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Ann	М	Cantrell		
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	North Caroli Paralegal	na Certified		
Employer	Job Title			

Guilford County Animal Services Board

District 5

County Commissioner District

# **Interests & Experiences**

## Why are you interested in serving on a board or commission?

I have been a GCAS volunteer for about four years, and I am so encouraged with the turnaround in the operations since the changeover. Guilford County is wonderfully aggressive in its outreach, with adoption fairs and other events, but we must not become complacent. There is still much work to do, and I would like to be a part of it. I grew up in Greensboro, and have been a paralegal at the Nexsen Pruet law firm (formerly Adams Kleemeier) for almost 21 years. My husband Bruce, who also grew up here, is the principal and owner of J. Hyatt Hammond Architects, and we are both passionate about making Greensboro an even better place to live, work, and visit (and adopt animals). We have two teenagers at home, along with a dog and a cat, and we have an older son who lives in DC and works as a legislative assistant for a congressman. I am also currently employed as a fitness instructor at The Clubs of Greensboro. In lieu of a traditional resume, please see my LinkedIn profile: https://www.linkedin.com/in/ann-cantrell-7a0215a.

Upload a Resume

Question applies to multiple boards.

Briefly list your professional, educational and volunteer experiences that are most relevant to the mission and duties of this board:

As stated, I have been a GCAS volunteer since 2012, and have always been a supporter of animal rights and welfare. I am a sucker for any furry face. I grew up in a home where there was always at least one pet, and I am grateful to my parents for that enrichment. I am very outgoing, and have excellent communication skills. I have a Bachelor of Science degree in Communications from Appalachian State University. In 2013, I co-authored with a real-estate attorney a textbook for national paralegal programs, which was published in 2014 by Pearson. Also, an article I wrote in 2009 was published in multiple publications/journals, most notably NC Lawyers Weekly and NALA's Facts and Findings.

Please list your experiences with animal services, animal control, and animal rescues; and discuss your ideas for improving the well-being of pets and the animal population, in general, within Guilford County.

I have enjoyed my time as a GCAS volunteer, and don't know why I didn't do it sooner. I would like to expand our shelter's outreach to the public, and utilize social media to get our animals' photos and videos on as many screens as possible. A family recently drove seven hours from Maryland to Greensboro just to adopt one of our cats, after seeing a short video of him that I posted of him on facebook. They posted an update with photos of him nestled in at their home, and they sang the praises of our staff and volunteers, highly recommending that people drive any distance to adopt from our shelter. This is fantastic publicity for our city and our shelter, and it's free. There are many other success stories that have resulted, and continue to result, from photos/videos seen on social media, but the Maryland story is my favorite, and certainly the most noteworthy. I would like to provide a better ground cover for the dog-walk areas. The gravel is hard on their feet, and they need and deserve the experience of running and playing on grass or something similar, for the short times they get to go out each day. Ruff Housing uses a grass-like ground cover that drains well, and is easy to clean with a garden hose. This would be a great option if affordable. We could hold fundraisers geared towards specific needs like this one. The fundraisers could even be done online, like GoFundMe pages. I feel like people are more likely to contribute to individual projects like this than blanket contributions, because (1) they know how their money will be spent, and (2) a "one-time" giving option gives people a sense of guickness and closure, and they're more likely to do it again on a future project that appeals to them. I want our shelter to have a pet-store atmosphere, and be a happy place for people to walk into and browse. I have heard so many people say they will not come because they are afraid it's a depressing place, and their hearts will be broken by all the sad, sick animals. Of course this is not the case, and we must find a way to combat this stigma. I want to increase our volunteer numbers, and make it easier for people to volunteer. I realize no training classes can be held right now, and I understand one idea is for new volunteers to be mentored by current ones. This is a great idea, and in implementing this procedure, perhaps new volunteers could be restricted to certain duties until they have a certain level of experience. I would like to create partnerships with local pet stores to get shelter animals into some of their cages. This program has been very successful in other cities. I want to continue to foster close relationships with rescue groups who can pull animals who are not adjusting well at the shelter. I would like to work with groups like Project BARK to help people who are struggling to keep their pets, which will keep them from being surrendered to the shelter. These are just a few ways we can reduce our intake numbers, and increase our adoptions. In closing, I would like to continue to push for legislation that punishes animal abusers, and keeps them from being able to own animals in the future. Thank you for your consideration.

# Demographics

# Caucasian/Non-Hispanic

Ethnicity

### Female

Gender

## 06/05/1963

Date of Birth



## Guilford County, North Carolina

GUILFORD COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES BOARD

#### **BOARD DETAILS**



This board makes recommendations to the Guilford County Board of Commissioners, in compliance with state law and county regulations, regarding the development or review the following policies associated with the promotion and protection of Animal Services within Guilford County: codes, standard rules and/or regulations which have been adopted by any agency of this State or any other state, agency or generally recognized association within the United States; fees for services to be rendered by the Guilford County Animal Shelter; problems relating the agency; planning of long-range goals and objectives; and any other duties and responsibilities assigned by the NC General Assembly, Guilford County Board of Commissioners, or Department of Animal Services.



#### **ENACTING RESOLUTION**

DETAILS

**ENACTING RESOLUTION** WEBSITE



Guilford County, North Carolina

# **GUILFORD COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES BOARD**

#### **BOARD ROSTER**

CARL C ASHBY 1st Term Apr 22, 2016 - Apr 21, 2018

**JUSTIN CONRAD** 1st Term Apr 22, 2016 - Apr 21, 2018

**RYNISHA D DEAN** 1st Term Apr 22, 2016 - Apr 21, 2018

**TAMMY GRAVES** 1st Term Apr 22, 2016 - Apr 21, 2018

**BEVERLY J LEVINE** 1st Term Apr 22, 2016 - Apr 21, 2018

OLGA C PERKINS 1st Term Apr 22, 2016 - Apr 21, 2018

**DONNA SMITH LAWRENCE** 1st Term Apr 22, 2016 - Apr 21, 2018

LINDA STANTON 1st Term Apr 22, 2016 - Apr 21, 2018

VACANCY

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Position 8 Category Public / At Large

Position 1 Category BOCC Liaison Appointed by Guilford County Board of Commissioners

Position 10 Category Public / At Large

Position 3 Category Veterinarian/Vet. Representative

Position 5 Category Animal Shelter Volunteer

Position 9 Category Public / At Large

Position 7 Category Public / At Large

Position 2 Category Public / At Large

Position 6 Category Public / At Large

VACANCY

Category Animal Rescue Representative