#### Florida Rabies Related Statutes and Administrative Codes

#### **Public Health**

# 381.0011, Florida Statutes- Duties and powers of the Department of Health.--It is the duty of the Department of Health to:

- (1) Assess the public health status and needs of the state.
- (2) Administer and enforce laws and rules relating to sanitation, control of communicable diseases, illnesses and hazards to health among humans and from animals to humans, and the general health of the people of the state.
- (3) Coordinate with federal, state, and local officials for the prevention and suppression of communicable and other diseases, illnesses, injuries, and hazards to human health.
- (4) Provide for a thorough investigation and study of the incidence, causes, modes of propagation and transmission, and means of prevention, control, and cure of diseases, illnesses, and hazards to human health.
- (5) Provide for the dissemination of information to the public relative to the prevention, control, and cure of diseases, illnesses, and hazards to human health.
- (6) Act as registrar of vital statistics.
- (7) Manage and coordinate emergency preparedness and disaster response functions to: investigate and control the spread of disease; coordinate the availability and staffing of special needs shelters; support patient evacuation; ensure the safety of food and drugs; provide critical incident stress debriefing; and provide surveillance and control of radiological, chemical, biological, and other environmental hazards.

## 381.0012, Florida Statutes- Enforcement authority.--

- (1) The department may commence and maintain all proper and necessary actions and proceedings to enforce the rules adopted pursuant to this chapter and may defend all actions and proceedings involving the department's powers and duties.
- (2) The department may apply for an injunction to the proper circuit court, and the judge of that court upon hearing and for cause shown may grant a temporary or permanent injunction, or both, restraining any person from violating or continuing to violate any of the provisions of this chapter or from failing or refusing to comply with the requirements of this chapter. A permanent injunction may be issued without bond. However, a temporary injunction may not be issued without bond except after a hearing of which the respondent has been given not less than 7 days' prior notice. A temporary injunction may not be issued without bond which limits or prevents operations of an industrial, manufacturing, or processing plant, unless at the hearing, it is shown by clear, certain, and convincing evidence that irreparable injury will result to the public from the failure to issue the temporary injunction. If a temporary injunction or restraining order is improperly or erroneously granted, the state is liable in damages and to the extent provided for in chapter 768.
- (3) The department may commence and maintain all proper and necessary actions and proceedings to compel the performance of any act specifically required of any person, officer, or board by any law of this state relating to public health.
- (4) The department may appear before any magistrate empowered to issue warrants in criminal cases and request the issuance of a warrant. The magistrate shall issue a warrant directed to any sheriff, deputy, or police officer to assist in any way to carry out the purpose and intent of this chapter.

(5) It shall be the duty of every state and county attorney, sheriff, police officer, and other appropriate city and county officials upon request to assist the department or any of its agents in enforcing the state health laws and the rules adopted under this chapter.

## 381.0031, Florida Statutes- Epidemiological research; report of diseases of public health significance to department.--

