



## CONSENT TO EVALUATE AND TREAT CATS FOR BEHAVIORAL ISSUES

To use our appointment time efficiently, I will request some history and data in advance of starting services. The need for follow up will be discussed at our first appointment.

### MEDICAL & BEHAVIORAL HISTORY

The Intake Form (online) needs to be completed prior to the start of services. When filling out the Intake Form, provide as much detail as possible. This information is needed to accurately evaluate the circumstances of your cat's behavior.

Please also provide contact information for your current veterinarian. I will reach out to them for any additional medical information.

### DATA & VIDEOS

Please spend a week collecting data on the behavior you want to change. Note who is present, what happened before, where it happened, and your reactions. Ideally, this data would be on a spreadsheet.

If possible, please videotape that shows the behavior(s) about which you are concerned. However, please do not set your cat up to do any aggressive or injurious behavior for the sake of obtaining photos or video. If aggression is an issue, other behaviors noted in the videos will be indicative of it. Videos can be emailed to me at [allisontalkspets@gmail.com](mailto:allisontalkspets@gmail.com)

## PAYMENTS & SCHEDULES

Payment and data are due prior to the start of services. After I receive them, I will provide you with a packet of info to get you started.

Should you purchase my behavior package, I will create an intervention plan. Each week, we will discuss a new step and you will receive homework. You will be required to submit data and videos as part of your homework.

Barring emergencies, if you miss two weeks of steps, I will consider our case closed. You are responsible for being actively involved in implementing this plan.

## AGGRESSIVE CATS

- Any animal that is aggressive can cause serious damage and harm (including fatal) to other animals, other people, and you.
- Treatment for aggressive behavior is an inexact science, and it is impossible to guarantee that any cat including yours will not cause harm in the future. The only way to guarantee that a cat who has exhibited aggressive behavior will not cause harm in the future is to euthanize the pet. There are many ways to manage and reduce the risk of harm, but there is no way to guarantee aggressive events will not happen.
- If you elect to pursue treatment for aggression problems in your cat, it will be your responsibility to take appropriate precautions to prevent your cat from causing harm to others. These precautions may include informing people of your cat's tendency for aggressive behavior and keeping your cat restrained.
- Owning a cat carries responsibilities, including potential liability for any damage the cat does to other animals, people, or property. This responsibility is not changed or transferred by seeking behavioral help.
- It is your responsibility to be aware of and to comply with all state and local ordinances concerning aggressive animals. If your cat is exhibiting aggression and it causes harm, you may be held liable for such harm. Proof of current rabies vaccination may be requested.

Problems involving pathological behaviors may be best served through a behavioral plan that includes a medical component. In these cases, I may work with a veterinarian on a collaborative plan of action. Pathological behaviors may never be cured but they can often be treated and managed, to the point where the cat can live a happy life.

Should you decide at any point that rehoming your cat would be the best option, I recommend a no-kill cat shelter or rescue. In Nebraska, those include The Cat House, Beatrice Humane Society, Hearts United for Animals, and Town and Country Shelter. The Nebraska Humane Society is also another option. I would also be glad to help you find the right new home for your cat.

Failure to manage and treat behavioral and pathological problems may lead to euthanasia in some cases. The death of a cat is an outcome that everyone would seek to avoid. However, if human safety is at risk, euthanasia may be necessary if the problems cannot be safely treated and managed. The purpose of this appointment is to attempt to provide humane behavioral care that allows your cat to live a long and happy life.

## CONSENT TO TREAT

The evaluation, assessment, and recommendations that will be provided after the consult DO NOT represent a guarantee of successful treatment. Behavioral problems are not always truly cured and responsible lifelong management is needed for every cat. The success of the recommended management and behavioral modification plan will depend heavily on the amount of time, effort, and consistency you devote to executing the behavior plan.

By filling out my paperwork and signing this consent form, you give permission for me to evaluate, assess, formulate a behavior plan for, and treat your cat.

I hereby certify that I have read and understood the above and that I am signing this consent form with the full understanding that the behavioral plan of action for my cat is not guaranteed and, if aggression is an issue, may not eliminate the aggressive behavior.

I agree not to make any claims against Allison Helps Cats LLC or anyone providing services on its behalf for any evaluation, recommendations, or treatment provided to your cat.

I certify that I am the legal owner (or authorized agent of the owner) of, and am responsible for, the cat being evaluated and/or treated.

I hereby give consent for my cat to be evaluated in accordance with the methods described in this consent form.

Printed Name of person responsible for the cat: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed Name of person responsible for the cat: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_