



# **SAINT FRANCIS GERMAN SHEPHERD SERVICE DOGS**

*Intelligent Faithful Guardians*



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## **WHAT ARE REAL TRAINED SERVICE DOG TASKS. VS PRECEVED TRAINED SERVICE DOG TASKS.**

**What is actually real and what is imaginary, fueled by emotion and wishful thinking? There has been a lot of confusion and wishful thinking in this area from the uneducated to PhD's and MD's alike. Thinking logically, you would assume this is easy for anyone with average intelligence to comprehend, but it is not. MD's and PhD's (With no dog training experience or knowledge) have been allegedly known to "Certify a Service Dog" that supposedly is "Trained" to perform work or tasks that directly mitigate a legitimate disability as required by Law. A majority of the "trained tasks" these dogs allegedly perform, and are even "Certified" by MD's, PhD's and Owner Trainers, are actually untrainable, and verified as untrainable by the education and experience from reputable Professional Service Dog Trainers Nationwide.**

**How does a reputable Professional Service Dog Trainer determine what is actually a trained task and what is not? This answer is more simple and direct to explain to you than what is imagined as a trained task by others. Reputable Professional Service Dog Trainers understand how dogs learn. These trainers understand what processes are legitimately performed in order to produce the desired trained behavior they want the dog to achieve; consistently and with an unquestionable percentage of reliability of success, demonstrating the trained behavior from the dog. The dog must execute the command or automatic trained behavior proven by a qualitative and quantitative method (Also known as proofing). The behavior of the dog, (in order to be considered "Trained") will respond to a specific command, or trained to automatically demonstrate a specific behavior from a marker/cue such as Scent (Oder), Sound, Motion, etc. The dog must in fact be trained to a level of competency to produce reasonably reliable consistency in the behavior the dog was trained to perform. If any of these things are missing, it is not a verified trained task. Nor is the dog actually "Trained" to perform these tasks at all in actuality.**

**A lot of pet owners will tell you their dog is the best trained and smartest dog in the world. Although their heart may truly believe that, it does not make it true. This is the same thing when some are claiming their dog is a Service Dog because their heart or someone who is not a service dog trainer but a MD or PhD says so. A MD or a PhD can in fact verify a disability for the human. However, unless that MD or PhD is also a Professional Service Dog Trainer, they are not qualified to make a determination on the dog's level of training. How can they? They do not know how to train a dog or how a dog learns. All they can go by is the heartfelt words from their patient, unfortunately that still does not verify that the dog is actually trained by any known proven method and verified on a qualitative and quantitative basis.**

**When I hear people talk about the amazing task their alleged Service Dogs perform that were allegedly trained as required by law (and I know they are not trained tasks) I always ask how on earth did you train your dog to do that? I commonly get all sorts of responses from the deer in the headlights look to I really don't know, he just does it. Bottom line is, if you claim to have trained the dog, and you truly do not know how the dog was trained, or have some type of vivid imagination as to how the dog was trained, and you cannot communicate a verified dog training method and proven marker or cue the dog was trained from... It is safe to say that your "Service Dog" is not "Trained to directly mitigate a disability" as required by law. Therefore, if the dog in fact provides legitimate emotional support but no realistic trained tasks, you do not have a Service Dog; you have an Emotional Support Animal. That is something a MD or PhD phycologist/Psychiatrist can actually legitimately provide documentation for.**

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