

Animal Victory PASS Participation Policy

Effective Date: March 25, 2026

Purpose

This policy explains the role and standards of Animal Victory Disaster & Abuse Fund (“Animal Victory,” “we,” or “our”) when submitting information to the National Animal Abuse Registry, also known as the Pet Adoption Screening Service (PASS), which is created, owned, operated, and administered exclusively by North Shore Animal League America.

Animal Victory’s participation is guided by one core principle: to share documented, fact-based information responsibly in order to help shelters and rescues make informed adoption decisions and reduce the risk of repeat harm to animals.

Scope of Responsibility

This policy applies only to information submitted by Animal Victory. Animal Victory does not administer, operate, maintain, or control the PASS database. Animal Victory does not oversee how other organizations submit information and does not speak on behalf of North Shore Animal League America or any third party regarding submission standards, review processes, data retention, or database management.

The PASS registry is maintained at the sole discretion of North Shore Animal League America. North Shore Animal League America determines its own criteria for inclusion in the registry, which may include individuals who have been convicted of animal cruelty, individuals who are alleged to have committed animal cruelty, or individuals who North Shore Animal League America otherwise determines may not be suitable pet parents. Animal Victory does not set or control these criteria.

All adoption decisions remain solely with the individual shelter or rescue organization. Animal Victory does not make adoption decisions, does not recommend or deny

adoptions, and bears no responsibility for any adoption outcome.

Information Sources

Animal Victory submits information to PASS based on stories and cases that are researched, written, and verified in-house by Animal Victory's editorial team. Information is sourced exclusively from:

- Stories published on **www.animalvictory.org**, including petition cases investigated and documented by Animal Victory staff
- Stories published on **www.nationalanimalnews.com**, a news outlet operated by Animal Victory that covers animal cruelty cases nationwide
- Publicly available law enforcement reports, court filings, and judicial records referenced within those published stories

All stories published by Animal Victory and National Animal News are fact-checked and verified by our editorial team prior to publication. Where criminal charges or convictions exist, our published stories reference the applicable law enforcement reports, arrest records, or court documents.

Animal Victory does not submit information based on:

- Social media posts or online commentary
 - Rumors, screenshots, or unverified claims
 - Anonymous tips or third-party accusations without documentation
 - Any source other than Animal Victory's own published, verified reporting
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Nature of Entries

Entries submitted by Animal Victory to the PASS registry may include individuals who have been **convicted** of animal cruelty as well as individuals who are **alleged** to have committed animal cruelty based on published, fact-based reporting. Not all entries reflect a criminal conviction or a final legal outcome. Some cases may be pending investigation, pending trial, or may not result in criminal charges.

Inclusion in the PASS registry does not constitute a determination of guilt, a legal finding, or a judgment of any kind. Inclusion reflects only that the individual has been the subject of a published, fact-based news story or petition case documented by Animal Victory or National Animal News.

Animal Victory makes no representations regarding the final legal outcome of any case. The presence of a name in the registry is informational only and is intended to assist shelters and rescues in making their own independent adoption screening decisions.

Disclaimer of Liability

Animal Victory provides information to the PASS registry in good faith and based on its own published, verified reporting. Animal Victory does not guarantee the accuracy, completeness, or currency of any information after it has been submitted to the PASS database, as Animal Victory does not control the database and cannot modify or remove entries once submitted.

Animal Victory Disaster & Abuse Fund, its officers, directors, employees, contractors, and volunteers shall not be held liable for any claims, damages, losses, or expenses arising from:

- The inclusion of any individual's name in the PASS registry
- Any adoption decision made or denied by any shelter, rescue, or other organization based on information in the PASS registry
- Any action taken or not taken by North Shore Animal League America or any third party in connection with the PASS registry
- Any allegation of defamation, libel, or false light arising from information that was accurately reported based on publicly available facts and published news coverage at the time of submission

All information submitted by Animal Victory is based on facts as reported and verified at the time of publication. Animal Victory reports on matters of public concern related to animal welfare, and its published stories constitute protected speech regarding issues of significant public interest.

Correction and Dispute Process

Any individual who believes that information submitted by Animal Victory to the PASS registry is factually inaccurate may contact Animal Victory in writing at info@animalvictory.org or by mail at:

Animal Victory Disaster & Abuse Fund 1319 Military Cutoff Road, Suite CC, Unit #101
Wilmington, NC 28405

Upon receipt of a written dispute, Animal Victory will review the original published source material and any documentation provided by the individual. If Animal Victory determines that a factual error was made in its original reporting, Animal Victory will notify North Shore Animal League America of the correction. However, because Animal Victory does not control the PASS database, Animal Victory cannot guarantee the modification or removal of any entry. All requests for removal from the PASS database must be directed to North Shore Animal League America.

Indemnification

By using information from the PASS registry, any shelter, rescue organization, or third party agrees to independently verify and evaluate all information before making any adoption or screening decision. No shelter, rescue, or third party shall hold Animal Victory responsible for decisions made based on registry information. Animal Victory's role is limited to the submission of information; all decisions regarding the use of that information are the sole responsibility of the party making the decision.

Statement of Limitation

This policy is informational in nature and does not create legal rights, obligations, warranties, or guarantees of any kind. Animal Victory reserves the right to update or modify this policy at any time without prior notice.

Additional Context

For background on why a federal animal abuse registry does not currently exist in the United States, please see: <https://animalvictory.org/why-a-federal-animal-abuse-registry-does-not-exist/>

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