## Basic Course Chapters

Animal control officers (ACOs) taking the exam for the basic training course are responsible for knowing the information in all basic course chapters and the laws.

### Introduction
- History of Animal Control
- Objectives of Animal Control
- Philosophy of Professionalism
- Training Requirement

### Animal Identification
- Introduction
- Identification of Canines
- Identification of Felines
- Identification of Wildlife

### Animal Capture and Handling
- Introduction
- Equipment*
- Muzzling
- Pursuit
- Territory
- Behavior
- Wildlife

### Animal Transportation
- Vehicle Standards
- Equipment
- Loading Procedures
- Unloading Procedures

### Animal Impoundment
- Shelter Facilities
- Laws Regulating Animal Shelters
- Shelter Standards for Care and Control
- Shelter Operations and Administration
- Humane Care and Treatment
- Rabies Quarantine

* Includes principles and procedures pertaining to bite sticks
## Table of Contents

**Disposition of Animals**
- Introduction
- Reclamation
- Adoption and Sterilization
- Euthanasia
- Carcass Disposal

**Controlled Substances**
- State and Federal Laws Relating to Controlled Substances and Other Medications
- Drugs Used in Animal Shelters
- Acquiring Controlled Substances
- Record Keeping of Controlled Substances
- Storage and Security of Controlled Substances

**Shelter Safety**
- Working Safely with Chemicals and Pesticides
- How to Avoid Disease and Injury
- First Aid
- Physical Fitness and Stress Reduction

**Sanitation**
- Introduction
- Personal Hygiene
- Cleaning and Disease Control
- Disinfectants
- Deodorizers
- Equipment and Vehicles
- Summary

**Animal Health**
- Sanitation and Hygiene
- Disease Transmission and Prevention
- Animal Disease Recognition
- Animal Injuries and First Aid
- Animal Reproduction

**Rabies**
- Introduction
Table of Contents

Animals That Contract Rabies
Clinical Signs of Rabies
Rabies Treatment
Rabies Seasons and Cycles
Animal Bites
Rabies Quarantine

Records
Introduction
Different Kinds of Records
Examples of Records

Communication Skills
Public Relations
Citizen Contact
Personnel Relations
Related Agencies

Court Conduct
Citations
Professional Behavior
Courtroom Procedures

Animal Cruelty Investigations
Introduction
Classifications and Types of Cruelty
Dealing With Violators
Basic Investigation Techniques
Evidence and Documentation
Seizure of Animals
Safety During Raids

Texas Laws**
Direct inquiries about law updates to your Regional Texas Department of State Health Services’ Zoonosis Control Program to confirm that you have
the current version of each law.

Texas Health and Safety Codes and Texas Administrative Codes (TAC) (Rules)

Chapter 821
TAC
Chapter 169 Standards for Allowable Methods of Euthanasia for Animals in the Custody of an Animal Shelter

Chapter 822
TAC
Chapter 169 Caging Requirements and Standards for Dangerous Wild Animals

Chapter 823
Animal Shelters

Chapter 826
Rabies Control Act
TAC
Chapter 169 Rabies Control and Eradication

Chapter 828
Dog and Cat Sterilization
TAC
Chapter 169 Dog and Cat Sterilization
TAC
Chapter 573 Sterilization of Animals from Releasing Agencies (TBVME Rules) (includes microchips/tattoos)

Chapter 829
Animal Control Officer Training

Penal Codes

Chapter 42
Disorderly Conduct and Related Offenses
42.09 Cruelty to Livestock Animals
42.091 Attack on Assistance Animal
42.092 Cruelty to Nonlivestock Animals
42.10 Dog Fighting
42.105 Cockfighting

** Please note that during the 78th (2003) legislative session, House Bill 2292 amended Chapter 531 of the Government Code to include a name change of the Texas Department of Health to the Department of State Health Services. Texas laws are undergoing a transition period; therefore, some laws still refer to terminology used under the purview of the Texas Department of Health.

Miscellaneous Texas Laws Pertaining to Animal Control

Family Code
Section 54.0407 Cruelty to Animals: Counseling Required

Occupations
Section 801.3585 Liability for Reporting Animal Cruelty;
Table of Contents

Code Immunity

Occupations Code

Section 1702.283 Cruelty to Animals

Code of Criminal Procedure

Article 42.12 Basic Conditions of Community Supervision (Judgment and Sentence)

Family Code

Section 85.021 Requirements of Order Applying to any Party
Section 85.022 Requirements of Order Applying to Person Who Committed Family Violence

Penal Code

Section 25.07 Violation of Certain Court Orders or Conditions of Bond in a Family Violence Case

Government Code

Section 29.003 Jurisdiction

Code of Criminal Procedure

Article 4.14 Jurisdiction of Municipal Court

Transportation Code

Section 285.001 Regulation of Roadside Vendor and Solicitor

Civil Practice and Remedies Code

Section 92.001-004 Limitation of Liability for Person Assisting Certain Animals

Government Code

Section 418.043 Other Powers and Duties (Emergency Management)

Penal Code

Section 38.15 Interference With Public Duties
Section 38.151 Interference With Police Service Animals

Penal Code

Section 46.15 Nonapplicability (Weapons)

Parks and Wildlife Code

Section 1.101 Definitions
Chapter 63 Game and Nongame Animals
Sections 43.851-856 Nonindigenous Snake Permit

Health and Safety Code

Sections 81.351-353 Animal-borne Diseases
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| TAC | Chapter 142 Estrays |
| Agriculture Code | Chapter 169 Reptile-Associated Salmonellosis |
| Occupations Code | Chapter 169 Care of Animals by Circuses, Carnivals, and Zoos |

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Text for the codes included in this manual is available online (refer to sites listed below).

Statutes are located at http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/.

Texas Administrative Codes are located at http://www.sos.state.tx.us/tac/.

Occupations Code, Chapter 802, Dog or Cat Breeders, was added during the 82nd legislative session (HB 1451) and was effective as of June 17, 2011. This statute, which contains information about licensure of dog or cat breeders as defined in Chapter 802 and designation of third-party inspectors, also can be accessed at the sites listed above or by contacting the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation at http://www.license.state.tx.us/.

Glossary

All underlined terms throughout the text are defined in the glossary.