

City of Hampton
Animal Control
Administrative Guidelines

Title: <p style="text-align:center">Animal Noise Complaints</p>	Guideline Number: <p style="text-align:center">OP-105</p>
References: City Code Chapter 5	Date Issued: <p style="text-align:center">September 15, 2011</p>

I. Purpose

To establish guidelines for investigating complaints of chronic noise disturbances.

II. Policy

Hampton Animal Control will respond to complaints of noisy animals during regular duty hours and provide assistance and/or advise law to both the complainants and animal owners in a fair, impartial and professional manner.

III. Procedure

Hampton City Code **Sec. 22-1** provides that “No person shall be charged with a violation of the provisions of section 22-3.1 or 22-9 unless (1) a complainant appears before a magistrate and requests a summons to be issued, (2) a violation is committed in the presence of a police officer or (3) in the case of a violation of 22-9(3) the violation is committed in the presence of a police officer or animal control officer for the city.

A. Any person convicted

1. **Sec. 22-9. - Prohibited noises enumerated.** It shall be unlawful for any person to cause or permit to be caused any of the following prohibited sounds or noises:

(3) Noisy animals. Allowing any animal to cause any sound or noise such that it is plainly audible (i) inside the confines of the dwelling unit, house or apartment of another person at least once a minute for 10 consecutive minutes or (ii) at 100 or more feet from the animal at least once a minute for 10 consecutive minutes or after more than one complaint has been received after the owner or other responsible person has been advised of the complaints and that such noise is unlawful.

- B. Officers responding to complaints of noisy animals where there is no complainant or anonymous complainant shall proceed to the location and make contact with the animal owner. The officer should advise law and attempt to provide any assistance with educational information or other resources.
- C. Officers responding to complaints of noisy animals where there is a complainant should make every effort to contact he or she to advise on how to pursue any charges. The officer should contact the animal owner and advise the law and offer any assistance with education or other resources.
- D. Animal Control officers may issue or request summonses if warranted.

Authorized by: 	Revision Date: <p style="text-align:center">September 15, 2011</p>
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