- (1) The department may conduct studies concerning the epidemiology of diseases of public health significance affecting people in Florida.
- (2) Any practitioner licensed in this state to practice medicine, osteopathic medicine, chiropractic medicine, naturopathy, or veterinary medicine; any hospital licensed under part I of chapter 395; or any laboratory licensed under chapter 483 that diagnoses or suspects the existence of a disease of public health significance shall immediately report the fact to the Department of Health.
- (3) An animal control officer operating under s. 828.27, a wildlife officer operating under s. 379.3311, or an animal disease laboratory operating under s. 585.61 shall report knowledge of any animal bite, diagnosis of disease in an animal, or suspicion of a grouping or clustering of animals having similar disease, symptoms, or syndromes that may indicate the presence of a threat to humans.
- (4) The department shall periodically issue a list of infectious or noninfectious diseases determined by it to be a threat to public health and therefore of significance to public health and shall furnish a copy of the list to the practitioners listed in subsection (2). The list shall be based on the diseases recommended to be nationally notifiable by the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The department may expand upon the list if a disease emerges for which regular, frequent, and timely information regarding individual cases is considered necessary for the prevention and control of a disease specific to Florida.
- (5) Reports required by this section must be in accordance with methods specified by rule of the department.
- (6) Information submitted in reports required by this section is confidential, exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1), and is to be made public only when necessary to public health. A report so submitted is not a violation of the confidential relationship between practitioner and patient.
- (7) The department may obtain and inspect copies of medical records, records of laboratory tests, and other medical-related information for reported cases of diseases of public health significance described in subsection (4). The department shall examine the records of a person who has a disease of public health significance only for purposes of preventing and eliminating outbreaks of disease and making epidemiological investigations of reported cases of diseases of public health significance, notwithstanding any other law to the contrary. Health care practitioners, licensed health care facilities, and laboratories shall allow the department to inspect and obtain copies of such medical records and medical-related information, notwithstanding any other law to the contrary. Release of medical records and medical-related information to the department by a health care practitioner, licensed health care facility, or laboratory, or by an authorized employee or agent thereof, does not constitute a violation of the confidentiality of patient records. A health care practitioner, health care facility, or laboratory, or any employee or agent thereof, may not be held liable in any manner for damages and is not subject to criminal penalties for providing patient records to the department as authorized by this section.
- (8) The department may adopt rules related to reporting diseases of significance to public health, which must specify the information to be included in the report, who is required to report,

the method and time period for reporting, requirements for enforcement, and required followup activities by the department which are necessary to protect public health.

(9) This section does not affect s. 384.25.

#### 381.006, Florida Statutes- Environmental health.—

The department shall conduct an environmental health program as part of fulfilling the state's public health mission. The purpose of this program is to detect and prevent disease caused by natural and manmade factors in the environment. The environmental health program shall include, but not be limited to:

(9) A function to control diseases transmitted from animals to humans, including the segregation, confinement, and destruction of domestic pets and wild animals having or suspected of having such diseases.

# 64D-3, Florida Administrative Code- Control of communicable diseases and conditions which may significantly affect public health

## 64D-3.033, Florida Administrative Code- Notification by Others.

- (1) In addition to the individuals required to report under Section 381.0031, Florida Statutes, the following persons are required to report suspected rabies exposure to humans as well as conditions that they diagnose or suspect in animals pursuant to subsection 64D-3.039(2), Florida Administrative Code:
  - (a) Animal control officers operating under Section 828.27, Florida Statutes;
- (b) Employees or agents of a public or private agency, animal shelter, or other facility that is operated for the collection and care of stray, neglected, abandoned, or unwanted animals;
  - (c) Animal disease laboratories licensed under Section 585.61, Florida Statutes;
  - (d) Wildlife officers operating under Section 372.07, Florida Statutes;
- (e) Wildlife rehabilitators permitted by the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission under Rule 68A-9.008, Florida Administrative Code; and
  - (f) Florida state park personnel operating under Section 258.007, Florida Statutes
- (2) Reports are to be submitted to the county health department having jurisdiction for the area in which the event occurred.
- (3) Reports are to be submitted within time frames and by means as specified in subsections 64D-3.029(1) and (3), Florida Administrative Code
  - (4) Reports shall include as much of the following as is available to the reporter:
- (a) The animal's name; species; breed; sex; color; age; rabies vaccination status; date of onset of signs; signs; and ownership status (owned/feral/wild); location of the animal sighting(s) even if no person was exposed.
- (b) If the animal is owned, the animal owner's first, middle and last name; address, including street, street number, city, state and zip code; and telephone numbers, (work, home and/or cell) including area code.
- (c) Where relevant, the exposed person's first, middle and last name; address, including street, street number, city, state and zip code; telephone numbers (work, home and/or cell), including area code; age; sex; date of exposure; the geographic location where the exposure occurred or location of the animal sighting(s); date of onset of symptoms; name, address and telephone numbers, including the area code of the reporter; and any other epidemiological information requested by the Department.
- (d) Reports from an Animal Disease Laboratory shall include the submitting veterinarian's first, middle and last name; address, including street, street number, city, state and zip code; telephone numbers (work, home and/or cell), including area code; type of diagnostic tests (for

