

## REQUIREMENTS WHEN FILING COMPLAINT

1. The complainant (person making the complaint) must, in good faith, make full, fair, and honest disclosure of all facts and circumstances known to him/her at the time the complaint is made. The facts, as presented, must be in the form of an affidavit and signed under oath. Said affidavit will form the basis of any further investigation and the charging instrument.
2. The complainant must appear in court to testify against the defendant if the charges are contested (the accused pleads not guilty and a trial is held).
3. If the defendant is found guilty, the maximum sentence that may be assessed in Municipal Court is a fine plus court costs and fees (no jail time). The defendant may appeal the case to a higher court.
4. The defendant may file a counter-complaint if the complainant has also been involved in some illegal activity. Please be advised that any statement made at this time or in the future to a prosecutor or other city investigative person may be used against you should the counter-complaint go forward to trial. Please be advised that when speaking to the prosecutor, that the prosecutor represents the state and no attorney-client relationship is established by any communications with regard to the application for complaint or any matters related thereto.
5. Once a case is filed, only a Municipal Court Judge, upon recommendation of a prosecutor, has the authority to dismiss the case.
6. The prosecutor reserves the right to subpoena the presence of the citizen-complainant and enforce the subpoena by ordering a peace officer to bring the citizen-complainant to court.
7. Make a copy for yourself after it has been notarized, but before you mail or otherwise deliver it to Municipal Court. Contact Municipal Court about seven days after mailing or delivering the original signed forms in order to obtain a "cause number" for future reference or follow up.
8. I have read and agree to the above requirements.

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Complainant's Signature  
(Person Making the Complaint)

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Printed Name

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Date

**ANIMAL COMPLAINT**  
**Affidavit by Citizen**

**Information About You:**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address (If any): \_\_\_\_\_

**I, the undersigned affiant, swear to the following:**

**Defendant Information:**

Name of Defendant (Person Accused): \_\_\_\_\_

Address (Home): \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you determine defendant's name? \_\_\_\_\_

**Can you identify defendant? \_\_\_\_\_ (Yes/No)**

Description of defendant: Race: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Height: \_\_\_\_\_ Weight: \_\_\_\_\_ Age (If No Date of Birth): \_\_\_\_\_

### **Animal Information**

How many animals does the defendant own/have? \_\_\_\_\_

Where does the defendant keep the animal(s)? \_\_\_\_\_

How long has the animal(s) been at the defendant's residence? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you asked the defendant to remedy this situation? \_\_\_\_\_

If so, how many times? \_\_\_\_\_

What was the defendant's response? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Description of Animals (If more than one, include additional information on back):**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Color: \_\_\_\_\_ Breed: \_\_\_\_\_ Size: \_\_\_\_\_

Male or Female: \_\_\_\_\_ Special Feature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Offense: \_\_\_\_\_ Time of Offense: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Offense Information**

Location of Offense (Must be in Austin city limits): \_\_\_\_\_

Has offense occurred previously? \_\_\_\_\_ When? \_\_\_\_\_

Were charges filed? (Yes/No) \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, what happened with the case: \_\_\_\_\_

What is your complaint? (Describe with as much detail as possible—use as many pages necessary to relate fully, fairly, and honestly all material facts and circumstances)

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Please draw a diagram or map indicating the relative position of your residence and the defendant's residence. Please indicate any buildings or lots between residences, and show where the animal is usually kept.

### List of Witnesses

Name of Witness: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Witness: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Witness: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

I swear that the statements made here are within my personal knowledge and are true and correct.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Person Making Complaint

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Person Making Complaint

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Sworn to me on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Court Clerk or  
Notary Public for and in the State of Texas

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Do Not Write Below This Line**

Reviewed by: \_\_\_\_\_

Recommendations: \_\_\_\_\_

**JUDICIAL REVIEW**  
**(If case is filed and Defendant fails to respond to charge)**

On \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_.

I have examined the foregoing affidavit and have determined that probable cause exists for the issuance of an arrest warrant for the individual accused therein.

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Judge  
Municipal Court  
Austin, Texas