



KANSAS CITY, MO. POLICE DEPARTMENT
PROCEDURAL INSTRUCTION

DATE OF ISSUE
07-26-2017

EFFECTIVE DATE
07-26-2017

NO.
17-11

SUBJECT

Animal Bite Incidents

AMENDS

REFERENCE

P.I. Firearms Procedures

RESCINDS

Procedural Instruction 12-6

I. INTRODUCTION

This Procedural Instruction provides guidelines for handling animal bite calls and emergency euthanasia of injured or distressed animals.

II. TERMINOLOGY

- A. **Animal Bite** – Any puncture wound caused by the teeth of an animal exposing an individual to rabies or other diseases contracted from animals.
- B. **Emergency Euthanasia** – For the purpose of this directive, the act of putting to death, with the least amount of pain and distress, an animal suffering from a disease, condition or severe injury.

III. POLICY

- A. All citizens will be referred to the 3-1-1 Action Center at 816-513-1313 or 311 when they wish to report any animal concern, including lost or stray dogs.
- B. Communications Unit personnel will dispatch all calls received from the Action Center as directed by the City of Kansas City, Missouri's Animal Health and Public Safety Division (Animal Health Division) policies.
- *C. A sworn member will be dispatched on an animal bite incident when it is possibly related to an assault, the bite is serious in nature, or a person is in danger of an attack.
- D. A report is required only when a bite has occurred in conjunction with or results in an offense. A casualty report will not be taken.
- E. Animal Health Division will be notified by the Communications Unit anytime a sworn member is dispatched to the scene of an animal bite.
- F. Animal Health Division officers are available 24 hours a day, however the Watch I officer only responds to emergencies.

IV. PROCEDURE

- A. A sworn member dispatched on an animal bite call will:
1. Arrange for necessary medical assistance for the victim.
 2. Attempt to contain the animal or maintain visual contact with the animal until the Animal Health Division officer arrives.
 3. Refer to the emergency euthanasia and disposal guidelines that are set forth in the written directive entitled, "Firearms Procedures" when destroying a distressed and/or injured animal that presents a danger to the public when the following circumstances are present:
 - a. The owner of the animal is not present, is unknown, can not or will not take control of the animal, or
 - b. An Animal Health Division officer is unable to respond within a reasonable amount of time.
 4. Complete the necessary report(s).
 5. Leave the animal with the owner when possible.

David B. Zimmerman
Chief of Police

Adopted by the Board of Police Commissioners this ____ day of _____ 2017.

Leland Shurin
Board President

DISTRIBUTION: All Department Personnel
Public View Master Index - Internet
Department Master Index - Intranet
Policy Acknowledgement SyStem (PASS)