

**ORDINANCE GOVERNING DOGS AND CATS  
RUNNING AT LARGE IN THE COUNTY**

WHEREAS, the County of Roosevelt, State of New Mexico, in the interest of public safety deems it necessary to prescribe safety regulations for the County at large and WHEREAS dogs and cats running at large in the County constitutes a safety hazard to the public. WHEREAS this ordinance will replace the former ordinance adopted in 1991

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY OF ROOSEVELT, STATE OF NEW MEXICO, as follows, to wit:

**ARTICLE I**

**SECTION I:**

DEFINITIONS: For the purpose of the Article the following words and phrases shall have the meaning respectively ascribed to them.

RUNNING AT LARGE: The phrase "running at large" shall mean being on private or public property other than that belonging to, being occupied or leased by the owner while not under the actual physical control of the owner, that is to stay on a leash or at heel after a complaint has been received by an official charged with duty to enforce this ordinance.

**SECTION II:**

RUNNING AT LARGE PROHIBITED: It shall be unlawful for any person owning, harboring, or having custody, control or possession of any dog or cat to cause or permit any dog or cat to run at large in the County of Roosevelt, State of New Mexico.

When dogs and cats are found running at large and their ownership can be established by the Sheriff of Roosevelt County or his Deputy, he shall notify the owner of such a fact, and shall cite the offending owner with a written warning citation on two occasions prior to citing the owner into the Magistrate Court of Roosevelt County, New Mexico for violation of the provision of this Section. If said animal has: caused property damage; injury and/or death to livestock; or, if said animal has bitten or been vicious or aggressive towards humans, the owner shall be cited into Magistrate Court in Roosevelt County without a warning citation.

When dogs and cats are found running at large in the County and their ownership cannot be established by the Sheriff of Roosevelt County or his Deputy, then such dog or cat may be dealt with in accordance with §3-18-3 or §77-1-9 NMSA, as amended, by the Sheriff or his Deputy forthwith.

**SECTION III:**

INTERFERING WITH SHERIFF OR DEPUTY PROHIBITED: It shall be unlawful for any person to interfere with, molest, hinder or prevent the Sheriff of Roosevelt County or his Deputy in discharging their duties as herein prescribed, or to violate any of the provisions of this Article.



**SECTION IV:**

PENALTIES: Any person who violates the provisions of this Article shall be cited, with a written warning citation on two occasions prior to citing the owner into the Magistrate Court of Roosevelt County, New Mexico for violation of the provision of this Section, if that owner shall be found guilty of a violation of this Article, the Magistrate shall sentence such person to be imprisoned in the Roosevelt County Detention Center for a definite term not to exceed 90 days or to the payment of a fine not to exceed \$300.00 or to both such imprisonment and fine.

**SECTION V:**

AREA IN WHICH ORDINANCE EFFECTIVE: This Ordinance is effective within the boundaries of the County of Roosevelt, State of New Mexico, including privately owned land or land owned by the United States, except this Ordinance is not effective within the limits of any incorporated municipality.

**SECTION VI:**

EFFECTIVE DATE: This Ordinance shall become effective on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2010.



David C. Sanders, Chairman  
Roosevelt County

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Page: 2 of 2 Fee: 0.00 MISC  
E. Janet Collins, Roosevelt County, NM County Clerk



E. Janet Collins  
E. Janet Collins,  
Roosevelt County Clerk

