Vicious & Restricted Ordinance Information

What happens now?
Animal Services will investigate if the dog’s behavior may meet the definition of a “Vicious” or “Restricted” dog as defined by one of the ordinances listed below. If there is likely cause that the dog may be vicious or restricted an Administrative Hearing will be held.

When will I be informed of the Hearing?
Within the next 15 days, you will receive 5-10 days advance notice of the Hearing. You may testify at the hearing, bring medical records or photos, and bring witnesses to the hearing.

What happens to the dog during this process?
If Animal Services believes the dog poses an immediate threat to public safety, the dog will be impounded and remain at the shelter until a hearing decision is rendered.

What if the dog is found to be Vicious or Restricted?
If the dog is determined to be Restricted, s/he is returned to the owner if the owner can meet the requirements and pay all fees set by the Hearing Officer. Requirements may include, but are not limited to, additional secured fencing, having the dog wear a muzzle while in public, and proof of liability insurance. If the dog is determined to be Vicious, s/he is not returned to the owner and may be euthanized or approved for release to lifelong sanctuary at the owner’s expense.

Will I receive a copy of the Hearing documents?
If you attend the Hearing copies of the Officer’s Report and any public documents will be available. After the hearing, the Decision Letter is available upon request.

Where can I find the Vicious and Restricted Dog Ordinance?

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<tr>
<th>JURISDICTION</th>
<th>WEB LINK TO ORDINANCE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City of Lompoc</td>
<td><a href="http://qcode.us/codes/lompoc/">http://qcode.us/codes/lompoc/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>City of Santa Maria</td>
<td><a href="http://www.qcode.us/codes/santamaria/">http://www.qcode.us/codes/santamaria/</a></td>
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