**Model Memorandum of Agreement for Rabies Control Activities**

For the mutual benefit of the parties involved, this memorandum of agreement is between the Florida Department of Health\_\_\_\_\_ County and the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (animal control agency) in the interest of protecting the health and safety of the population of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ County and consolidating the county rabies control program.

The Florida Department of Health \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ County agrees to:

1. Provide medical consultation regarding anti-rabies treatment for victims.
2. Perform surveillance of post-exposure prophylaxis use and report to the State Heath Office.
3. Provide the pre-exposure and post-exposure vaccinations for employees of \_\_\_\_\_\_ (animal control agency).
4. Notify victims of the rabies test results of submitted animal specimens.
5. Release animals at the end of the confinement period and notify all parties.
6. Provide assistance in a court of law, when needed, with the enforcement of rabies control regulations.
7. Provide technical assistance regarding animal status determinations.
8. Provide rabies guidebooks, legislative material and other rabies control documents as appropriate.

The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (animal control agency) agrees to:

1. Assume responsibility for the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ County animal rabies control program as expressed in Chapter 64D-3 of the Florida Administrative Code and in the *Rabies Control and Prevention in Florida, 2008* guidebook. Duties related to those responsibilities include:
	1. Search for and attempt to locate animals involved in bite attack once reported to the agency by victims, health care providers or by the Florida Department of Health\_\_\_\_\_County.
	2. Confine animals for rabies as appropriate or verify that animals held at home are healthy at the end of the observation period.
	3. Observe animals under confinement for signs of rabies.
	4. Remove or contract for the removal of animal heads for rabies testing as appropriate.
	5. Submit animal specimens to the Florida Department of Health Bureau of Public Health Laboratory for rabies testing.
2. Provide epidemic control measures in accordance with the Florida Department of Health \_\_\_\_\_\_ County as outlined in the *2008 Rabies Control and Prevention in Florida* guidebook and authorized by Florida Statute 381.
3. Inform the Florida Department of Health \_\_\_\_\_\_ County when actions in a court of law are needed to enforce rabies regulations in the interest of involving both parties to the memorandum in such actions.
4. Promptly notify the Florida Department of Health \_\_\_\_\_\_ County when any of the following occurs:
	1. The death of an animal under confinement.
	2. The escape of an animal under confinement.
5. Refer all medical inquiries regarding antirabies treatment to the Florida Department of Health\_\_\_\_\_\_ County.
6. Submit Animal Bite Reports to the Florida Department of Health \_\_\_\_\_\_ County on a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ basis.
7. Honor Florida Statute 381 provisions relative to the confidentiality of animal bite patient records.

This agreement shall be reviewed annually

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Signed Florida Department of Health \_\_\_\_\_\_ County Director (animal control)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Please check with your local legal personnel*