



Cover Memorandum

Animal Complaints, JHPD Directive #430

Purpose of the Directive

The purpose of this Directive is to establish uniform procedures for responding to complaints and calls for service involving animals.

Summary of Directive Requirements

This Directive addresses how Johns Hopkins Police Department (JHPD) officers shall respond to various categories of animal complaints, including: animal cruelty and abuse/neglect; animal attacks and bites; suspected rabid animals; and stray, injured, or deceased animals. The Directive emphasizes that animal control services are primarily the responsibility of the Baltimore City's Office of Animal Control and discusses how JHPD will coordinate with Animal Control when requesting assistance with animal complaints.

Animal Cruelty and Abuse/Neglect Complaints

JHPD will enforce all local, state, and federal laws regarding animal cruelty and abuse/neglect. This includes MD Code, Criminal Law, § 10-601 et seq. (Crimes Relating to Animals) and the Baltimore City Health Department regulations, which are discussed in the Directive. The Directive sets forth the steps that officers shall take when responding to complaints involving animal cruelty or abuse/neglect, including actions to take at the scene, conducting a preliminary investigation, securing, or seizing the animal, and notifying Animal Control and other relevant authorities. The Directive also states the type of information that must be documented in incident reports.

Animal Bites and Attacks

The Directive discusses the steps that officers shall take when responding to a scene where a person was bitten or attacked by an animal. These steps include: immediately rendering aid and requesting a medic; requesting assistance from Animal Control in certain cases (e.g., the attack was severe, the animal is wild and/or vicious/dangerous, the animal is too dangerous for the officer to handle, etc.); and providing the victims and animal owners/custodians with the proper instructions and notifications. The Directive also states that officers may use deadly force to stop an animal that poses an imminent threat to the safety of a person and sets forth necessary reporting requirements.

Suspected Rabid Animals

JHPD's role in responding to reports of suspected rabid animals is crucial to prevent the spread of rabies. The Directive states the actions that officers must take when encountering a suspected rabid animal, including how to protect themselves and other people/animals in the area, notifying Animal Control, confining the animal, and destruction/disposal of the suspected rabid animal.

Stray, Injured, or Deceased Animals

The Directive sets forth guidelines for what officers should do when encountering stray, injured, or deceased animals. These include required notifications and reports, and how to arrange for removal of deceased animals.

Blueprint for the Policy Development Process

The draft JHPD policies (hereinafter referred to as “directives”) shared for community feedback are based on examples of 21st century best practices in public safety policy, identified through extensive benchmarking of university and municipal law enforcement agencies across the nation. Taken together, they represent a comprehensively progressive approach to policing that prioritizes equity, transparency, accountability, and community-based public safety strategies.

The JHPD’s draft directives embody approaches that community advocates and leading experts have championed locally and in law enforcement reform efforts across the nation. The draft directives have also been developed based on input received through robust community engagement in prior phases of JHPD development, including suggestions received in the legislative process as well as last fall’s Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) public comment period and feedback opportunities.

In addition, the directives were drafted to exceed the minimum requirements of the Constitution and laws of the United States and the State of Maryland, to align with the Community Safety and Strengthening Act (CSSA) and to fulfill the requirements of the MOU between the Johns Hopkins University and the Baltimore Police Department. The Hopkins community and our neighbors throughout Baltimore can help improve and strengthen these directives further through their feedback and input.

Material that was considered in the drafting of the Directive and Procedure Manual, include:

- a. **Publicly available policies from municipal police departments that have undergone substantial reform efforts**, including: the New Orleans Police Department; Seattle Police Department; Portland Police Department; Detroit Police Department; Ferguson Police Department; and Baltimore Police Department;
- b. **National guidance on best practices and model policies from criminal justice reform efforts, social science research centers, and civil rights organizations**, including: the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights; American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), including the ACLU of Massachusetts’s “Racially Just Policing: Model Policies for Colleges and Universities”; the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP); the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF); U.S. Department of Justice Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office); The Justice Collaboratory (The JC) at Yale University Law School; and The Center for Innovation in Community Safety (CICS) at Georgetown Law School.
- c. **National and local higher education institutions that are based in comparable environments and make policies publicly available**, including: Carnegie Mellon University; Morgan State University; Towson University; University of Chicago; University of Cincinnati; University of Maryland, Baltimore County; University of Pennsylvania; and Yale University.

