## TITLE 21. PUBLIC SAFETY CODE

## Chapter 1. ANIMAL CONTROL LAW

## Section

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## 21 M.P.T.L. ch. 1 § 1

## §. 1. Definitions.

Terms used in this chapter shall be construed as follows, unless another construction is clearly apparent from the language or context in which the term is used or unless the construction is inconsistent with the manifest intention of the Tribal Council:

- a. "Abandon" means any Animal left more than 24 hours without a person checking on the condition of the Animal(s) and providing food and water. Any Animal left on private property without the Owner's consent or deserted or dumped on public property or roadways shall be considered abandoned.
- b. "Animal" means any brute creature, including, but not limited to, dogs, cats, monkeys, guinea pigs, hamsters, rabbits, birds and reptiles.
- c. "Animal Control Officer and/or Tribal Police Officer" means any sworn officer of the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation Police Department.
- d. "Bite" means a puncture or tear of the skin inflicted by the teeth of an Animal.

- e. "Citation" means a summons or other legal documents which a Tribal Police Officer or Animal Control Officer are authorized to serve under Tribal Law.
- f. "Dangerous Animal/Dog" means any Animal that without justification attacks a person or domestic Animal causing physical injury or death, or behaves in a manner that a reasonable person would believe poses an unjustified imminent threat of serious injury, or death to 1 or more persons or domestic Animals.
- g. "Harbor" means the keeping of any Animal and returning daily to give said Animal food and care.
- h. "Humane Manner" means the adequate care of an Animal and shall include, but is not limited to, adequate shelter, shade, heat, ventilation, sanitary shelter, wholesome food, and a fresh adequate source of water, consistent with the normal requirements and feeding habits of the Animal's size, species, and breed.
- i. "Keeper" means any person, other than the Owner, who harbors or has in his possession any dog, cat or Animal.
- j. "Neutered" means a male Animal rendered permanently incapable of reproduction.
- k. "Surviving Spouse" has the same meaning as provided in 29 M.P.T.L. ch. 1, The Non-Tribal Member Surviving Spouse Law.
- 1. "Nuisance" means an Animal that is roaming at large; damages, soils, defiles, or defecates on private property other than the Owner's or on public walks and recreation areas unless such waste is immediately removed and properly disposed of by the Owner; causes unsanitary, dangerous or offensive conditions; causes a disturbance by excessive barking or other noise making; chases vehicles, or molests, attacks, or interferes with persons or other domestic Animals on public property.
- m. "Owner" means a Tribal Member head of household, Surviving Spouse, or guardian of Tribal Member children under the age of 18 residing in the household, having the right of property or custody of an Animal or who keeps or harbors an Animal or knowingly permits an Animal to remain on or about any premises occupied by said person.
- n. "Public Safety Committee" means the standing regulatory committee established pursuant to the Mashantucket Pequot Constitution.
- o. "Quarantine" means to detain or isolate an Animal suspected of being infected with rabies.
- p. "Restraint" means an Animal fenced within the real property limits of its Owner or secured by a leash or lead or under the control of an Owner or a responsible person designated by the Owner.
- ${\bf q.}$  "Reservation" means the Mashantucket Pequot Reservation as that term is defined in

- 25 U.S.C.  $\S$  1752(7) together with any land held by the United States government in trust for the Tribe or any other area subject to the Tribe's jurisdiction.
- r. "Roaming At Large" means an Animal which is off the property of the Owner and not under restraint or control of the Owner.
- s. "Spayed" means a female Animal rendered permanently incapable of reproduction.
- t. "Take Charge" means to remove and take custody of and transport to an appropriate holding facility, i.e. veterinarian, pound, and/or Animal rescue for the care and maintenance of such Animal, at the Owner's expense.
- u. "Tribe" means the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe, also known as The Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation.
- ${\tt v.}$  "Tribal Clerk" refers to the Office of the Tribal Clerk of the Tribe.

#### §2. Tribal Animal Control

- a. The Tribal Clerk shall make or cause to be made a list of all dogs and cats belonging to any Owner, Keeper or other person owning or caring for dogs or cats residing on the Reservation and to perform such other duties as are prescribed herein.
- b. The Animal Control Officer and/or Tribal Police Officer shall have the authority to issue Citations for violations of this Law and to perform such other duties as are prescribed herein.

