2-1054-26 DESTRUCTION/CAPTURE OF ANIMALS

Related SOP(s), Form(s), Other Resource(s), and Rescinded Special Order(s):

A. Related Sop(s)

1-35 Crime Scene Specialists (Formerly 5-8)
1-61 Internal Affairs Force Division (Currently 7-2 and 7-3)
2-16 Records

B. Form(s)

None

C. Other Resource(s)

Albuquerque Code of Ordinances § 9-2-1-4 Definitions
Albuquerque Code of Ordinances §§ 9-17-3 Definitions1 to 9-17-99 Angel’s Law
City of Albuquerque Animal Welfare Department
New Mexico Department of Game and Fish

D. Rescinded Special Order(s)

None

2-105-1 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide the Albuquerque Police Department (Department) sworn personnel with guidance when assisting the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (NMDGF) and/or the City of Albuquerque’s Animal Welfare Department Control when responding to incidents involving wild or dangerous animals.

2-105-24-26-1 Policy

It is the policy of the Department Field Services to assist the NMDGF New Mexico Department of Game and Fish and the City of Albuquerque Animal Welfare Department’s Control officers sworn personnel in the destruction and/or capture and/or destruction of wild or dangerous wild/dangerous animals.

2-105-3 Definitions

Wild Animal

Those species of Animals that are exotic to humans, and prohibited from being kept as domestic pets. Including but not limited to:
Bears; Coyote; Deer; poisonous snakes; bobcats; tigers and other big cats, reasonably reasonably less severe than a serious injury.
A. Dangerous Dog

A dog that has, without provocation, caused serious injury, great bodily harm, or mortal injury to a person or companion animal; or was previously designated as a potentially dangerous dog and subsequently; (1) causes injury to a person or companion animal that is less severe than a serious injury; or (2) is observed by any person chasing or menacing a person or companion animal in an aggressive manner and without provocation. Police dogs are excepted from the definition, consistent with Albuquerque Code of Ordinances § 9-17-13.

B. Wild Animal

Species of animals that are exotic to humans and is unlawful to possess, consistent with Albuquerque Code of Ordinances § 9-2-1-4s, and prohibited from being kept as domestic pets as including, but not limited to, bears, coyotes, deer, poisonous snakes, bobcats, tigers, and other big, wild cats referenced in Animal Welfare’s definition for Exotic or Wild Animals.

2-105-44-26-2 Rules and Responsibilities or Procedures

A. Wild/Dangerous Animal

A. If a firearm is discharged in the destruction of an animal, the Internal Affairs Force Division (IAFD) shall be contacted, as consistent with SOP Internal Affairs Force Division.

In all cases where Department personnel or an officer or the Emergency Communications Center (ECC) is notified of a wild or dangerous wild animal in or near a populated area, the ECC will call the NMDGF New Mexico Department of Game and Fish and the City's Albuquerque Animal Control Center Welfare Department.

B.

1. Department personnel Officer response shall be to observe and follow the animal, not apprehend or contain the animal.

2. Once the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish MDGF arrives on the scene, they have overall responsibility for all subsequent activities. Department personnel shall yield overall responsibility of the wild animal to the NMDGF upon their arrival.
3. **APD**-Department personnel shall officers will be responsible for crowd management, and control.

4. If the destruction of the animal by deadly force is needed, it shall be carried out by the **NMG** New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, whenever if possible.

4. If a life-endangering situation or threat to public safety exists and it is necessary to destroy an animal, **APD** sworn personnel officers may discharge Issued firearm to destroy the animal, use deadly force.

5.

a. If the circumstances justify can warrant a delay and, when there is no present danger due to temporary control, or if the animal is mortally injured, the on-duty supervisor shall then authorize the use of deadly force. Destruction of the animal must be granted by an on-duty supervisor. Personnel shall consult with the **NMGF** New Mexico Department of Game and Fish or the City’s Albuquerque Animal Control Welfare Department’s sworn personnel officers, if time permits.

b. Responding personnel shall complete a Uniform Incident Report, consistent with SOP Records.

c. A CSS shall also be called to the scene for photographs and to collect any evidence, as consistent with SOP Crime Scene Specialists.