example culture, IgM, serology, Western Blot or culture); type(s) of specimen (for example feces, urine, blood, mucus, etc.); date(s) of specimen collection; site (for example cloaca, eye, etc., if applicable); diagnostic test results, including titer when quantitative procedures are performed, and including all available results on grouping or typing of organisms.

## 64D-3.036, Florida Administrative Code- Notifiable Disease Case Report Content is Confidential.

All information contained in laboratory reports, notifiable disease or condition case reports and in related epidemiological investigatory notes is confidential as provided in Section 381.0031(6), Florida Statutes, and will only be released as determined as necessary by the State Health Officer or designee for the protection of the public's health due to the highly infectious nature of the disease, the potential for further outbreaks, and/or the inability to identify or locate specific persons in contact with the cases.

## 64D-3.038, Florida Administrative Code- Quarantine Orders and Requirements.

- (1) Quarantine orders shall be issued by the State Health Officer, or the county health department director or administrator, or their designee in writing; include an expiration date or specify condition(s) for ending of quarantine; and restrict or compel movement and actions by or regarding persons, animals or premises consistent with the protection of public health and accepted health practices except as otherwise governed by subsection (6).
- (2) For the purpose of orders regarding quarantine, the term "actions" encompasses isolation, closure of premises, testing, destruction, disinfection, treatment, protocols during movement and preventive treatment, including immunization.
- (3) Subjects or objects of quarantine orders shall be accessible at all times to the Department or its designees for purposes related to declaration, enforcement, maintenance, modification or abolition of such orders. The prohibition shall remain in effect until the situation no longer represents a public health hazard as determined by the county health department director or administrator or their designated representative.
- (4) Where quarantine is used pursuant to Section 381.00315(1)(b)4., Florida Statutes, the subject individual may choose isolation in their domicile and such closure as needed to ensure that isolation, unless the Department determines that the subject individual's domicile is not a practical method of quarantine.
- (5) Whenever provisions of this chapter require laboratory specimens to be submitted for the identification of specific microorganisms in order to determine eligibility for release from quarantine, such examination shall be performed in a laboratory approved by the Department for performing such tests.
- (6) For zoonosis control and prevention, any animal determined by the Department to be a significant threat to human health shall be humanely euthanized in accordance with the American Veterinary Medical Association's 2000 Report of the AVMA Panel on Euthanasia, incorporated by reference, available from the Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Epidemiology, 4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin A-12, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1720. Such an order shall be issued in writing.
- (7) Transportation or removal of quarantined persons or animals with written orders issued shall be made in accordance with orders issued by the State Health Officer, or the county health department director or administrator or their designee.
- (8) Quarantine Disinfection Procedures: Collection of contaminated matter and quarantine disinfection procedures shall be in accordance with orders issued by the State Health Officer, or the county health department director or administrator or their designee.

- (a) Concurrent disinfection is required of infectious or potentially infectious secretions or excretions of any quarantined person or animal or of objects contaminated by such secretions and/or excretions.
- (b) Terminal disinfection shall be carried out at the termination of the period of quarantine and shall be applied to the quarters vacated.

#### 64D-3.039, Florida Administrative Code- Diseased Animals.

- (1) No person shall bring into this state or offer for sale domestic or feral animals infected with a disease communicable from animals to humans.
- (2) Any grouping or clustering of animals having similar diseases, symptoms or syndromes that may indicate the presence of a threat to humans including those for biological agents associated with terrorism shall be reported.