To ensure that the proposed directives captured national best practices in community-focused public safety services, the development team collaborated with independent experts from two organizations: National Policing Institute (the Institute), a non-profit dedicated to advancing excellence in policing through research and innovation, and 21CP Solutions, an expert consulting team of former law

enforcement personnel, academics, civil rights lawyers, and community leaders dedicated to advancing safe, fair, equitable, and inclusive public safety solutions. Each directive was reviewed by experts selected by both organizations, who provided feedback, suggestions, and edits that were fully incorporated into the current draft.

Finally, individuals and organizations representing the diversity of the Johns Hopkins University community provided feedback to ensure the policies and procedures reflect and respond to the values of our institution and to our community's public safety service needs.

Now they are available for your review. Johns Hopkins is committed to adopting, incorporating, or otherwise reflecting recommended changes and feedback in the final version of policies so long as feedback is aligned with our values and commitments, permissible within legal parameters, and supported by national best practices for community policing and public safety.



Responsible Executive: Chief of Police
Responsible Office: Vice President for Public Safety
Approved by: Dr. Branville G. Bard, Jr.
Issued: [full date]
Revised: [full date]

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Policy Statement

Complaints involving animals, whether they are related to actions taken against animals (e.g., animal cruelty, abuse, or neglect) or acts perpetrated by animals (e.g., attacks, bites) must be taken seriously. Incidents involving animals have the potential to endanger public safety, cause harm and distress to vulnerable animals, or to escalate to criminal matters. It is therefore critical that the Johns Hopkins Police Department (JHPD) respond to complaints involving animals within its jurisdiction, appropriately resolve or refer animal-related problems, and enforce all local, state, and federal laws relating to animals.

Who is Governed by this Policy

All personnel, including sworn, non-sworn and contractual or voluntary persons in service with JHPD are governed by this Directive.

Purpose

The purpose of this Directive is to establish uniform procedures for responding to complaints and calls for service involving animals.

Definitions

Animal:	A living creature except a human being. (MD Code, Criminal Law § 10-601)
Animal Abuse/Neglect:	To overdrive or overload an animal; deprive an animal of necessary sustenance; inflict unnecessary suffering or pain on an animal; or, if the person has charge or custody of an animal (as owner or otherwise), to unnecessarily fail to provide the animal with nutritious food in sufficient quantity, necessary veterinary care, proper drink, proper air, proper space, proper shelter, or proper protection from the weather. (MD Code, Criminal Law § 10-604)
Animal Cruelty	The unnecessary or unjustifiable physical pain or suffering caused or allowed by an act, omission, or neglect towards an animal. Includes torturing and tormenting an animal (e.g., mutilating, cruelly beating, cruelly killing an animal). (MD Code, Criminal Law § 10-601)
Attack Dog	A dog trained to attack on command or to protect persons or property. No person may train or keep an attack dog in Baltimore City.
Dangerous Animal	Any animal that has bitten or attacked a human being or another animal without provocation; exhibits aggressive or dangerous behavior and is not adequately confined or restrained; is known or suspected to be an animal exposed to rabies and is not adequately confined or restrained; or requires confinement or restraints to protect the health, safety, or welfare of the public.
Domesticated Animal	Any animal of a species that has been bred and raised and is accustomed to living in or about the habitation of humans and is dependent on humans for food or shelter.
Member:	All members of the JHPD, including employees, officers, and volunteers, unless the term is otherwise qualified (e.g., member of the public, member of the Baltimore Police Department, etc.).
Officer:	All sworn police officers, at any rank, as defined by MD Code, Public Safety, § 3-201, in service with the JHPD.
Service Animal	According to Johns Hopkins University (JHU) policy, a dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for a person with a disability. On a limited case-by-case basis, a miniature horse that has been similarly trained may also qualify as a service animal. The work or task the service animal has been trained to provide must be directly related to the person's disability. (<u>Service and Assistance Animal Policy (GOV021)</u>)
Stray Animal	An animal whose owner or custodian is unknown and whose identity cannot be ascertained by reasonable effort after 72 hours; or were notified of the animal's seizure and failed to file a petition to recover the animal within 10 days after the seizure. (MD Code, Criminal Law, 10-615(e))
Vicious Animal	Any animal that has severely bitten or attacked a human being or another animal; any dog that has bitten or attacked any person or has

attempted to bite or attack any person and was prevented from doing so only because it was restrained by a leash, fence, or other means.

