

CHAPTER 4 – ANIMALS

Sec. 4-34. Dogs, animals not permitted at large; wearing licenses.

(a) Neither a female dog during her breeding or mating season, nor a wild animal, nor a vicious dog shall be permitted at large.

(b) In a rabies quarantine area, no dogs, or wild animals for which a permit has been issued by the city, shall be permitted at large. Each dog shall be confined within an enclosure on the owner's property, or secured so that the dog is confined entirely to the owner's property, or on a leash not to exceed six (6) feet in length and directly under the owner's control when not on the owner's property.

(c) Any dog over the age of four (4) months running at large shall wear a collar or harness to which is attached a valid license tag. Dogs used for control of livestock or while being used or trained for hunting or dogs while being exhibited or trained at a kennel club event or dogs while engaged in races approved by the Arizona racing commission, and such dogs while being transported to and from such events, need not wear a collar or harness with a valid license attached provided that they are properly vaccinated, licensed and controlled.

(d) No person in charge of any dog, or a wild animal, shall permit such dog, or wild animal, in a public park or upon any city or public school property or upon the property of a third party, unless the dog is physically restrained by a leash, enclosed in a car, cage or similar enclosure, or being exhibited or trained at a recognized kennel club event, public school or city sponsored event.

(e) Whenever any dog is found at large, the enforcement officer may take one or more of the following actions:

(1) The dog may be apprehended and impounded. The enforcement agent shall have the right to enter upon private property when it is necessary to apprehend any dog or wild animal that has been running at large. Entrance upon private property shall be in reasonable pursuit of a dog and shall not include entry into a domicile or enclosure which confines a dog except at the invitation of the occupant.

(2) The enforcement agent may issue a citation to the dog owner or person acting for the owner when the dog is at large. In lieu of issuing a citation, a report may be submitted to the office of the city attorney requesting criminal prosecution.

(3) In the judgment of the enforcement agent or a peace officer, any dog at large or other animal that is dangerous, vicious or fierce and a threat to human safety that cannot be safely impounded may be immediately slain. All animals slain under this section shall be diagnosed for rabies prior to release to the owner and or disposal. Public records will be maintained by the city for each slaying incident, including the results of the rabies diagnosis on the animal.

(f) Upon request of the City or County and issuance of an order by a hearing officer, justice of the peace or the municipal court, any dog or other animal impounded under this section may be kept or impounded until there is a final disposition of any criminal

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complaint or civil citation filed under this chapter. The City or County may direct that any dog be kept impounded until payment in full of any civil sanctions or fines imposed by a hearing officer, justice of the peace or the municipal court under this chapter.

(g) A violation of this section shall be punished by a minimum fine of not less than fifty (\$50.00) dollars, which shall not be waived or suspended.

(Code 1977, § 7-1-12)

(Ord. No. 96-31, 6/4/96, Amended)

(Ord. No. 97-103, 10/21/97, Amended (f))

(Ord. No. 01-175, 11/20/01, Amended)

State law reference(s) -- Dogs at large, A.R.S. § 11-1012.