21 M.P.T.L. ch. 1 § 3

# §3. Enforcement and Authority - Tribal Animal Control Officer and/or Tribal Police Officer.

- a. The Animal Control Officer and/or Tribal Police Officer shall be empowered to enforce the provisions of this Law, and may lawfully take charge of any Animal that he finds to be in violation of this Law. Such officer may, in his discretion, transport any Animal found to be in violation of any provision of this Law to a dog pound, veterinarian, or Animal shelter and the Owner shall be responsible for all charges associated with the shelter and or treatment of the Animal.
- b. The Animal Control Officer and/or Tribal Police Officer shall be empowered to issue a Citation and/or a cease and desist order to any Owner or Keeper of an Animal when based upon personal observation, eye witness reports or investigation, the officer has reasonable cause to believe that the Owner or Keeper has committed a violation of this Law, or who otherwise fails to comply with the requirements of this Law.
- c. The Animal Control Officer and/or Tribal Police Officer shall have the power to enter property (public or private) when in the course of executing the duties and obligations under this Law, he has reasonable

cause to believe a violation of this Law is occurring and has reason to believe that potential harm has occurred or is about to occur.

21 M.P.T.L. ch. 1 § 4

## §4 Fees and General Provisions - Dogs and Cats to be Licensed.

- a. No Owner may keep or harbor more than three (3) dogs of three (3) months of age or older, and/or more than three (3) cats of three (3) months of age or older.
- b. The Owner or Keeper of more than three (3) dogs of three (3) months of age or older, and/or more than three (3) cats of three (3) months of age or older who has owned said Animals prior to the enactment, and publication of this Law, shall be allowed to maintain ownership of or keep said Animals as long as said Animals are in compliance with all licensing requirements, and Mashantucket Pequot Animal Control Laws.
- c. The Owner shall pay to the Tribal Clerk for such license the sum of \$10 for each neutered or spayed dog or cat, and the sum of \$18 for each dog or cat that has not been neutered or spayed. License fees shall not be pro-rated by month for dogs or cats that become three (3) months of age after June  $30^{\rm th}$ , but shall remain the same throughout the year.
- d. Any person applying for a license for a dog or cat under subsection (a) of this Section 4 shall submit a Certificate of Rabies Vaccination in accordance with Section 5 herein to the Tribal Clerk signed by a licensed veterinarian, or a copy thereof, stating that such dog or cat has been vaccinated against rabies, the date of the vaccination and the duration of the immunity provided by the vaccine. No license shall be issued unless the certificate indicates that the immunity provided by the vaccine is effective at the time of licensing.
- e. The Tribal Clerk may not issue a license for a neutered or spayed dog or cat not previously licensed by the Tribal Clerk unless the person obtaining the license presents a certificate from a licensed veterinarian stating that he has neutered or spayed the dog or cat or that said veterinarian has examined the Animal and found it to be neutered or spayed.
- f. Any Owner of an unlicensed dog or cat over three (3) months old must license said dog or cat within thirty (30) days of the acquisition. If the new Owner presents satisfactory evidence that said dog or cat was obtained from a licensed kennel or animal welfare organization, or presents certain proof of new ownership within said thirty (30) days, no penalties for late licensing shall be charged.
- g. Owners who fail to license a dog or cat when it becomes three (3) months old shall be subject to a penalty of \$1 per day, until such dog or cat is licensed in accordance with this Law; provided, no penalty shall be charged for the period prior to the date the Owner acquired the Animal as established by certain proof of new ownership.
- h. The Owner or Keeper of a licensed dog or cat shall keep around said Animal's neck or body a collar or harness of leather or other suitable material, to which shall be securely attached a tag issued to such Owner by the Tribal Clerk. If any such tag is lost, the Owner of

such dog or cat shall forthwith secure a substitute tag from the Tribal Clerk at a cost of \$10.

