

Section Contents

Miscellaneous Texas Laws Pertaining to Animal Control

Text for the codes included in this manual is available online; refer to the sites listed below for an official copy of a state law for use in a court case or for a law in its entirety:

Statutes are located at <http://www.statutes.legis.texas.gov/>.

Texas Administrative Codes are located at <http://www.sos.texas.gov/tac/>

| | |
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| | Page 1 |
| Family Code | Section 54.0407 Cruelty to Animals: Counseling Required |
| | Page 2 |
| Occupations Code | Section 801.3585 Liability for Reporting Animal Cruelty; Immunity |
| | Page 3 |
| Occupations Code | Section 1702.283 Cruelty to Animals |
| | Page 4 |
| Penal Code | Section 21.09 Bestiality |
| | Page 5-6 |
| 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 |
| | Page 7 |
| Government Code | Section 29.003 Jurisdiction |
| Code of Criminal Procedure | Article 4.14 Jurisdiction of Municipal Court |
| | Page 8 |
| Transportation Code | Section 285.001 Regulation of Roadside Vendor and Solicitor |
| | Pages 9-11 |
| Civil Practice and Remedies Code | Section 92.001-004 Limitation of Liability for Person Assisting Certain Animals |
| | Pages 12-13 |
| Government Code | Section 418.043 Other Powers and Duties (Emergency Management) |

Section Contents – cont.

Miscellaneous Texas Laws Pertaining to Animal Control

Pages 14-17

Penal Code **Section 38.15** Interference With Public Duties
 Section 38.151 Interference With Police Service Animals

Pages 18-23

Human Resources **Sections 121.002-006** Definitions; Discrimination
Code Prohibited; Penalties for and Damages Resulting From
 Discrimination; Procedures for Certain Actions; Opportunity
 to Cure; Responsibilities of Persons With Disabilities;
 Penalties for Improper Use of Assistance Animals

Pages 24-25

Health and Safety Code **Section 437.023** Service Animals

Page 26

Penal Code **Section 46.15** Nonapplicability (Weapons)

Page 27

Health and Safety Code **Chapter 481, Section 481.111** Texas Controlled
 Substances Act, Exemptions

Pages 28-38

Parks and Wildlife Code **Section 1.101** Definitions
 Chapter 63 Game and Nongame Animals
TAC **Subchapter Q** Statewide Fur-bearing Animal Proclamation

Pages 39-41

Parks and Wildlife Code **Sections 43.851-856** Nonindigenous Snake Permit

Pages 42-45

Health and Safety Code **Sections 81.351-353** Animal-borne Diseases
TAC **Chapter 169** Reptile-Associated Salmonellosis

Pages 46-54

Agriculture Code **Chapter 142** Estrays

For official copies of statutes or rules for use in a court case:

Statutes can be accessed at <http://www.statutes.legis.texas.gov/>

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Section Contents – cont.

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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, and its associated rule (Texas Administrative Code, Title 16, Part 4, Chapter 91, Dog or Cat Breeders Program) 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/> (click on “License Types” and then “Licensed Breeders”).

Side note: 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 (and its various terminology) to the Department of State Health Services (and its various terminology). Texas laws went through an extended transition period; amendments to reflect any remaining changes that needed to be incorporated were integrated via SB 219 during the 84th (2015) legislative session.