

Schedule of Training

Day 1

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Interview/Investigation Techniques

1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Evidence Law and Collection

Day 2

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Investigative Techniques for
Cruelty and Neglect Complaints

Day 3

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Illegal Animal Fighting

Day 4

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Tactical/Interpersonal Communication

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Sovereign Citizens

3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Challenging Encounters in A/C

Day 5

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Safe Animal Handling/Capture and
Restraint Equipment

1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Safe Handling of Aggressive and
Dangerous Dogs

Each Day:

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

Lunch — on your own

The ACTS Training Course costs just \$550 for the complete 5-day course or \$125 for any other single day attendance. You may pay for this training program either with an Agency Check, Personal Check, Purchase Order or Credit Card. To obtain a registration form for this course, please visit www.aco-acts.com. Questions? Contact ACTS at 913-515-0080 or via email at info@aco-acts.com. Upon registration, you will receive a confirmation letter via e-mail.

Class location: Nebraska Humane Society, 8929 Fort Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68134. Need directions? Please call the NHS Main phone line at 402-444-7800.



Animal Control Training Services
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Where help becomes hope.

Training Course for Animal Control Professionals

October 1-5, 2018

Omaha, Nebraska



Day 1

Interview and Investigation Techniques - Whether an ACO is conducting an animal bite incident, animal abuse or neglect case, or a simple dog-at-large violation, gathering the proper information is critical for a successful investigation. This training module will provide knowledge in how to conduct interviews and investigations specific to Animal Control, and how to lawfully obtain admissions and confessions. The course focuses on rapport building, communication skills, Miranda rights, common human behaviors, deception and denial traits, verbal responses and body language.

Evidence Law and Collection - Animal Control Officers must know the criteria for lawfully obtaining, preserving and admitting evidence to ensure evidence is identified, collected and presented in a legal manner that will be accepted in court. This block of instruction focuses on identifying the lawful process and rules governing the admission and exclusion of evidence as it relates to Animal Control criminal trials. The course will cover in detail the definition and rules of evidence, admissible types of evidence, purpose and relevancy of evidence, constitutional rights and search and seizure considerations. ACO's will also learn the basic methods and equipment that are used in the field to collect and preserve Animal Control-related evidence.

Day 2

Investigative Techniques for Cruelty and Neglect Complaints - Students in this course will learn techniques to improve ability to investigate and prepare cases regarding cruelty and neglect situations encountered in the field. Students will learn how to determine a valid complaint, determining how situation fits elements of the law, how to identify a potential crime scene, how to secure it to avoid contamination, Tufts Animal Care and Condition (TACC)/Purina Assessment Scoring, identifying exigent circumstances, importance of narrative reports, veterinary examinations, scene documentation, and preparing case files and suggested possible charges for the prosecutor. Students will also learn how to differentiate between a situation that is correctable with education and when situations require enforcement action. Students will learn via lecture, classroom discussion and exercises.

Day 3

Illegal Animal Fighting - The illegal animal fighting workshop addresses both dog fighting and cockfighting activity. The course covers officer safety considerations, the history of animal fighting, applicable state and federal laws, search warrants and warrantless entries, investigation techniques, evidence collection and impoundment of animals, agency and task force coordination for successful case prosecution.

Day 4

Tactical/Interpersonal Communication - What is the goal of an Animal Control Officer during a contact? Answer: "generate voluntary compliance". The ability to communicate effectively is vital for the ACO. Professional presence and verbal skills are the first two elements pre-

sented when communicating with the public. The tactical communications course is specifically designed for the work of an ACO when dealing with stressful and emotional situations. The training provides a structured dialogue that can be used toward conflict resolution, enforcement and education, diffusing hostile situations and achieving a positive outcome. The course focuses on a win-win dynamic resulting in professional service, positive public relations, reducing liability and enhancing officer safety.

Sovereign Citizens - A frightening trend confronting law enforcement, including animal control, involves individuals claiming exemption from the laws of the land. Also known as "travelers" or "free citizens", these persons pose a serious threat to officer safety and unique challenges to enforcement action. Students will be exposed to the tactics, philosophy and actions of this movement including how to identify involved individuals.

Challenging Encounters in Animal Control - Animal Control Officers encounter a variety of animal "interested" groups and individuals. Dealing with these people can present obstacles to education, enforcement and achieving compliance. This class covers strategies for dealing with everything from activists to elected officials with stops for "hoarders", animal welfare groups and administrators. Students will be provided with ideas on how to safely and effectively interact with a variety of persons in the animal realm.

Day 5

Safe Animal Handling/Capture and Restraint Equipment - Every day is a different day for an ACO. One of the most unique aspects of the ACO position is that of working with the wide variety of animal species and situations. Safe animal capture and handling is extremely important in order to protect the safety of the officer, the public and the animal. ACTS offers a 4-hour block of instruction that covers the skills and equipment that are necessary when dealing with domestic animals, wildlife, exotics and livestock. This practical course focuses on the animal species commonly handled by ACO's, injury prevention, dangers and risks, capture and restraint methods, equipment, safe loading and transportation.

Safe Handling of Aggressive and Dangerous Dogs - Potentially dangerous and vicious dogs have become a serious and widespread threat to the safety and welfare of citizens within the United States and throughout the world. They not only pose a threat to humans, but to domestic animals as well. Many of these attacks by dogs have resulted in persons being seriously injured and in some cases causing human fatalities. When responding to in-progress calls or conducting follow up investigations of dangerous and vicious dog activity, proper training and education is paramount for the Animal Control Officer. ACTS has developed a comprehensive course specifically for Animal Control Officers relating to the safe response, handling and capture of dangerous and vicious dogs. Participants will gain a working knowledge of dog breed history and aggression, stimulus response and critical distance, behavior drives and instincts, dog characteristics and body language, safety equipment and handling considerations.