

## LOCATE AND RECOVERY ASSISTANCE (LARA MIAMI VALLEY)

### VOLUNTEER LIABILITY WAIVER

**Introduction:** Thank you for volunteering with Locate and Recovery Assistance (LARA Miami Valley). As a volunteer, you will be participating in search and recovery efforts, which may involve various physical and emotional risks. Before participating, we require you to carefully review the following waiver and sign below to acknowledge your understanding and acceptance of the terms.

#### **Acknowledgment of Risk:**

By signing this waiver, I understand and acknowledge that participation in Locate and Recovery Assistance (LARA Miami Valley)'s search and recovery efforts may expose me to various risks, including, but not limited to:

- **Physical Injury:** Due to challenging terrain, difficult environmental conditions, or unpredictable factors during searches.
- **Emotional Distress:** Encountering distressing or traumatic situations, including but not limited to the discovery of deceased persons, individuals in dangerous conditions, or emotionally charged circumstances.
- **Health and Safety Hazards:** Such as exposure to wildlife, adverse weather conditions, drowning, or hazardous environments.
- **Interaction with Potentially Unstable Individuals:** Including the potential for emotionally charged interactions with individuals involved in missing persons' cases or searching in areas frequented by those who suffer from mental illness and/or drug abuse issues.

I hereby voluntarily assume all such risks and release Locate and Recovery Assistance (LARA Miami Valley) from any liability or claims arising from my participation.

#### **Volunteer Requirements:**

As a volunteer, I acknowledge that I meet the following requirements:

- **Physical Fitness:** I am reasonably fit and in good health, capable of performing physical activities associated with search and recovery efforts.
- **Emotional Readiness:** I understand that some searches may involve traumatic outcomes. I acknowledge that I will voluntarily excuse myself from such searches if I feel emotionally unprepared or overwhelmed.
- **Assumption of Risk:** I understand that participation in search and recovery efforts involves inherent risks, and I accept personal responsibility for any injury, harm, or emotional distress that may result.

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**Expected Conduct:**

I agree to adhere to Locate and Recovery Assistance (LARA Miami Valley)’s Code of Conduct while participating in any search efforts, including but not limited to:

- **Silent Angels:** I acknowledge that Locate and Recovery Assistance (LARA Miami Valley) operates as “Silent Angels,” performing these services selflessly without seeking personal recognition or public attention. As such, I will not engage in personal publicity, nor will I participate in media interviews aimed at gaining fame or praise for myself or Locate and Recovery Assistance (LARA Miami Valley). I agree that the primary focus of any interviews will be to continue raising awareness for the missing person or ongoing search efforts.
- **Behavior:** I will conduct myself professionally and respectfully while participating in Locate and Recovery Assistance (LARA Miami Valley)’s activities. This includes treating all individuals encountered with dignity, following instructions from team leaders, and complying with local laws and the directions of law enforcement or other professionals.
- **Compliance:** I will obey any instructions provided by first responders or other authorities. I understand that failure to comply may result in my removal from the search efforts and possible reporting to the appropriate authorities.
- **Confidentiality:** I understand that any sensitive information regarding missing persons or ongoing search efforts is to be kept confidential and not shared publicly.

**Release and Indemnity:**

I, the undersigned, hereby release and discharge Locate and Recovery Assistance (LARA Miami Valley), its officers, board members, employees, and agents from any and all claims, demands, damages, or liabilities arising from my participation in any Locate and Recovery Assistance (LARA Miami Valley) activity, including but not limited to personal injury, emotional distress, death, or property damage.

I agree to indemnify and hold harmless Locate and Recovery Assistance (LARA Miami Valley) from any claims or lawsuits brought by myself or any third parties as a result of my participation.

**Agreement:**

By signing below, I confirm that I have read and understood this waiver in its entirety. I voluntarily agree to its terms and conditions and assume full responsibility for my participation in Locate and Recovery Assistance (LARA Miami Valley)’s volunteer efforts.

**Volunteer’s Full Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Emergency Contact Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Relationship to You:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Emergency Contact Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_