

**REQUIREMENTS FOR OWNER OF A DANGEROUS DOG  
RESIDING WITHIN THE UNINCORPORATED LIMITS OF Jefferson County**

IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED UNDER SEC. 822.041., SUBCHAPTER D., DANGEROUS DOGS, AND CHAPTER 822 OF THE HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE THAT YOU ARE THE OWNER OF A DANGEROUS DOG.

YOU ARE IN ALLEGED VIOLATION OF SEC. 822.044., ATTACK BY DANGEROUS DOG., AND ARE SUBJECT TO SEC. 822.045., TITLED VIOLATIONS.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR OWNER OF DANGEROUS DOG:**

UNDER SEC. 822.042., REQUIREMENTS FOR OWNER OF DANGEROUS DOGS.,

- 1 YOU HAVE 30 DAYS TO REGISTER THE DANGEROUS DOG WITH THE Jefferson County Sheriff's Office
- 2 YOU WILL RESTRAIN THE DANGEROUS DOG AT ALL TIMES ON A LEASH IN THE IMMEDIATE CONTROL OF A PERSON OR IN A SECURE ENCLOSURE; AND
- 3 OBTAIN LIABILITY INSURANCE COVERAGE OR SHOW FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY IN AN AMOUNT OF AT LEAST \$100,000.00 TO COVER DAMAGES RESULTING FROM AN ATTACK BY THE DANGEROUS DOG CAUSING BODILY INJURY TO A PERSON.

**LOCAL REGULATIONS OF DANGEROUS DOGS:**

UNDER SEC. 822.047., LOCAL REGULATION OF DANGEROUS DOGS, Jefferson County DEFINES SECURE ENCLOSURE AS MENTIONED IN SEC. 822.041.(4), AND SEC. 822.043.(C), AS AN AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 25 FEET BY 12 FEET SURROUNDED BY A FENCE OF NOT LESS THAN 8 FEET IN HEIGHT. THE SECURE ENCLOSURE SHALL HAVE A CONCRETE FLOOR WHICH SHALL HAVE THE BOTTOM OF THE FENCE IMBEDDED WITHIN THE CONCRETE A MINIMUM OF 3 INCHES. THE SECURE ENCLOSURE SHALL HAVE A SUITABLE ROOF OVER THE TOP TO INSURE THE DANGEROUS DOG CANNOT CLIMB OUT OF THE TOP, IN ADDITION, THE SECURE ENCLOSURE SHALL HAVE A GATE WHICH SHALL BE LOCKED WITH A KEY TYPE PAD LOCK. THE SECURE ENCLOSURE SHALL HAVE SIGNS PLACED ON ALL 4 SIDES WHICH SHALL READ DANGEROUS DOG. THE LETTERS ON THE SIGN SHALL BE A MINIMUM OF 4 INCHES IN HEIGHT. THE GATE ON THE SECURED ENCLOSURE SHALL HAVE A MAXIMUM CLEARANCE ON THE BOTTOM OF 2 INCHES AND A MAXIMUM CLEARANCE ON THE TOP OF 2 INCHES.

AFTER AN ATTACK BY A DANGEROUS DOG, THE OWNER SHALL BE ORDERED BY THE OFFICER INVESTIGATING THE INCIDENT TO IMPOUND THE DANGEROUS DOG AT THE OWNERS EXPENSE AT A FACILITY APPROVED BY THE Jefferson County Sheriff's Office . THE OWNER OF THE DANGEROUS DOG IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE TRANSPORT TO AND FROM THE IMPOUND AREA.

**FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THESE REGULATIONS MAY LEAD TO CRIMINAL PROSECUTION.**

§ 822.012. CERTAIN DOGS AND COYOTES PROHIBITED FROM RUNNING AT LARGE; CRIMINAL PENALTY. (a) The owner, keeper, or person in control of a dog or coyote that the owner, keeper, or person knows is accustomed to run, worry, or kill livestock, domestic animals, or fowls may not permit the dog or coyote to run at large. (b) A person who violates this section commits an offense. An offense under this subsection is punishable by a fine of not more than \$100. (c) Each time a dog or coyote runs at large in violation of this section constitutes a separate offense. Added by Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989. Renumbered from Health & Safety Code § 822.011 and amended by Acts 2003, 78th Leg., ch. 1002, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 2003. § 822.013. DOGS OR COYOTES THAT ATTACK ANIMALS. (a) A dog or coyote that is attacking, is about to attack, or has recently attacked livestock, domestic animals, or fowls may be killed by: (1) any person witnessing the attack; or (2) the attacked animal's owner or a person acting on behalf of the owner if the owner or person has knowledge of the attack. (b) A person who kills a dog or coyote as provided by this section is not liable for damages to the owner, keeper, or person in control of the dog or coyote. (c) A person who discovers on the person's property a dog or coyote known or suspected of having killed livestock, domestic animals, or fowls may detain or impound the dog or coyote and return it to its owner or deliver the dog or coyote to the local animal control authority. The owner of the dog or coyote is liable for all costs incurred in the capture and care of the dog or coyote and all damage done by the dog or coyote. (d) The owner, keeper, or person in control of a dog or coyote that is known to have attacked livestock, domestic animals, or fowls shall control the dog or coyote in a manner approved by the local animal control authority. (e) A person is not required to acquire a hunting license under Section 42.002, Parks and Wildlife Code, to kill a dog or coyote under this section. Added by Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989. Renumbered from Health & Safety Code § 822.033 and amended by Acts 2003, 78th Leg., ch. 1002, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 2003.