- i. Any blind, deaf or mobility impaired person who is the Owner of a dog which has been trained and educated to guide and assist such person shall receive a license and tag for such dog and no fee shall be charged by the Tribal Clerk. When any such dog has not been previously licensed by the Tribal Clerk, the Tribal Clerk shall not license such dog or issue to the Owner a license and tag unless written evidence is exhibited to the Tribal Clerk that the dog is trained and educated and intended in fact to perform such guide service for such Owner. Dogs between three (3) months and one (1) year of age, placed for training as guide dogs, shall also receive a license and tag at no fee, provided satisfactory evidence is presented that the dog was placed by an organization which supplies such guide dogs.
- j. Any Owner of a dog or cat residing on the Reservation which is not duly licensed shall be fined \$25 for the first offense and if not corrected within fourteen (14) days, a fine of \$50 for the second offense. If after thirty (30) days from the first offense the Animal is not licensed, the Animal will be subject to removal and the Owner held responsible for all fees associated with impound, care and possible disposal of said Animal.
- k. Any dog or cat found to be without a tag attached to such Animal by means of a collar shall be presumed to be unlicensed.
- 1. Any person becoming the Owner of an already licensed dog or cat from another town shall present the license and tag of such Animal to the Tribal Clerk and for a fee of \$5. The Tribal Clerk shall retain the old license and tag in his/her possession.
- m. In the case where the Owner resides on tribally owned property in another Town, the dog or cat must be licensed by that Town and a copy of said license given to the Tribal Clerk, to be kept on record in the Tribal Clerk's office.
- n. This Section shall not apply to any dog or cat which is imported to the Reservation for exhibition purposes and which does not remain on the Reservation for more than thirty (30) days. Any person may import any licensed dog with a collar, tag and rabies vaccination certificate, and keep the same on the Reservation for not more than thirty (30) days, without complying with the provisions of this Section 4.

21 M.P.T.L. ch. 1 § 5

# §5. Rabies Vaccination Required for Dogs and Cats.

- a. Any Owner or Keeper of a dog or cat of the age of three (3) months or older shall have such dog or cat vaccinated against rabies. Any Animal vaccinated prior to 1 year of age or receiving a primary rabies vaccine at any age shall be considered protected for only 1 year and shall be given a booster.
- b. A certificate of rabies vaccination shall be on a form approved by the National Association of Public Health Veterinarians; any form approved by the State of Connecticut Veterinarian or any form that has

the following information regarding the vaccinated Animal: The name and address of its Owner; a description of the Animal which specifies its species, breed, age, color or markings and sex; the date of the vaccination, the duration of the immunity provided by the vaccination, the producer of the vaccine and the vaccine serial number; the rabies tag number; and the signature and license number of the veterinarian administering the vaccination. Such certificate shall be the official proof of rabies vaccination submitted to the Tribal Clerk.

- c. Any person who owns a dog or cat and who fails to vaccinate the Animal against rabies within ten (10) days of acquiring it shall, in addition to any penalty provided by this Law requiring licensing, be fined \$150.
- d. Any Animal that the Animal Control Officer and/or Tribal Police Officer suspects of being rabid shall immediately be impounded at a facility approved by the Public Safety Committee and shall be subject to the provisions of the Connecticut General Statutes relating to the control of rabies.

21 M.P.T.L. ch. 1 § 6

#### §6. Tribal Clerk to Provide Licenses and Tags.

- a. Each person shall receive from the Tribal Clerk a temporary license to be renewed annually, during the month of June, on or before June 30, and on a form prescribed by the Public Safety Committee. Said license shall contain a description of the dog or cat, along with a photo of the Animal and the number under which such dog or cat is licensed and the Tribal Clerk shall issue to such person a tag-plate prescribed by the Public Safety Committee.
- b. The Tribal Clerk shall provide for renewal through the mail of licenses issued under Section 4 and shall make applications for such licenses available at the Tribal Clerk's Office.
- c. The Tribal Clerk shall, annually, at least thirty (30) days before June thirtieth, provide notice that dog and cat licenses must be renewed during the month of June.
- d. On or before August  $1^{\rm st}$  of each year, the Tribal Clerk shall provide a list or a copy of all licenses issued to the Tribal Police Department.
- e. License tags are non-transferable.

21 M.P.T.L. ch. 1 § 7

## §7. Nuisance; Barking and/or Howling Dogs.

- a. No person shall own, keep, or harbor any dog or dogs which is or are a nuisance by reason of loud, frequent or habitual barking, howling or yelping that shall disturb the peace of any person.
- b. No person shall own, keep or harbor any dog that kills, wounds or worries any domestic Animal.

- c. No person shall own or harbor a dog which is a nuisance by reason of a vicious disposition, as defined in Section 12.
- d. Any person who is in violation of any provision of this Section shall be issued a Citation for the first offense and will be fined not more than \$75. The Owner will then be fined not more than \$100 for any subsequent offense. Failure to comply and remain in compliance will subject the dog to immediate impoundment and/or disposal at the owner's expense.
- e. Dogs are personal property and Owners are responsible for damages caused by their  $\log$ .