NOTE – A vicious dog does not include a dog that has bitten or attacked a person or attempted to bite or attack a person if the injury, damage, or threat was sustained by a person who, at the time: was committing a willful trespass or other tort on the premises occupied by the owner or keeper of the dog; was tormenting, abusing, or assaulting the dog; tormented, abused, or assaulted the dog; or was committing or attempting to commit a crime.

A vicious dog does not include a dog that has bitten or attacked a person or attempted to attack or bite a person if the dog was protecting or defending its young, protecting another animal, or responding to pain or injury.

Policy

JHPD shall promptly and humanely respond to all complaints and calls for service involving animals within JHPD's jurisdiction. This includes complaints and requests regarding animal cruelty and abuse/neglect, animal attacks/bites, dangerous and vicious animals, suspected rabid animals, and stray, sick, injured, or deceased animals. Animal control services are primarily the responsibility of the Office of Animal Control of the Baltimore City Health Department (Animal Control). JHPD will request assistance from Animal Control and any other authorities as needed and as required by this Directive.

Core Principles

- I. **Animal Welfare**, JHPD will work in concert with Animal Control, the Baltimore City Health Department, the Baltimore Police Department (BPD), and any other relevant offices or organizations to provide for the protection of animals from abuse, cruelty, and neglect.
- II. **Public Safety**, JHPD will promptly respond to any incidents involving a person being attacked by an animal. This includes attacks allegedly perpetrated by domestic animals, wild animals, suspected rabid animals, and vicious and dangerous animals. JHPD will request assistance from Animal Control to ensure that any animals suspected of attacking a person or being rabid are confined, controlled, and/or taken into custody.

Procedures

- I. **General**
 - A. JHPD officers will respond to animal complaints within its jurisdiction when public safety is endangered, to enforce local, state, and federal laws relating to animals, and to appropriately resolve or refer animal-related problems.
 - B. Animal control services are primarily the responsibility of the Office of Animal

Control, which operates 24 hours a day, seven (7) days per week. When responding to animal complaints, JHPD will request the assistance of the Office of Animal Control, as well as BPD, as described in this Directive and in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between JHPD and the Police Department of Baltimore City, dated December 2, 2022.

- Officers may consider acting before the arrival of such assistance when there is a threat to public safety, when the animal's owner/handler has been arrested or is incapacitated, or when an animal has created a traffic hazard, is seriously injured, or has bitten someone.
- In all cases dealing with animals, all safety precautions will be taken to limit exposure to contagious diseases such as rabies and animal bites, including the wearing of gloves, using JHPD snare pole, etc.

C. When responding to animal complaints, officers will take the following steps as necessary and when appropriate per this Directive:

- Ensure the Johns Hopkins Public Safety (JHPS) Communications Center is aware of the type and number of animals involved, and all other appropriate information,
- Attempt to locate the animals and their owners,
- Attempt to determine from animal owners or custodians their wishes with respect to the disposition of their sick or injured animals,
- Obtain thorough descriptions of the animals if they cannot be located,
- Take reasonable and prudent efforts to confine or capture the animals, or in the interest of public safety, humanely destroy the animals without endangering themselves or others,
- Keep non-essential persons out of the vicinity of the animals,
- Notify and request assistance from Animal Control and BPD as necessary or required,
- Remain with destroyed or confined vicious, dangerous, sick, or injured animals until appropriate responding authorities arrive, and
- Complete JHPD reports.

