

DIVISION 1. GENERALLY

Sec. 10-21. Definitions.

Vicious or dangerous animal means any animal that has, without provocation, or will, without provocation, bite or fiercely attack any person or other animal, or any dog that is of a breed which is bred as a fighting or attack dog, or such dog that has been especially trained as an attack, guard or fighting dog.

(Ord. No. 2003-739, § 1, 3-18-2003)

DIVISION 3. VICIOUS ANIMALS

Sec. 10-81. Confinement required.

It shall be unlawful for the owner or other person in charge to keep a vicious or dangerous animal unless such animal is securely confined, bound or adequately leashed in such a manner as to prevent such animal from biting or attacking a person or other animal.

(Ord. No. 2003-739, § 15, 3-18-2003)

Sec. 10-82. Enclosures and posting of premises.

Whenever a vicious or dangerous animal is permitted to run at large within a wall, fence or other structure, it shall be the duty of the owner or person in charge of such animal to give public notice or warning that such animal is at large within such enclosure by conspicuous posting of a written or printed notice at every unlocked entrance to such enclosure.

(Ord. No. 2003-739, § 16, 3-18-2003)

Sec. 10-83. Authority in case of inadequate enclosure.

Whenever a vicious or dangerous animal is not properly or securely confined, the animal control officer or the chief of police may order confinement of the animal until the owner or other person in charge of such animal provides an enclosure that is adequate to confine such animal. Until an enclosure is provided which the animal control officer or chief of police determines to be adequate, the animal control officer or chief of police may order confinement of such animal by such person, organization or agency as the animal control officer or chief of police shall determine. The cost of feeding and caring for the animal shall be paid by the owner. If the owner of such animal fails to provide an adequate enclosure within 30 days, such animal may be disposed of or exterminated in a manner prescribed by the animal control officer.

(Ord. No. 2003-739, § 17, 3-18-2003)

Sec. 10-84. Reporting.

(a) Whenever any person claims that an animal is vicious or dangerous, such person shall make a sworn statement before the municipal court magistrate or other municipal official authorized to administer oaths. Such sworn statement shall set forth the reasons for such claim. Upon completion of the sworn statement, it shall be delivered to the animal control officer or chief of police who shall immediately cause an investigation to be made.

(b) If, upon the evidence obtained from such investigation, the animal control officer or chief of police determines that such animal is vicious or dangerous, either such officer shall order the owner of the animal to securely confine, bind or leash such animal in accordance within section 10-81.

(c) If the owner fails or refuses to comply with such order, the animal control officer or chief of police shall cause the animal to be confined at the expense of the owner in accordance with section 10-83.

(Ord. No. 2003-739, § 18, 3-18-2003)

Sec. 10-85. Liability of owner.

A person owns or keeps a vicious or dangerous animal in the city at such person's own risk. If a vicious or dangerous animal escapes from its enclosure, confinement or leash or injures any person outside of the enclosure or area of confinement, the owner of such animal shall be criminally liable for the actions of such animal.

(Ord. No. 2003-739, § 19, 3-18-2003)