## §8. Dogs Roaming at Large.

- a. No Owner or Keeper of any dog shall allow such dog to be roaming at large. Violation of any provision of this subsection shall result in a fine of \$75 for the first offense, \$150 for the second offense, and \$300 for each subsequent offense. Failure to comply and remain in compliance with this Section will subject the dog to immediate impoundment in accordance with the provisions contained in Sections 8(b) and 8(c) of this Law.
- b. The Animal Control Officer and/or Tribal Police Officer shall make diligent search and inquiry for any violation of this provision and may take into custody any dog found roaming at large in violation of this Such Animal shall then be impounded at facility approved by the Public Safety Committee. If the Owner or Keeper is known they shall be notified immediately. An impoundment fee of \$10, in addition to all other costs will be charged to the Owner or Keeper for the release of If the Owner or Keeper is unknown a description of such Animal shall be published in the lost and found column of a newspaper having circulation in the area. If such Animal is not claimed by and released to the Owner within seven (7) days after the date of publication, the Animal Control Officer and/or Tribal Police Officer may sell such Animal to any person who satisfies to the Animal Control Officer and/or Tribal Police Officer that he is purchasing it as a pet and that he can give it a good home and proper care. A fee of \$5 will be charged for the sale of the Animal. If any Animal is not claimed by and released to the Owner or purchased as a pet, the Animal Control Officer and/or Tribal Police Officer may cause such Animal to be euthanized by a licensed veterinarian.
- c. Any Owner or Keeper of any dog who, knowing of vicious propensities of such dog and having violated the provisions of subsection (a) of this Section within the preceding year, intentionally or recklessly violates the provisions of subsection (a) of this Section shall be fined not more than \$1,000 or imprisoned not more than six (6) months, or both, and shall be liable for any injuries to any person or Animal caused by the dog roaming at large provided that such injured person was not teasing, tormenting or abusing such dog.

21 M.P.T.L. ch. 1 § 9

## §9. Leash Law.

- a. A dog shall not be considered to be roaming at large if it is on a leash not to exceed six (6) feet in length and is in the charge of a person competent to restrain such Animal and to prevent it from annoying or worrying pedestrians or trespassing on private property.
- b. Every female dog or cat in heat shall be confined in a building or secure enclosure in such a manner that such Animal cannot come into contact with another dog or cat except for planned breeding.

## §10. Cruelty to Animals.

- a. Any person who tortures, wounds, mutilates, beats, kills, or otherwise unjustifiably injures any Animal or inflicts cruelty upon it or, if a minor child, his/her parent or guardian shall be subject to a fine not to exceed \$5,000 and/or imprisonment for a term not to exceed six (6) months.
- b. Any person who, having confined any Animal, fails to give such Animal proper care or fails to supply any such Animal with proper food, drink or protection from the weather or abandons it shall be subject to a fine not to exceed \$5,000 and/or imprisonment for a term not to exceed six (6) months. Proper care shall include, but not be limited to:
  - (i) Food sufficient to maintain all Animals in good health.
  - (ii) If potable water is not accessible to the Animals at all times, it shall be provided daily and in sufficient quantity for the health of the Animals.
  - (iii) The shelter shall provide adequate protection from sunlight. When sunlight is likely to cause heat exhaustion of an Animal tied or caged outside, sufficient shade by natural or artificial means shall be provided to protect the Animal from the direct sunlight.
  - (iv) If a dog is tied or confined unattended outdoors under weather conditions which adversely affect the health of the dog, a shelter of suitable size to accommodate the dog shall be provided. —Said shelter shall be structurally sound and in good repair to protect the Animal from injury, and provide sufficient space to allow each Animal adequate freedom of movement. Inadequate space may be indicated by debility, stress or abnormal behavior patterns.
  - (v) Minimum standards of sanitation shall include periodic cleaning to remove excreta and other waste materials, dirt and trash so as to minimize health hazards.
- c. Any person who unjustifiably administers any poisonous or noxious drug or substance to any domestic Animal or unjustifiably exposes the Animal to any such drug or substance, with intent that the same shall be taken by an Animal, or causes it to be done, shall be subject to a

fine not to exceed \$5,000 and/or imprisonment for a term not to exceed six (6) months.