D. Officers shall address public nuisance calls related to animals (e.g., barking dogs) by contacting Animal Control.

E. Officers shall be aware of existing Johns Hopkins (JH) and JHPS policies on animals, including:

- While on JHU property, dogs must be leashed, licensed, and under the control of their own handlers at all times. Dogs may not be tied up and left unattended on any campus grounds. [JHU Policy on Pets](#) (STU004).

- No pets of any kind are permitted in JHU housing, and dogs are not allowed in the common areas of any JHU building except when being taken to and from nonpublic areas. Guide dogs for the visually impaired are permitted in common areas. [JHU Policy on Pets](#) (STU004).
- Service animals assisting people with disabilities are welcome at JHU. [Service and Assistance Animal Policy \(GOV021\)](#) governs the use of service animals at JHU, and provides that:
 - o In determining whether an animal qualifies as a service animal, officers may only ask whether the animal is required due to a disability and what specific work or tasks the animal has been trained to perform. Officers may not inquire about the nature or extent of the person's disability or require documentation of the animal's certification or training.
 - o Examples of tasks that a service animal may perform include but are not limited to guiding people who are blind, alerting people who are deaf, pulling a wheelchair, fetching items, reminding a person with mental illness to take a prescribed medication, or assisting someone during a seizure.
 - o JHU students and employees may request to have service or assistance animals reside with them in JHU housing and/or accompany them to JHU facilities for classes or work. General rules prohibiting animals in housing or common areas do not apply to service or assistance animals that have been approved by JHU.
 - o Animals that provide assistance or emotional support to a person with a disability but are not individually trained do not meet the definition of a service animal.
- The use of animals in research, laboratories, and other JH programs, including injuries, incidents, and emergencies related to these animals: [Animal User Policy \(HSE034\)](#); [Animal Care and Use Program \(GEN001\)](#); [Health and Safety Information for Animal Users \(HSE806\)](#).

F. This Directive does not apply to animals maintained by JHPD.

II. Animal Cruelty & Abuse/Neglect Complaints

- A. JHPD will enforce all local, state, and federal laws regarding animal cruelty and abuse/neglect. These include, but are not limited to:
 - Abuse or neglect of an animal (MD Code, Criminal Law § 10-604)

- Aggravated cruelty to animals (MD Code, Criminal Law § 10-606)
- Dogfights (MD Code, Criminal Law § 10-607)
- Cockfights (MD Code, Criminal Law § 10-608)
- Poisoning a dog (MD Code, Criminal Law § 10-618)
- Animals as prizes (MD Code, Criminal Law § 10-610)
- Killing a dog or cat by prohibited means (MD Code, Criminal Law § 10-611)
- Abandoning a domestic animal (MD Code, Criminal Law § 10-612)
- Unattended and restrained dogs outside (MD Code, Criminal Law § 10-623)
- Endangering the health or safety of a dog or cat by leaving the animal unattended in a motor vehicle (MD Code, Transportation § 21-1004.1)
- Baltimore City Regulations of Acceptable Standards for Proper Animal Care (Baltimore City Health Code §§ 2-106, 10-104, 10-303, 10-308, 10-402, 10-409)

B. Receiving an Animal Cruelty or Abuse/Neglect Complaint

- Officers must respond to any calls for service or complaints regarding animal cruelty, abuse, or neglect.

NOTE – Many animal complaints are reported anonymously. Officers must respond to anonymous complaints, as most are legitimate, but are reported anonymously by people who fear reprisal from their neighbors.
- When an animal complaint is received, the Communications Center dispatcher shall gather the following information and relay it to the officer:
 - o The type of animal involved and a description of the animal.
 - o Whether the animal is acting normally or has bitten anyone.
 - o The last known location of the animal and the direction of travel.
- The officer shall respond to the scene and attempt to contain the animal if possible. The officer shall request the Communications Center to notify Animal Control if the animal:
 - o Is in immediate need of aid or removal,
 - o Poses an immediate threat, or
 - o Is determined to be an attack dog or wild/vicious animal.

C. Investigative Steps

- The responding officer shall conduct a complete preliminary investigation and determine if animal abuse, cruelty, or neglect has occurred and who the person suspected of the crime is, when possible.

