

Cherokee Nation Code Annotated

Title 21: Crimes and Punishments

Part VII. Crimes Against Property

Chapter 67: Injuries to Animals

§ 1686. Abandoned animals—Euthanasia—Custody of animal following arrest

Cite as: 21 CNCA § 1686

A. Any person owning or having charge or custody of a maimed, diseased, disabled, or infirm animal who abandons said animal or who allows said animal to lie in a public street, road, or public place one (1) hour after said person receives notice by a duly constituted authority that the animal is disabled or dead, upon conviction, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

B. Any peace officer, animal control officer may humanely destroy or cause to be humanely destroyed any animal found abandoned and for which no proper care has been given.

C. When any person who is arrested, and who is at the time of such arrest in charge of any animal or of any vehicle drawn by or containing any animal, any peace officer, or animal control officer, may take custody of the animal or of the vehicle and its contents, or deliver the animal or the vehicle and its contents into the possession of the police or sheriff of the county or place where such arrest was made, who shall assume the custody thereof. All necessary expenses incurred in taking custody of the animal or of the vehicle and its contents shall be a lien on such property.

D. For the purpose of the provisions of this section and 21 CNCA § 1691, the term abandon means the voluntary relinquishment of an animal and shall include but shall not be limited to vacating a premises and leaving the animal in or at the premises, or failing to feed the animal or allowing it to stray or wander onto private or public property with the intention of surrendering ownership or custody over said animal.

Historical Data

LA 10–90, eff. November 13, 1990. Amended LA 07-21, eff. February 22, 2021.