- d. The Animal Control Officer and/or Tribal Police Officer may interfere to prevent any act of cruelty upon any dog or other Animal, and any person who interferes with or obstructs or resists such officer in the discharge of such duty shall be subject to a fine not to exceed \$5,000 and/or imprisonment for a term not to exceed six (6) months.
- e. The Animal Control Officer and/or Tribal Police Officer may lawfully take charge of any Animal found neglected or cruelly treated, in violation of this Section. If such Animal is so injured or diseased that in the opinion of a licensed veterinarian should be destroyed immediately, such officer may humanely destroy or cause such Animal to be humanely destroyed and the Owner or Keeper of such Animal shall not be permitted to recover damages of any kind for such action. Owner is responsible for any and all costs associated with the action.
- f. No person except the Animal Control and/or Tribal Police officer in the pursuit of his duties shall, within the boundaries of the Reservation, shoot or destroy any dog except in situations as stated in subsection (h) of this Section.
- g. The provisions of this Section shall not apply to any licensed veterinarian while following accepted standards of practice of the profession, to any member of the Tribal Police while lawfully acting within the scope of their duties, to any person acting pursuant to this Section or to any person while lawfully engaged in the taking of wildlife.
- h. Any person may lawfully destroy or injure an Animal provided that such Animal has suddenly and without provocation assaulted him or another person. The force used shall be the minimum amount necessary to stop the assault.
- 21 M.P.T.L. ch. 1 § 11

# §11. Fighting Animals for Amusement or Gain.

- a. Any person who knowingly: owns, possesses, keeps, or trains an Animal engaged in an exhibition of fighting for amusement or gain; possesses, keeps, or trains an Animal with the intent that it be engaged in an exhibition of fighting for amusement or gain; permits an act described in this subsection to take place on premises under his control; acts as judge or spectator at an exhibition of Animal fighting for amusement or gain, or bets or wagers on the outcome of an exhibition of Animal fighting for amusement or gain, shall be subject to a fine not to exceed \$5,000.
- b. Any person who knowingly permits an Animal who has been trained or who has engaged in an exhibition of fighting for amusement or gain or any Animal who has participated in an exhibition of fighting for amusement or gain to be roaming at large or who has been found to be in violation of this Section 11 shall be strictly liable for the damage caused by such Animal and the court shall have discretion to award triple the amount of such damage.

# §12. Vicious Dogs.

a. It shall be unlawful for any person to own, possess, keep, exercise control over, maintain, harbor, transport, or sell within the Reservation boundaries any dog or dogs fitting the following classification of a vicious or dangerous dog, or by virtue of number or type, being offensive or dangerous to the public health, safety, or welfare:

- (i) Any dog that constitutes a physical threat to human beings or domestic Animals due to a known vicious propensity to endanger life.
- (ii) Any dog which, when unprovoked, approaches in a terrorizing manner, any person in an attitude of attack.
- (iii) Threatens someone, unprovoked, in a public place.
- (iv) Has a known tendency to attack unprovoked or otherwise endanger people or other domestic Animals.
- (v) Has behaved, on two (2) or more occasions, in a manner that a reasonable person would believe posed an unjustified threat of serious injury or death to a person or domestic Animal.
- (vi) Bites, injuries, or attacks a person or domestic Animal without provocation, on public or private property.
- (vii) Is trained or kept for dog-fighting, or Owner has demonstrated that said dog has been trained for fighting.
- (viii) Isn't licensed and properly vaccinated.
- (ix) Has been used in the commission of a crime.
- (x) Was declared to be a vicious or dangerous dog by the Animal control authority or court of another jurisdiction.
- (xi) Has been declared to be a vicious or dangerous dog by the Animal Control Officer and/or Tribal Police Officer or Tribal Court on the Mashantucket Pequot Reservation.

Exceptions: A dog shall not be deemed vicious solely because it bites, attacks or menaces:

- (i) Any person assaulting its Owner.
- (ii) Any person or Animal that has tormented or abused it.
- (iii) It is otherwise acting in defense of any attack from a person or other Animal upon its Owner or another person.
- (iv) It is protecting its young.
- (v) If it is a dog used by and under the control of Tribal Law Enforcement authorities.
- b. If the dog Owner has received six (6) complaints in regards to his dog or dogs in a six (6) month period, and has failed to demonstrate the effort to control the dog or dogs, the Owner shall receive a summons to appear in Tribal Court for a determination of possible disposal of said dog or dogs. Failure by the Owner to comply and remain in compliance will subject the dog or dogs to immediate impoundment and disposal at the Owner's expense.
- c. If there is fighting or tumultuous behavior demonstrated by the dog Owner to another member of the public in regards to the activity of said dog, the Owner will be found in violation of MPCC 53a-181, Breach of Peace and/or be fined \$1,000.