- If the officer determines that an animal cruelty incident has occurred, the officer shall request the Communications Center to notify BPD. BPD has primary investigative responsibility for animal cruelty cases per its MOU with JHPD.
- If BPD or Animal Control is unable to respond in a timely manner, and/or evidence is at risk of being destroyed, the officer shall photograph the scene and the animal with their JHPD mobile device. These photos will be considered evidence and shall be handled in accordance with JHPD Directive #468, Collection & Preservation of Evidence.

D. Seizing the Animal

- Officers may seize an animal if necessary to protect an animal that is in need of immediate care or protection from acts of cruelty. (MD Code, Criminal Law § 10-615(b)(1))
- If an animal is impounded, yarded, or confined without necessary food, water, or proper attention, or is subject to cruelty, or is neglected, the officer may enter the place where the animal is located and supply the animal with necessary food, water, or attention; or seize the animal if necessary for the animal's health. (MD Code, Criminal Law § 10-615(c)(1))
 - o NOTE – Per Maryland law, this section does not allow entry into a private dwelling.
- JHPD shall notify the animal's owner or custodian, within 24 hours by personal service or certified mail, of:
 - o The seizure,
 - o Any administrative remedies that may be available, and
 - o If an administrative remedy is not available, they have the right to petition the court for return and instructions for petition.
- Officers may not seize an animal possessed by a medical/scientific research facility except upon a recommendation from the Maryland Department of Health, Center for Veterinary Public Health. (MD Code, Criminal Law § 10-615(b)(2)). Animals maintained and used by JH laboratories, research facilities, etc. are governed by Animal User Policy (HSE034); Animal Care and Use Program (GEN001); and Health and Safety Information for Animal Users (HSE806).

E. Reporting Requirements

The responding officer(s) shall complete an incident report that includes the following information:

- The name and contact information of the complainant and witnesses. This includes the owners of the animal, persons at the scene, and police

officers and/or Animal Enforcement Officers interviewed.

- Details of what the officer sees, including a thorough documentation of any injuries. Officers shall describe the size, color, and location of the injuries on the animal and shall note how long they think the injuries have been present (e.g., fresh, new, old, etc.).
- A description of the animal's living conditions. Note whether the animal has shelter, food, and water. Describe the living shelter of the animal and note excessive filth, excrement, trash, and any dangerous materials and/or substances.
- A specific description of weather conditions (e.g., snowing, raining, hot, and/or cold). If possible, note the actual temperature and cite where the officer received this information.
- The date/time of the preliminary investigation and contacts with Animal Control and/or BPD, when appropriate.
- The exact address of the animal's location, specifying the place on the property where the animal was located (e.g., back yard, alley, porch, garage).
- A record of all steps taken at the scene, including what the officer observed, who the officer spoke with and what they said, and who the officer called for assistance in removing and caring for the animal.
- A description of the animal's behavior and attitude (e.g., afraid, friendly, shaking, aggressive, etc.). Note how the animal reacts to its owner/caregiver.
- The final disposition and location of the animal.

F. Training Requirements

- All officers who respond to reports of animal cruelty shall receive training on the reporting and confidentiality requirements of the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 15.14.15, Required Animal Cruelty Reporting.

III. Animal Bites & Attacks

When responding to a scene where a person was bitten or attacked by an animal, officers shall:

- A.** Immediately render aid consistent with their training and experience.
- B.** Request a medic to respond to the scene.
- C.** Notify the Communications Center and request that Animal Control be contacted if:

