

the complainant. The decision of the Court shall be final and conclusive upon the parties.

Any person owning or harboring such dog who shall fail to comply with any order of the justice of the peace or Circuit Court, as the case may be, shall be punished by a fine of not more than Ten Dollars (\$10.00) or by imprisonment for not more than thirty days or both. Provided, however, that this section shall not apply to dogs kept at a duly established and operated shelter or public pound.

**256P. TREBLE DAMAGES AND AUTHORITY TO KILL VICIOUS DOG.** If a dog which the justice of the peace or, upon review, a Circuit Court shall have ordered to be restrained shall wound any person, or shall wound or kill any livestock or poultry, the owner or keeper of such dog shall be liable in tort to the person injured thereby in treble the amount of damages sustained by him; and it shall be the duty of any police officer or Warden finding such dog outside the enclosure of its owner or keeper and not under his immediate care to use diligence to apprehend and destroy such dog in the most humane manner possible under the circumstances.

**256Q. WRONGFUL KILLING, ENTICING OR HARBORING.** Whoever attempts to administer or places where it is accessible to dogs any poison, ground glass or potions of a deadly nature shall be guilty of a crime punishable, on conviction, by a fine not to exceed the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) or three months in prison or shall be both fined and imprisoned in the discretion of the Court. Whoever wrongfully entices, carries away, maims, disposes of, or kills a dog shall be liable in tort for its full value as an animal and in addition thereto as a valued companion to its owner.

**256R. OTHER UNLAWFUL ACTS CONCERNING DOGS.** The following shall be deemed unlawful acts and constitute misdemeanors and upon conviction thereof before a justice of the peace or County Court shall be punished by a fine of not more than Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) or by imprisonment in the County Jail for not more than thirty days, or by fine and imprisonment in the discretion of the Court. It shall be the duty of the State's Attorney with the assistance of the sheriff, his deputies and the duly appointed Wardens of the County to prosecute all such cases that come to their attention; the compensation to any Warden for each conviction under this Section on any summons or warrant served by him shall be one-half of the fine imposed, but in no case not more than Ten Dollars (\$10.00) to be paid from the Fines Fund.