



# TOWN OF CROMWELL

## ANIMAL CONTROL DEPARTMENT



5 West Street  
Cromwell, CT 06416

### POLICY FOR BARKING DOG COMPLAINTS

**State Statute 22-363 - Owning or keeping a dog as such to create a nuisance.**

Be of the opinion that all complaints will end up as a court case, therefore consider the following:

- I. Try not to go to court on a one to one basis. Two complaints or a disinterested party and a complainant are best.
- II. The Judge must be convinced that a dog is a nuisance due to *excessive* barking.
- III. A letter from a doctor will be needed if the complainant is under a doctors' care.

### GENERAL POLICY UPON A COMPLAINT

- I. First complaint. Verbal and deterrent. No statement needed.
  - A. Advise the accused of the complaint
  - B. Offer advice that may solve the problem.
    1. Take the dog inside.
    2. Relocate the dog.
    3. Eliminate the cause of barking.
      - A. Sight.
      - B. Sound.
  - C. Advise *both* the complainant and the accused that if the problem continues that the following will be done.
    1. The complainant will be advised to keep a detailed log of the time and duration of the barking. (Detailed Log will be kept for a *minimum* of ten days)
    2. A second complainant will be found or a disinterested party will be needed to substantiate the complaint.
    3. Where a sick person is involved, a letter from that person's doctor will be required.
- II. Second complaint. Infraction will be issued. *Statement and detailed log from complainant needed.*
  - A. A copy of the written detailed log along with a statement will be taken from the complainant.
  - B. A second complainant, or a disinterested party, will be contacted to substantiate the complaint.
  - C. An infraction will be given to the dog owner.
- III. Third complaint. Summons issued. *Statement and additional detailed log needed.*
  - A. A copy of the second detailed log will be taken along with a statement from the complainant.
  - B. A second complainant, or a disinterested party, will be contacted to substantiate the complaint.
  - C. A summons will be issued.
- IV. If at anytime an officer responds to the accused address and the dog *is* barking said officer can request that the dog be brought inside. At the discretion of the officer, an infraction can be issued.