- The attack was severe in nature,
 - The attacking animal is determined to be a wild or vicious/dangerous animal,
 - The attacking animal is too dangerous or difficult for the officer to handle, or
 - The attacking animal is not current on its rabies vaccine.
- D.** Provide the person who was bitten/attacked and the animal owners/custodians with copies of Animal Bite Instructions included with the Animal Bite Report.
- E.** If the officer determines that the attacking animal is domestic and not vicious/dangerous:
- Allow the owner/custodian to quarantine the animal,
 - Require the owner to sign the ten (10) day quarantine agreement included on the Animal Bite Report, or
 - Request Animal Control to take custody of the animal if no quarantine facility is available.
- F.** If the officer determines that the animal is wild and/or vicious/dangerous, they shall request that Animal Control respond to take custody of the animal.
- G.** If the animal is possessed by a medical/scientific research facility, try to contain it, and contact the person responsible for it to respond. (See Health and Safety Information for Animal Users (HSE806) for details about injuries caused by animals in JH research or laboratory facilities).
- H.** If it is necessary to use deadly force to stop an animal that poses an imminent threat to the safety of a person, follow JHPD Directive #402, Use of Force; JHPD Directive #403, Authorized Defensive Weapons; and any other relevant JHPD directives.
- I.** Attempt to identify and notify the animal's owner of the final disposition of the animal.
- J.** Complete an Animal Bite Report prior to the end of the officer's shift.
- K.** Complete an incident report that includes the following information, where applicable:
- Specific description of the person's injuries, including where on the body the person was bitten and the number of bites,
 - A photograph of any bite-related injuries,
 - Any aid rendered or treatment received, including the name and address

of the medical facility where the injured person was taken,

- Medic unit number and technician's name, of applicable,
 - Name and address of the owner/custodian of the biting animal,
 - Name of the biting animal,
 - Name and address of the biting animal's veterinarian, if known,
 - Any attempts to locate the animal if it is not on the scene,
 - Expiration date of rabies vaccine and license number of animal, if available,
 - If the animal is a dog, note if the owner was ordered to keep it confined for 10 days, and
 - Full explanation of the circumstances of the bite/attack.
- L. Make all animal bite reports available within 24 hours to the Baltimore City Health Department and, on request, to the Public Health Veterinarian (Code of Maryland Regulations - COMAR 10.06.02.05; MD Code, Health-General § 18-316)).

IV. Persons Arrested with Animals

- A. When a person in possession or control of an animal is apprehended, arrested, or detained by JHPD and there is no other individual who will take responsibility for the animal, the officer shall request that Animal Control take custody of the animal.
- The involvement of Animal Control shall be documented in the officer's incident report or other appropriate field report.
- B. The officer shall provide the apprehended, arrested, or otherwise detained person with instructions for recovering their animal, including the address and telephone number of Baltimore City Animal Control.

V. Suspected Rabid Animals

JHPD's role in responding to reports of suspected rabid animals is crucial to prevent the spread of rabies.

- A. When responding to reports of suspected rabid animals, officers will make every effort to locate the animal if it is not present when they arrive on the scene.
- B. Officers confronting a suspected rabid animal should make every attempt,

without placing themselves in a position of danger, to prevent the animal from escaping or contacting other persons or animals.

- C. **All** wild animals suspected of having any physical contact with a human or domestic animal must be confined, or destroyed if they cannot be safely confined.
- D. In determining whether or not an animal is safely confined, officers must remember that wild animals possess instincts that increase the probability of escape, whereas many domestic animals can be safely confined on the owner's premises or property with only a remote possibility of escape.
- When wild animals are involved, the officer must not hesitate to take definitive action in preventing the animal from escaping or gaining a position of greater threat to human safety.
- E. When a wild or suspected rabid animal has had **ANY** physical contact with a human or domestic animal, officers shall:
- Utilize any resources at their disposal to prevent the animal from escaping,
 - Detour people from the area to prevent them from coming into contact with the animal.
 - Notify Animal Control and remain on the scene to assist with the safe removal of the animal, and
 - Notify the Baltimore City Health Department.
- F. **Destruction of Rabid Animals**
- When an officer is confronted with a situation involving a possible rabid animal that cannot be safely confined, and there is a possibility that the animal can escape and injure or infect another person or domestic animal, the officer will destroy the animal with Lethal/Deadly Force, in accordance with JHPD Directive #402, Use of Force.
 - If a suspected rabid animal has been killed, the officer will:
 - o Neither touch the animal carcass, nor allow anyone else to touch it.
 - o Cover the carcass to ensure that persons or animals do not contact it.
 - o Notify Animal Control to arrange for removal of the carcass and remain with the dead animal until their arrival.
 - o If Animal Control will not respond for removal, remove, and dispose of the carcass in accordance with instructions they provide.
 - o Complete all reports required by JHPD Directive #402, Use of Force.

