



Falmouth Police Department

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John F. Kilbride
Chief of Police

July 19, 2019

To: Nathan Poore
Fr: John F. Kilbride
Re: Animal Control Ordinance Change

I am requesting an amendment to the *Animal Control Ordinance* that will clarify the definition of a nuisance dog and provide more options for the enforcement of the ordinance. The current language limits our enforcement to subjective interpretation, causing frustration to our citizens and enforcement officers. The language also requires the complainant to write a statement or action will not be enforced to the degree of a summons or written warning. Complainants are often hesitant to file a written statement because they can be neighbors and fearful of retribution while potentially creating a hostile living environment.

The attached modification to the ordinance addresses the definition of a *Nuisance Dog*, attaching a clear timeline to the nuisance animal without provocation. The second change to the ordinance allows a qualified officer as the complainant and will assist in reducing neighborhood conflicts.

Please let me know if you would like additional information.

Respectfully,



John F. Kilbride
Chief of Police