## 64D-3.040, Florida Administrative Code- Procedures for Control of Specific Communicable Diseases.

- (2) Rabies Control in Humans.
- (a) Reporting of Suspected Human Exposure to Rabies Any person having knowledge of an incident in which a person is bitten by or otherwise exposed to any known or suspected rabid animal shall notify the county health department director or administrator or their designee where the bite occurred immediately by telephone, facsimile, electronic data transfer or other confidential means.
- (b) Prevention in Humans Persons bitten or otherwise exposed to suspect rabid animals shall be evaluated for post-exposure treatment by the county health department director or medical director or their designee according to recommendations of Human Rabies Prevention-United States, 2008, Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), published in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, Vol. 57, No. RR-3, May 26, 2008, incorporated by reference, available online at: http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/rr/rr5703.pdf
  - (3) Rabies Control in Animals.
- (a) The county health department director or administrator or their designee shall promptly investigate reported bites or exposures by suspected rabid animals.
- (b) The county health department director or administrator or their designee shall cause to be captured, confined or seized suspected rabid animals and isolate and quarantine or humanely euthanize and provide for laboratory examination, as outlined in the guidebook, Rabies Prevention and Control in Florida 2008, incorporated by reference, available at:
- www.myfloridaeh.com/community/arboviral/Zoonoses/RabiesguideUpdated.pdf. This includes animals involved in human exposure (bite and non-bite) and animals exposed to rabid or suspected rabid animals. Other methods of controlling rabies in domestic or wild animals shall be administered by order of the county health department director or administrator or their designee according to recommendations of the Florida Rabies Advisory Committee.
- (c) Upon official request from the health agency of another state or country, the appropriate county health department designee shall provide assistance in locating and placing in quarantine the suspect animal as required for proper completion of investigation of a potential rabies exposure incident.
- (d) Epizootic Rabies. The State Health Officer, or the county health department director or administrator or their designee shall declare an area wide quarantine when prevalence of rabies so indicates. The conditions of the quarantine shall control the movement, sale, impoundment or

required euthanasia of animals in the quarantine area as specified by departmental policy and procedure guidelines as defined in paragraph 64D-3.040(3)(b), Florida Administrative Code

## 64D-3.041, Florida Administrative Code- Epidemiological Investigations.

- (1) The Department and its authorized representatives, when deemed necessary to protect the public's health, may conduct epidemiological investigations and follow-up to confirm the diagnosis, treatment and causes of any disease or condition to determine appropriate methods of outbreak and communicable disease control. Such investigations shall be considered official duties of the Department and may include, but are not limited to:
- (a) Review of pertinent, relevant medical records by authorized representatives of the Department, if necessary to confirm the diagnosis; to investigate causes; to identify other related cases in an area, community, or workplace; to determine if a person with a reportable notifiable disease or condition has received adequate treatment to render themselves non-infectious or if exposed has received prophylaxis, if appropriate. Such review of records may occur without patient consent and shall be conducted at reasonable times and with such notice as is deemed reasonable under the circumstances.
- (b) Perform interviews with an infected person or persons knowledgeable about the case to collect pertinent and relevant information about the cause(s) of or risk factors for the notifiable disease or condition.
- (c) Conduct notification services by authorized Department representatives to inform persons who may have been in such association with an infected person or animal or a contaminated environment and who have had opportunity to acquire the infection. These will include, but are not limited to: household contacts, sexual partners, correctional facilities inmates and employees, patrons, employees or owners of business establishments, preschool staff and students, school staff and students, and other individuals who may have been in an infected person's social, business or environmental network.
- (d) Medical examination or testing of persons exposed to or at risk of the notifiable disease or condition.
- (e) Obtain from public or private businesses or institutions the identities and locating information of persons, travelers, passengers or transportation crews with a similar or common potential exposure to the infectious agent as a reported case (such exposure may be current or have occurred in the past).
- (f) Interview or administer questionnaires confidentially to any resident of a community or any agent, owner, operator, employer, employee or client of a public or private business or institution, that is either epidemiologically associated with an outbreak, or with the reported case or has had similar exposure as the reportable case.
- (g) Collect environmental samples of substances or measurements of physical agents that may be related to the cause of an outbreak or notifiable disease or condition.
- (h) Enter a place of employment for the purpose of conducting epidemiological investigations of those processes, conditions, structures, machines, apparatus, devices, equipment, records and materials within the place of employment which are relevant, pertinent and necessary to the investigation of an outbreak of notifiable diseases or conditions during regular working hours or at other reasonable times with such notice as is reasonable under the circumstances.
- (2) Information gathered in the course of an epidemiological investigation and follow-up shall be confidential to the degree permitted under the provisions of Sections 119.0712, 381.0031(6), 384.29, and 392.65, Florida Statutes

