

REGISTRATION OF DANGEROUS DOG

The following documentation is **REQUIRED** to register the Dangerous Dog:

- (1) Owner's Driver's License or Identification Card and contact information;
- (2) Proof of Liability Insurance or Financial Responsibility of at least \$100,000.00;
- (3) Proof of Secure Enclosure (photograph);
- (4) Current Rabies Vaccination Documentation;
- (5) Physical Description of the Dangerous Dog, including description of collar and tags (if any); and
- (6) Photograph of the Dangerous Dog.

Registration of a Dangerous Dog must be completed **ANNUALLY** while the Dangerous Dog is still in your possession. Proof of Destruction must be provided to end registration requirements.

Sec. 822.004. DESTRUCTION OF DOG

The destruction of a dog under this subchapter must be performed by:

- (1) a licensed veterinarian;
 - (2) personnel of a recognized animal shelter or humane society who are trained in the humane destruction of animals; or
 - (3) personnel of a governmental agency responsible for animal control who are trained in the humane destruction of animals.
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Sec. 822.005. ATTACK BY DOG

(a) A person commits an offense if the person is the owner of a dog and the person:

(1) with criminal negligence, as defined by Section [6.03](#), Penal Code, fails to secure the dog and the dog makes an unprovoked attack on another person that occurs at a location other than the owner's real property or in or on the owner's motor vehicle or boat and that causes **serious bodily injury**, as defined by Section [1.07](#), Penal Code, or death to the other person; or

(2) **knows the dog is a dangerous dog by learning in a manner described by Section [822.042\(g\)](#)** that the person is the owner of a dangerous dog, and the dangerous dog makes an unprovoked attack on another person that occurs at a location other than a secure enclosure in which the dog is restrained in accordance with Subchapter D and that causes **serious bodily injury**, as defined by Section [822.001](#), or death to the other person.

(b) **An offense under this section is a felony of the third degree** unless the attack causes death, in which event the offense is a felony of the second degree.

(c) If a person is found guilty of an offense under this section, the court may order the dog destroyed by a person listed in Section [822.004](#).

(d) A person who is subject to prosecution under this section and under any other law may be prosecuted under this section, the other law, or both.

Sec. 822.0421. DETERMINATION THAT DOG IS DANGEROUS

(a) If a person reports an incident described by Section [822.041\(2\)](#), the animal control authority may investigate the incident. If, after receiving the sworn statements of any witnesses, the animal control authority determines the dog is a dangerous dog, the animal control authority shall notify the owner in writing of the determination.

(b) Notwithstanding any other law, including a municipal ordinance, an owner, not later than the 15th day after the date the owner is notified that a dog owned by the owner is a dangerous dog, may appeal the determination of the animal control authority to a justice, county, or municipal court of competent jurisdiction.

(c) To file an appeal under Subsection (b), the owner must:

(1) file a notice of appeal of the animal control authority's dangerous dog determination with the court;

(2) attach a copy of the determination from the animal control authority; and

(3) serve a copy of the notice of appeal on the animal control authority by mailing the notice through the United States Postal Service.

(d) An owner may appeal the decision of the justice or municipal court under Subsection (b) in the manner described by Section [822.0424](#).

Sec. 822.044. ATTACK BY DANGEROUS DOG

(a) A person commits an offense if the person is the owner of a dangerous dog and the dog makes an unprovoked attack on another person outside the dog's enclosure and causes **bodily injury** to the other person.

(b) **An offense under this section is a Class C misdemeanor.**

(c) If a person is found guilty of an offense under this section, the court may order the dangerous dog destroyed by a person listed in Section [822.004](#).