



Tulsa Police Department

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Policy # 126

Effective Date 03/23/2007

Policy Name Animal Control Emergency Call-Out

Approved Date 03/20/2007

Approved by *Wendell Franklin, Chief of Police*

Previous Date 08/15/2003

PURPOSE OF CHANGE:

To update policy format.

POLICY:

Animal control officers (ACOs) are available for emergency call-outs from 1700 hours to 0900 hours, Monday through Friday, and 24 hours Saturday and Sunday. ACOs are on duty and available for calls during normal business hours which are 0900 hours to 1700 hours Monday through Friday. Supervisory approval is not necessary for officers to call-out an ACO.

ACOs will respond to the following calls: animal cruelty, animal bites, livestock on the roadway, injured animals, and animals who are preventing the safe passage of the public. ACOs may be called out for assistance when an animal is aggressively charging people or when an animal that is wild by nature poses a threat. ACOs will also respond to calls from the Tulsa Airport Police regarding animals that, if not immediately picked up and removed from airport property, could cause a disruption in flight operations. Officers will still be required to respond to the above calls to ensure that an ACO is needed and will provide traffic control as necessary.

ACOs will conduct cruelty to animal investigations, handle emergency animal control problems, and will assist officers when animals are preventing them from performing their duties or incidental to an arrest or police investigation (e.g., when a subject has been arrested and there is no one to care for the animal). Officers should not call out ACOs for barking dog nuisance violations, stray dogs and cats, animals in trashcans, etc.

SUMMARY: Procedures for animal control officer call-outs.

APPLIES TO: All police personnel

DEFINITIONS: None

PROCEDURES:

1. Officers will contact the Service-side dispatcher when they respond to a call where an ACO is needed. The primary officer will remain at the scene until the ACO arrives.
2. When officers respond to calls regarding animal cruelty, injured animals, or livestock on the roadway, they will verify that an ACO is needed before requesting a call-out.
3. ACOs who are on emergency call-out status will respond to the scene to assist officers when notified.

REGULATIONS: None

REFERENCES: None