



BOARD MEMBER COMMITMENT CONTRACT & CONFLICT OF INTEREST PLEDGE

I, _____, recognizing the important responsibility I am undertaking in service as a member of the Board of Directors of this organization, hereby pledge to carry out in a trustworthy and diligent manner the duties and obligations in my role as a board member.

My Role: _____ ***Initial***

I acknowledge that my primary role as a board member is (1) to contribute to defining the organization's mission and governing the fulfillment of that mission, and (2) to carry out board committee tasks and other functions of board membership as described in the agency bylaws.

My role as a board member is separate and distinct from the role of the Chief Executive Officer who determines the means of implementation of the mission and manages day to day operations.

I Pledge: _____ ***Initial***

- To place high priority on attendance at all meetings of the board and committees on which I serve
- To be prepared to discuss the issues and business addressed at scheduled meetings, having read the agenda and all distributed background material relevant to the topics at hand
- To show respect for the opinions of my peers on the board and staff who work with the organization even if my opinion differs and to leave my personal prejudices out of all board discussions
- To always act for the good of the community in furthering the organization's mission
- To represent this organization in a positive and supportive manner at all times and in all places
- To observe parliamentary procedures and display courteous conduct in all meetings
- To refrain from intruding on administrative issues that are the responsibility of management, except to monitor the results and prohibit methods that conflict with board policy
- To avoid conflicts of interest between my position as a board member and my personal life, and declare such conflicts if they arise, refraining from voting on matters in which I have a conflict
- To support in a positive manner all actions approved by the Board of Directors even when I am in a minority position on such actions
- To agree to serve on at least one committee or task force, attend all meetings and participate in the accomplishment of its objectives.

- If I chair the board, a committee or task force, I will:
 - Call meetings as necessary until objectives are met
 - Ensure that the agenda and support materials are distributed to all members
 - Conduct the meetings in an orderly, fair, open and efficient manner
 - Make committee progress reports or minutes available to the board at its scheduled meetings



My Contract: _____ **Initial**

I understand that as a member of the Board of Directors of SafeNest, I have a legal and ethical responsibility to ensure that the organization does the best work possible in pursuit of its goals. I believe in the purpose and the mission of the organization, and I will act responsibly and prudently as its steward. As part of my responsibilities as a board member:

1. I will advocate the organization's work and values to the community, represent the organization, and act as a positive spokesperson.
2. I will interpret our constituencies' needs and values to the organization, speak out for their interests, and hold the organization accountable.
3. I will donate a minimum of \$100 per month to SafeNest as unrestricted funds. I understand that this donation will be monitored on a quarterly basis.
4. I will obtain a minimum of \$5000 per year in unrestricted funds for SafeNest. (Business, individuals, foundations etc.)
5. I will attend a minimum of 8 board meetings per year.
6. I will attend Board training.
7. I will attend a facilities tour.
8. I will actively participate in one committee/subcommittee.
9. I will attend 1 or more fundraising activities.
10. I will excuse myself from discussions and votes where I have a conflict of interest and not use my service on this board for my own personal gain or advantage.
11. I will stay informed about what is going on in the organization. I will ask questions and request information. I will participate in and take responsibility for making decisions on issues, policies, and other matters. I will not stay silent if I have questions or concerns.
12. I will work in good faith with staff and other board members as partners toward achievement of our goals, and approach all board issues with an open mind.
13. I will do nothing to violate the trust of those I serve and those who elected me to the board
14. If I do not fulfill these commitments to the organization, I will expect the board president to call me and discuss these responsibilities with me.



In turn, the organization will be responsible to me in the following ways:

1. I will receive, without having to request them, monthly financial reports and an update of organizational activities that allow me to meet the "prudent person" standards of the law.
2. Opportunities will be offered to me to discuss with the executive director and the board president the organization's programs, goals, activities, and status; additionally, I can request such opportunities.
3. The organization will help me perform my duties by keeping me informed about issues in the industry and field in which we are working and by offering me opportunities for professional development as a board member.
4. Board members and staff will respond in a straightforward fashion to questions that I feel are necessary to carry out my fiscal, legal, and moral responsibilities to this organization. Board members and staff will work in good faith with me toward achievement of our goals.

If the organization does not fulfill its commitments to me, I can call on the board president and executive director to discuss the organization's responsibilities to me.

Conflict Of Interest Policy:* _____ *Initial

- ***Gifts and gratuities:*** Board members are not to accept gifts, gratuities, free trips, personal property or any other item of value from any outside person or organization as an inducement to do business or provide services.
- ***Outside business or professional interests:*** Board members may not profit financially in their outside employment or business interests from their association with this nonprofit. Members must disclose any conflict of interest involving any issue before the board and abstain from discussion or voting on this issue.
- ***Personal beliefs:*** We recognize that board members hold a wide range of personal beliefs, including varied political, ideological, or religious values, as well as outside commitments. These beliefs, values and commitments are a conflict of interest if they prevent board members from carrying out their board function, or if board members attempt to use the organization's time and facilities for furthering them, or if board members attempt to persuade others to their personal beliefs after being asked to stop.
- ***Abuse of the board relationship:*** We believe that board members should not abuse their board membership by using this nonprofit's staff, services, equipment, materials or property for their personal gain.



My signature below affirms my agreement with the sections I have initialed. If I find myself unable to carry out the above responsibilities and obligations, as best I can, I agree to resign my position as a board member or officer, or understand that I may be asked to resign, or board action may be taken to remove me from board membership.

Signature

Date