VI. **Stray, Injured, or Deceased Animals**

A. Stray Animals

- If an officer responds to a request regarding a stray dog, the officer shall attempt to identify and contact the owner. If the owner is contacted, the officer should release the dog to the owner.
- If an officer takes a stray dog into custody, the dog shall be transported to the appropriate shelter or holding area. Officers must provide reasonable treatment (e.g., water, food, shelter) to any animals in their care.
- Officers shall request Animal Control to respond if the stray animal:
 - o Attacked or bit a person
 - o Is determined to be vicious/dangerous
 - o Is suspected to be rabid

B. Injured Animals

Upon learning of a sick or injured domesticated animal, officers shall:

- Make all reasonable attempts to contact the animal's owner/custodian, and to determine from the owner/custodian their wishes with respect to the disposition of the sick or injured animal.
- Take the animal to a designated animal care facility if the owner/custodian cannot be located.
- Notify Animal Control to administer medical care to any animals injured in a traffic accident. (MD Code, Transportation § 20-106(b))
 - o NOTE – Officers should generally not euthanize an animal that is sick or injured and should instead wait for Animal Control to respond.
- When Animal Control is not available to respond quickly, and the animal is so sick or badly injured that humanity requires its relief from further suffering, officers should contact their supervisor.
 - o Absent exigent circumstances, a seriously wounded or injured domestic animal may be humanely destroyed with supervisory approval and only after all attempts have been made to request assistance from Animal Control or the agency (humane society, animal rescue, game warden, etc.) with responsibility or specialty in the care or humane disposal of animals.
- An Incident Report and all reports required by JHPD Directive #402, Use of Force shall be completed and submitted before the end of the officer's shift.

C. Deceased Animals – Notification

When an officer learns of a deceased animal, the officer shall:

- Make all reasonable attempts to preliminarily determine if the death of the animal is related to criminal activity.
- Arrange for removal of deceased animals by notifying:
 - o The animal's owner.
 - o Animal Control if the deceased animal is located on public grounds.
 - o JH Facilities if the deceased animal is located on JH grounds/roadways.
 - o Maryland Highway Administration if the deceased animal is located on Maryland roadways.
- Notify Animal Control and the Baltimore City Health Department for immediate removal if the deceased animal is suspected of being infected with rabies, West Nile Virus, or any other infectious disease.
 - o When Animal Control and/or the Baltimore City Health Department will **not** respond for removal, officers shall remove and dispose of the carcass in accordance with instructions they provide.
- Refrain from climbing onto or under any privately-owned structure for the purpose of removing a deceased animal.

Policy Enforcement

Enforcement	Police Department managers and supervisors are responsible for enforcing this directive.
Reporting Violations	Suspected violations of this directive should be reported to the Office of Public Safety Accountability Unit (PSAU).

Related Resources

University Policies and Documents
Operational Procedure #402, Use of Force Operational Procedure #403, Authorized Defensive Weapons Operational Procedure #468, Collection & Preservation of Evidence Johns Hopkins University Policy on Pets (STU004) Health and Safety Information for Animal Users (HSE806) Animal User Policy (HSE034) Service and Assistance Animal Policy (GOV021) Animal Care and Use Program (GEN001)
External Documentation

<p>Baltimore Police Department Policy 723, Animal Bites, Abuse, Cruelty & Severe Neglect</p> <p>MD Code, Criminal Law § 10-601 et seq. Crimes Relating to Animals</p> <p>MD Code, Transportation § 21-1004.1</p> <p>Code of Maryland Regulations - COMAR 15.15.15, Required Animal Cruelty Reporting</p> <p>Baltimore City Health Department, Office of Animal Control, Regulations of Acceptable Standards for Proper Animal Care (February 2012)</p> <p>Baltimore City Health Department, Animal Services</p> <p>Maryland Education Article §24-1208</p> <p>Memorandum of Understanding Between the Johns Hopkins Police Department & City of Baltimore Police Department, dated December 2, 2022</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
Police Department Forms and Systems

Contacts

Subject Matter	Office Name	Telephone Number	E-mail/Web Address
Policy Clarification and Interpretation			