

Report Animal Cruelty

Pursuant to the provisions of P.L. 2017, CHAPTER 189 b. The New Jersey Department of Health shall post the following on its website:

- The full text of R.S. 4:22-17 and 4:22-26 and a plain language description of the provisions and requirements of R.S. 4:22-17 and 4:22-26

These materials shall be distributed by the municipality to each person obtaining an annual dog license and be posted on all New Jersey municipality websites.

The full text of the statutes and the plain language description of the provisions and requirements are posted here:

- [4:22-17 Cruelty; certain acts, crime; degrees](#)

https://www.nj.gov/health/vph/documents/4_22-17%20Text%202018.pdf

- [4:22-26 Penalties for various acts constituting cruelty](#)

https://www.nj.gov/health/vph/documents/4_22%2026.pdf

- [Guide to Prevention of Animal Cruelty Laws 2018](#)

<https://www.nj.gov/health/vph/documents/Guide%20to%20Prevention%20of%20Animal%20Cruelty%20Laws%202018.pdf>

Hard copies available upon request.

The New Jersey Department of Health does not have the authority to investigate animal cruelty.

IMPORTANT NOTICE - Certified Animal Cruelty Investigators (ACIs) can continue to investigate animal cruelty until February 1, 2019. Beginning in February 1, 2019, animal cruelty investigations shall be conducted by Humane Law Enforcement Officers (HLEOs) that report to county prosecutors.

If you suspect animal cruelty or abuse after February 1, 2019, contact your County Prosecutors Office or local police for assistance.

To report animal cruelty or abuse involving livestock (including horses, cattle and poultry), contact the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, Division of Animal Health by calling 609-671-6400 or via email: state.veterinarian@ag.nj.gov or state.veterinarian@ag.state.nj.us.