## **Veterinary Medical Practice**

#### 474.203, Florida Statutes- Exemptions.--This chapter shall not apply to:

(5)(a) Any person, or the person's regular employee, administering to the ills or injuries of her or his own animals, including, but not limited to, castration, spaying, and dehorning of herd animals, unless title is transferred or employment provided for the purpose of circumventing this law. 1This exemption does not apply to any person licensed as a veterinarian in another state or foreign jurisdiction and practicing temporarily in this state. However, only a veterinarian may immunize or treat an animal for diseases that are communicable to humans and that are of public health significance.

## 61G18-17.006, Florida Administrative Code- Diseases- which Only a Veterinarian May Immunize or Treat.

For the purpose of implementing the exemption provisions of Section 474.203(5)(a), Florida Statutes, the Board recognizes that the following diseases are communicable to humans and are of public health significance, and that only a veterinarian may immunize or treat an animal for these diseases:

- (1) Brucellosis.
- (2) Tuberculosis.
- (3) Rabies.
- (4) Equine Encephalomyelitis.

## **Cruelty to Animals**

## 828.30, Florida Statutes- Rabies vaccination of dogs, cats and ferrets--

- (1) All dogs, cats, and ferrets 4 months of age or older must be vaccinated by a licensed veterinarian against rabies with a vaccine that is licensed by the United States Department of Agriculture for use in those species. The owner of every dog, cat, and ferret shall have the animal revaccinated 12 months after the initial vaccination. Thereafter, the interval between vaccinations shall conform to the vaccine manufacturer's directions. The cost of vaccination must be borne by the animal's owner. Evidence of circulating rabies virus neutralizing antibodies shall not be used as a substitute for current vaccination in managing rabies exposure or determining the need for booster vaccinations.
- (2) A dog, cat, or ferret is exempt from vaccination against rabies if a licensed veterinarian has examined the animal and has certified in writing that at the time vaccination would endanger the animal's health because of its age, infirmity, disability, illness, or other medical considerations. An exempt animal must be vaccinated against rabies as soon as its health permits.
- (3) Upon vaccination against rabies, the licensed veterinarian shall provide the animal's owner and the animal control authority with a rabies vaccination certificate. Each animal control authority and veterinarian shall use the "Rabies Vaccination Certificate" of the National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians (NASPHV) or an equivalent form approved by the local government that contains all the information required by the NASPHV Rabies Vaccination Certificate. The veterinarian who administers the rabies vaccine to an animal as required under this section may affix his or her signature stamp in lieu of an actual signature.
- (4) Each ferret vaccinated according to this section must be quarantined, when necessary, according to rules of the Department of Health.

