

Professional Development Training for ACOs
Hosted by Montgomery County Animal Control
August 5, 2026
Clarksville, Tennessee



8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Each Day

Interpersonal Communication: For Animal Control professionals, communication skills are the most important of all the skills necessary to succeed in our profession. Being effective at communicating equates into becoming successful. Being an ineffective communicator usually results in poor interpersonal relationships, citizens' complaints, and possibly even injury or death on the job. This training offers practical tools and strategies for improving an ACO's verbal and nonverbal communication skills.

Courtroom Testimony and Report Writing: When should court preparation start? What should be done on the day of court? This block of instruction will focus on courtroom preparation and testimony from the initial call until the court date, to include when/why you should seek out your prosecutor before court; important things that should be done during your testimony; recognizing defense tactics and how to avoid them; and courtroom professionalism and dress standards/appearance. This course also includes instruction on how to write fact-based, unbiased, clear, grammatical reports as a record of the event and a tool for prosecution.

Community Cooperation and Educational Outreach: Animal Control Officers are often tapped to address civic leagues, community groups and administration. This instruction offers tips, guidelines and information on developing and speaking for a variety of functions and organizations. Effective communication is key to improving and enhancing your agency's image and often can make a difference in support and funding. Students will work on creating and presenting to the group to get firsthand experience in dealing with diverse community agencies.

Class Location – Montgomery County Animal Control, 437 Jordan Rd Clarksville, TN. Need directions? Please call Dave Kaske at 931-648-5750.

The Professional Development Course costs just \$175 per student or \$450 per student who also attends the Field Training Officer Certification and register before 7/27/26. For registrations received after 7/27/26, please add \$50 per attendee in late fees. To register, please complete and submit the attached registration form or visit www.accacademy.net (click on the "course calendar" link). Questions? Contact ACCA at 913-515-0080 or via e-mail at jmays@accacademy.net. Upon registration, you will receive a confirmation letter via e-mail.

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