



Happy Hound Pet Services
PO Box 205
Rudy, AR 72952

November 30, 2016

RE: Policy on assessing and adopting out dogs.

Happy Hound Pet Services occasionally consults with rescues about dogs in their care. We are not responsible for any adoption that is not specifically done by one of our representatives and on our adoption application (which will have our logo on it). If the application does not have our logo on it, we are not responsible for liable for the activity of rescue groups in our area. It is the responsibility of the rescue group to disclose the results of our assessment. Any rescue group that fails to disclose this information takes liability upon itself.

Let it be known that Happy Hound Pet Services, its owner, agents, representatives and assigns are not responsible for the behavior of dogs adopted out through the rescues we work with, nor do we have any control over the behavior of those rescues or the dogs in their care. We never advise that a dog that has a history of aggression of any kind be adopted out without written disclosure of the dog's issues. We do not adopt out dogs that have a bite history that is known to us and are higher than a one on [Dr. Ian Dunbar's Bite Scale](#), and any dog that has shown any sort of aggressive behavior will require a signed waiver from the adopters.

Happy Hound Pet Services offers consults on behavior, but we do not discuss or recommend euthanasia with rescue groups. It is entirely up to the rescue to decide if they want to rehabilitate a dog and take on the potential liability of adopting out that dog. We will explain in our assessment the steps and resources necessary to rehabilitate a dog and may even play a supporting role in that rehabilitation, but the ultimate decision on any dog is made by the rescue alone. Happy Hound Pet Services has no say in which dogs are euthanized and which dogs are rehabilitated. We do not guarantee that a dog that has bitten will not bite again even after rehabilitation. There are too many factors at play.

The rescue must decide for itself if they want to continue with the dog or speak to a veterinarian about euthanasia. We are not board certified veterinary behaviorists, and frankly we do not have the heart or the desire to make recommendations of this sort. We believe that most aggressive dogs can be rehabilitated if the resources are available. For serious aggression cases rescues usually do not have the time and money necessary to rehabilitate a dog that is manifesting aggression issues. Making the decision about life and death does not fall under our purview. Only the rescue knows what resources are available, and therefore the rescue, and not Happy Hound Pet Services, is responsible for the outcome of any adoption of any dog we work with.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions about this policy.

Thank you!