- (5) An animal owner's name, street address, phone number, and animal tag number contained in a rabies vaccination certificate provided to the animal control authority is exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. However, any person who has been bitten, scratched, or otherwise exposed to a zoonotic disease or the physician of such person; a veterinarian who is treating an animal that has been bitten, scratched, or otherwise exposed to a zoonotic disease; or the owner of an animal that has been bitten, scratched, or otherwise exposed to a zoonotic disease shall be provided with any information contained in a rabies vaccination certificate but only with respect to the particular animal biting, scratching, or otherwise causing exposure. Any person with an animal tag number may receive vaccination certificate information with regard to that animal. Law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies; other animal control authorities; emergency and medical response and disease control agencies; or other governmental health agencies shall be provided information contained in the rabies vaccination certificate for the purpose of controlling the transmission of rabies; however, the receiving agencies and authorities must not release the exempt information.
- (6) Violation of this section is a civil infraction, punishable as provided in s. 828.27(2).
- (7) This section does not prohibit or limit municipalities or counties from establishing requirements similar to or more stringent than the provisions of this section for the implementation and enforcement of rabies-control ordinances. However, local governments shall not mandate revaccination of currently vaccinated animals except in instances involving postexposure treatment for rabies.

## **Animal Industry**

## 585.145, Florida Statutes- Control of animal diseases.--

- (1) The department shall take such measures as may be necessary and proper for the control, suppression, eradication, and prevention of the spread of contagious, infectious, and communicable disease and to protect animals in the state. The department shall also quarantine such animals as it shall find, or have reason to believe, to be infected with or exposed to any such disease.
- (2) No animal shall be imported into the state, moved within the state, or the ownership thereof transferred within the state without the owner, broker, or transferor first obtaining such health tests, official certificates of veterinary inspection, or other certificates and documents as shall be required by rules adopted by the department. Evidence of compliance with this subsection shall accompany the owner or agent having jurisdiction of such animals imported, moved intrastate, or to which ownership is being transferred. However, unless an emergency is declared, the department may not require Florida residents to carry evidence of compliance in intrastate travel for privately owned domestic canines or domestic felines which are not offered for sale. The department may provide by rule specific exceptions to this subsection upon finding that certain importations, intrastate movements, or transfers pose no threat to affected industries in Florida.
- (3) A person who forges, counterfeits, simulates or alters, or who knowingly possesses, uses, presents or utters, any forged, counterfeited, altered or simulated official certificate of veterinary inspection or any other document relating to animal health requirements or substitutes, represents, or tenders an official certificate of veterinary inspection or any other document relating to animal health requirements of one animal for another animal commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.
- (4) Official certificates of veterinary inspection may be completed only by a veterinarian accredited under the National Veterinary Accreditation Program. The department may, as prescribed by rule, deny a veterinarian the authority to issue health certificates for the

importation, movement, or transfer of ownership of animals into or within the state as required by this section for one of the following causes:

- (a) The revocation of such veterinarian's license to practice veterinary medicine in the state;
- (b) Forging, counterfeiting, altering, or misrepresenting an official certificate of veterinary inspection; or
- (c) Failure to report, or the negligent handling of, any reportable disease.

### 585.15, Florida Statutes- Dangerous transmissible disease or pest a public nuisance.—

The department may declare by rule that a certain pest or disease of animals is a public nuisance. When a pest or disease is thus determined to be dangerous, transmissible, or threatening to an agricultural interest of the state, it shall be known as a "reportable disease." Each reportable disease shall be included by rule on the department's dangerous transmissible disease list. When necessary because of the possible impact of an animal disease on public health, the department may consult with the Department of Health regarding an animal disease that is transmissible to humans.

