 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.

Thor, Dog, Mixed Breed, 50 lbs.

Bailey, Dog, Staffordshire Terrier, 55 lbs.

Sincerely,



Darren Rafel, LCSW CA License #112127 NPI #1629605142

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