



Pennsylvania SART/CART Code of Conduct Policy

It is the policy of PASART to require the following of all SART/CART volunteers or representatives. Incident Commanders will have authority to deactivate any activated SART/CART volunteer or representative for behavior that violates this Code of Conduct.

Additionally, it is the policy of PASART to deny membership to any individual who has been convicted of a felony or any offense related to the mistreatment of any animal. **All current and prospective members and/or volunteers shall furnish to PASART proof that he/she has not been convicted of any such offense. This proof shall be in the form of an official Pennsylvania State Police Criminal History report. All current members of PASART must furnish this proof within ninety (90) days of the effective date of this policy. Prospective members must furnish this same proof within thirty (30) days of the submission of their membership application. Proof shall be supplied to the CART Coordinator in the county where the individual will volunteer. CART Coordinators shall submit their proof to the PASART Executive Director. This is a one time requirement. Non compliance with this section will result in termination of the individual's membership in PASART and his or her County CART.**

It shall be the responsibility of the prospective member, prospective volunteer, member, and/or volunteer to arrange and pay for the PA State Police Criminal History report in order to establish that he/she has not been convicted of a felony, or any offense related to the mistreatment of any animal, as set forth in the preceding paragraph.

Further, any potential member may be denied membership for any reason at the sole discretion of PASART.

All SART/CART volunteers or representatives shall:

1. Project a professional manner and appearance while participating in all related activities.
2. **Immediately, or as soon as reasonably possible under the circumstances**, identify operations **or activities** that are beyond their capabilities based on their **individual** qualifications, experience, training, and knowledge.
3. Provide and carry **current and relevant** professional credentials and display badge at all times during activation.

4. Observe safety rules and regulations and proper usage and operation of all equipment **at all times during activation.**
5. Accept assignments and/or orders as directed by the Incident Command System (ICS) Incident Commander or other supervising authority, or if required, make discretionary decisions based on appropriate intent and good judgment.
6. Not participate otherwise in operations that serve to promote personal gains or ideologies **while serving as a SART/CART volunteer or representatives.**
7. Not enter private properties **during activation or in connection with any SART/CART activity** to perform duties without **the express** permission from the owner, supervising authority or without a law enforcement escort.
8. Remain in contact with the appropriate ICS authority **at all times during activation,** and confine activities to the assigned mission and directives of the Incident Action Plan.
9. During activation, document or participate in documenting each rescue in a timely manner and submit documentation to the **Incident Commander** in the time period established by the **Incident Commander.**
10. Not transport animals to facilities other than those that have been **previously** approved by the supervising authority **during activation.**
11. Refrain from taking photographs out of respect of the privacy of the owner **during activation or other SART CART Activity.** In the event it becomes necessary to take photographs during activation or while otherwise engaged in SART/CART Activities, photographs will not be used for public display without the expressed written permission of the owner. **All photographs taken while activated or otherwise engaged in SART/CART activities, shall become the property of PASART or the respective CART.**
12. **Shall not at any time accept any personal donations on behalf of SART/CART** and shall direct all such donations to the appropriate person.
13. **Shall not behave in such a manner or otherwise engage in conduct** that will have a negative impact on PASART or any CART.

In addition, the following will not be tolerated while on site at a disaster, conference or other SART/CART activity:

- Consumption of alcoholic beverages while on duty;
- Display of public drunkenness;
- Possession, use or selling of any illegal drugs **and/or improper use or distribution of prescription drugs;**
- Violation of any laws;

- Public outbursts or derogatory remarks about other organizations or individuals; or
- Illegal use or display of a firearm

A PASART/CART volunteer may be removed from the membership rolls if it is determined by PASART that their behavior **or membership, in general**, does not serve the interests of PASART. Removal can be for violation of any of the items included in this Code of Conduct or other behaviors which are not listed but judged to be detrimental to PASART. **PASART reserves the right to remove any member or volunteer from membership for violating any of the terms set forth above or for the convenience of PASART.** CERTIFICATION: I have read the Code of Conduct and agree to abide by the rules set forth herein.

NAME (print)

SIGNATURE

DATE