- d. Whoever is assaulted by a dog, or whose own dog or cat is attacked by a dog, may within thirty (30) days thereafter, make a written complaint to the Animal Control Officer and/or Tribal Police Officer who shall investigate said complaint. Upon the finding of just cause for said complaint, the Animal Control Officer and/or Tribal Police Officer shall file a written report with the Office of the Tribal Prosecutor who shall, within ten (10) days of receipt of the report, file a complaint with the Tribal Court. The Tribal Prosecutor shall cause the Owner of the vicious dog to be served with a complaint if the Tribal Prosecutor believes, or has reason to believe, that said dog is dangerous and/or vicious. If after hearing, the Tribal Court is satisfied that the complaint is true, the Court shall order the destruction of the dog at the Owner's expense.
- e. If an Animal is found to be vicious under this Section, its Owner or Keeper, or if a minor child, his/her parent or guardian may be fined up to \$5,000 and/or imprisonment for a term not to exceed six (6) months and shall be liable for any injuries to person or Animal caused by the vicious dog.
- f. The Animal Control Officer and/or Tribal Police Officer shall enter property (public or private) for the purpose of impounding a vicious dog. If said dog attacks the Animal Control Officer and/or Tribal Police Officer in the performance of their duties, the Animal Control Officer and/or Tribal Police Officer will be justified in using deadly force in the protection of himself or others. If said dog is injured or destroyed during an attempt to impound it, neither the Animal Control Officer and/or Tribal Police Officer shall be held liable.

## §13. Quarantine of Biting Animals.

- a. DUTY TO REPORT: In the event any person is bitten or shows visible evidence of attack by a dog, cat, or other Animal the person injured, or their parent or guardian, and the Owner or Keeper of said Animal shall have the duty to immediately notify the Animal Control Officer or Tribal Police of the incident.
- b. QUARANTINE OF ANIMALS: Any Animal which has bitten shall be placed into quarantine for a period of fourteen (14) days. If the Owner of the Animal is known, the quarantine may take place on the Owner's property provided that they are able to comply with the quarantine instructions. Failure to comply will result in the seizure of the Animal for the remainder of the quarantine period and the Owner, or Keeper of the Animal shall be subject to the general penalties provision. If the Owner of the Animal is unknown, the quarantine shall take place at a facility approved by the Public Safety Committee.
- c. Any dog, cat or other Animal held in quarantine which is clinically diagnosed as rabid by two (2) licensed veterinarians, at least one (1) of whom shall be engaged in private practice, shall be humanely euthanized immediately without prior notice to the Owner or Keeper of same. No person who destroys any Animal in accordance with this subsection shall be held liable therefore.

d. The Owner of an Animal is responsible for any expenses incurred in connection with keeping the Animal in an isolation facility, supervision and the examination of the Animal by a veterinarian and the euthanization or other treatment of said Animal.

21 M.P.T.L. ch. 1 § 14

## §14. Safety Provisions.

- a. Interference with the Animal Control Officer and/or Tribal Police officer or the Animal Control Officer's Representatives: No one shall interfere with, molest, hinder, or prevent such persons in the discharge of their duties as herein prescribed or to violate any of the provisions of this Law.
- b. Penalty for Violations: Unless otherwise provided in this Law, any person who violates any of the provisions of this Law shall be fined no less than \$25 and not more than \$10,000 in addition to other penalties prescribed by law.
- c. Any person who intentionally kills or injures any specifically certified service Animal while such Animal is in the performance of its duties under the supervision of its Owner shall be subject to a fine no less than \$5,000 and/or imprisonment for a term not to exceed one (1) year or both. In addition to said penalty, in the event the Animal is killed or injured so badly that it is not able to continue its duties, the person who killed or injured the Animal shall pay all costs associated with caring for and/or replacing the Animal.

## § 15. Private Cause of Action.

a. Nothing in this law shall affect the rights of a person to bring a claim against another person for damage to person or property caused by a dog.