

**REMOVE THIS FORM TO FILE A COMPLAINT.** See "Conduct Of Public Hearing Before an Animal Matters Hearing Board" at the end of this booklet.

# Complaint Form

**MAIL TO:** ANIMAL MATTERS HEARING BOARD FOR CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND  
Charles County Government Building, 200 Baltimore Street, La Plata, Maryland 20646  
301-645-0517 or 301-870-2260

## IN THE MATTER OF AN ANIMAL

DATE

COMPLAINANT(S) INFORMATION			OWNER(S) INFORMATION			
Name						
Address						
	City	State	Zip	City	State	Zip

Subdivision: \_\_\_\_\_

Nearest main highway: \_\_\_\_\_

## **FACTUAL BASIS FOR COMPLAINT**

I/We, the undersigned, request that a formal complaint be filed against the above-named owner(s) alleging that he/she violated the **CHARLES COUNTY ANIMAL REGULATIONS<sup>1</sup>**, Section(s) \_\_\_\_\_ based upon the following facts:

On or about \_\_\_\_\_ date(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Animal: Species: \_\_\_\_\_ Breed: \_\_\_\_\_ Color: \_\_\_\_\_

Male/Female: \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Animal (if known): \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>1</sup> 230-4.C(1) – The Board shall conduct a public hearing: upon receipt of a written complaint that a person, partnership, corporation or other legal entity has violated the provisions of these Regulations. The complaint must specify the name and address of the animal's owner or custodian, as well as clearly and accurately describe the animal(s) involved and the dates(s) and locations(s) of the alleged incident(s). A Complaint under these regulations shall be filed within one (1) year and one (1) day from the date of the alleged violation.

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To file a complaint with the Animal Matters Hearing Board for Charles County, please check the appropriate Section and Subsection(s) listed below that apply, complete the factual basis of complaint form on page 1 (**Please include locations, dates and times and specific facts to support your allegations**), then mail the entire section to the address at the top of the form. Information on the public hearing process can be found in the **CHARLES COUNTY ANIMAL REGULATIONS** booklet ([www.CharlesCountyMD.gov/services/animal-care-control](http://www.CharlesCountyMD.gov/services/animal-care-control) (click on Animal Regulations link)). Do not forget to sign the form and include a telephone number and email address where you can be contacted if further information is needed.

## Chapter 230

### SECTION 12.4 PUBLIC NUISANCE

12.4.A.(1)	Be at large
12.4.A.(2)	Damage the property of anyone other than its owner
12.4.A.(3)	Molest pedestrians, neighbors or passersby
12.4.A.(4)	Intimidate pedestrians, neighbors, or passersby. Intimidation should be defined as when a reasonable prudent person under same or similar circumstances would have been threatened by the actions of the animal in question
12.4.A.(5)	Chase vehicles
12.4.A.(6)	Bark or make other harsh or excessive noise so as to disturb the quiet, comfort, or repose of members of the community as reflected by reasonable persons with normal sensitivities
12.4.A.(7)	Foul the air by odor and thereby create unreasonable annoyance or discomfort to neighbors or others in close proximity to the premises where the animal is kept or harbored
12.4.A.(8)	Defecate on public property and/or urinate/defecate on private property
12.4.A.(9)	Continue or repeat that behavior for which the animal has previously been determined by the board to be a public nuisance by virtue of being a menace to the public health, welfare, or safety

### SECTION 12.5 DANGEROUS AND/OR VICIOUS ANIMALS

12.5.A.(1)	Any animal which wounds, bites or otherwise injures a human being without provocation on public or private property
12.5.A.(2)	Any animal which has injured or killed a domestic animal without provocation
12.5.A.(3)	Any animal which has a vicious nature, disposition and/or propensity which is known or should be known by its owner or custodian
12.5.A.(5)	Any animal owned or harbored primarily or in part for the purpose of animal fighting, or any animal trained for animal fighting
12.5.A.(6)	Any animal not owned by a governmental or law enforcement unit, used primarily to guard public or private property
12.5.C	Potentially dangerous animal, any animal that by its actions, constitutes a physical threat to human beings, other domestic animals, or both

I understand that I MUST appear for hearing on this matter on the date and time set by the Animal Control Board. I further understand that I have the burden of substantiating each and every alleged violation.

I DO SOLEMNLY DECLARE AND AFFIRM, UNDER PENALTIES OF PERJURY, THAT THE MATTERS AND FACTS SET FORTH IN THE FOREGOING APPLICATION ARE TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION, AND BELIEF.

Day Telephone Number:		Complainant Signature:	
Evening Telephone Number:		Email Address:	