

**UVALDE COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL ORDER NO. 2023-**

**AN ORDER OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF UVALDE COUNTY, TEXAS,  
TO PROHIBIT DOGS RUNNING AT LARGE AND PROVIDE PENALTIES  
PURSUANT TO CHAPTERS 821 AND 826 OF THE TEXAS HEALTH & SAFETY  
CODE, AND THE ORDER HEREWITH.**

**WHEREAS**, the Commissioners Court of Uvalde County is authorized by Chapter 821 of the Texas Health & Safety Code to enact a local order relating to the unlawful restraint of dogs and to the treatment of animals; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commissioners Court of Uvalde County is authorized by The Rabies Control Act of 1981, specifically including the authority granted in Chapter 826 of the Texas Health & Safety Code, to enact a local order to require rabies vaccinations and other measures as a means to prevent the dangerous spread of rabies; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the intent of the Commissioners Court to enact a local order in an effort to protect the public health and safety of Uvalde County residents and encourage the humane treatment of animals;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED BY THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF UVALDE COUNTY, TEXAS, that the following provisions be adopted this the \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.**

**Section 1 Dogs Prohibited from Running at Large.**

- a) The owner or custodian of a dog shall restrain the animal and prevent it from running at large. Each unrestrained, unowned, or stray dog or cat is hereby declared a public nuisance. For purposes of this Section, "restrained" shall mean that the dog is: physically restrained by a leash, fence, pen, or other device; or physically located on the property of the owner or custodian.
- b) When the owner of a dog running at large is determined and the owner can reasonably be located, the animal shall be returned to its owner and the owner may be cited for violation of this Order.
- c) When the ownership is in question or if the animal is a stray, the animal may be impounded for seventy-two (72) hours, not counting weekends and holidays. An owner may claim the dog within this time period after paying all incurred costs and impoundment fees. Upon failure of the owner to claim the dog during the impound period, the animal be placed for adoption or humanely destroyed without compensation to the owner.
- d) Alternatively, if the animal is not impounded, it may be held and fostered by Briscoe Animal Resource Center of Uvalde (BARC) or its successors. In such case, the animal may be posted on the Uvalde County Website for a period of ten (10) calendar days. An owner may claim the animal within this time period after paying all incurred costs and impoundment fees. Upon failure