#### Wildlife

## 379.3311, Florida Statutes- Police powers of commission and its agents—.

- (1) The commission, the executive director and the executive director's assistants designated by her or him, and each commission officer are constituted peace officers with the power to make arrests for violations of the laws of this state when committed in the presence of the officer or when committed on lands under the supervision and management of the commission, the department, the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund, or the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, including state parks, coastal and aquatic managed areas, and greenways and trails. The general laws applicable to arrests by peace officers of this state shall also be applicable to such director, assistants, and commission officers. Such persons may enter upon any land or waters of the state for performance of their lawful duties and may take with them any necessary equipment, and such entry does not constitute a trespass.
- (2) Such officers may enforce throughout the state all laws relating to game, nongame birds, fish, and fur-bearing animals and all rules and regulations of the commission relating to wild animal life, marine life, and freshwater aquatic life, and in connection with such laws, rules, and regulations, in the enforcement thereof and in the performance of their duties thereunder, to:
- (a) Go upon all premises, posted or otherwise;
- (b) Execute warrants and search warrants for the violation of such laws;
- (c) Serve subpoenas issued for the examination, investigation, and trial of all offenses against such laws:
- (d) Carry firearms or other weapons, concealed or otherwise, in the performance of their duties:
- (e) Arrest upon probable cause without warrant any person found in the act of violating any such laws or, in pursuit immediately following such violations, to examine any person, boat, conveyance, vehicle, game bag, game coat, or other receptacle for wild animal life, marine life, or freshwater aquatic life, or any camp, tent, cabin, or roster, in the presence of any person stopping at or belonging to such camp, tent, cabin, or roster, when such officer has reason to believe, and has exhibited her or his authority and stated to the suspected person in charge the officer's reason for believing, that any of the aforesaid laws have been violated at such camp;

- (f) Secure and execute search warrants and in pursuance thereof to enter any building, enclosure, or car and to break open, when found necessary, any apartment, chest, locker, box, trunk, crate, basket, bag, package, or container and examine the contents thereof;
- (g) Seize and take possession of all wild animal life, marine life, or freshwater aquatic life taken or in possession or under control of, or shipped or about to be shipped by, any person at any time in any manner contrary to such laws.
- (3) It is unlawful for any person to resist an arrest authorized by this section or in any manner to interfere, either by abetting, assisting such resistance, or otherwise interfering with such executive director, assistants, or commission officers while engaged in the performance of the duties imposed upon them by law or regulation of the commission, the department, the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund, or the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.
- (4) Upon final disposition of any alleged offense for which a citation for any violation of this chapter or the rules of the commission has been issued, the court shall, within 10 days after the final disposition of the action, certify the disposition to the commission.

## 68A-4.001, Florida Administrative Code- General Prohibitions.

- (1) No wildlife or freshwater fish or their nests, eggs, young, homes or dens shall be taken, transported, stored, served, bought, sold, or possessed in any manner or quantity at any time except as specifically permitted by these rules nor shall anyone take, poison, store, buy, sell, possess or wantonly or willfully waste the same except as specifically permitted by these rules.
- (2) The use of gasoline or any other chemical or gaseous substances to drive wildlife from their retreats is prohibited.
- (3) Intentionally placing food or garbage, allowing the placement of food or garbage, or offering food or garbage in such a manner that it attracts coyotes, foxes or raccoons and in a manner that is likely to create or creates a public nuisance is prohibited.
- (4)(a) Intentionally feeding bears is prohibited except as provided for in this Title.
- (b) Placing food or garbage, allowing the placement of food or garbage, or offering food or garbage that attracts bears and is likely to create or creates a nuisance is prohibited after receiving prior written notification from the Commission.
- (5) The intentional feeding or the placement of food that attracts pelicans and modifies the natural behavior of the pelican so as to be detrimental to the survival or health of a local population is prohibited.
- (6) The intentional feeding of sandhill cranes is prohibited.
- (7) No person shall take or assist in taking wildlife using a method that involves remote control aiming and discharging of a gun when that person is not physically present at the location of that gun.
- (8) Unless otherwise specifically provided in this Title, non-protected mammals and non-protected birds may be taken throughout the year, without restrictions.

### **Damage by Dogs**

#### 767.16 Florida Statutes- Police or service dog; exemption.—

- (1) Any dog that is owned, or the service of which is employed, by a law enforcement agency, is exempt from this part.
- (2) Any dog used as a service dog for blind, hearing impaired, or disabled persons that bites another animal or a human is exempt from any quarantine requirement following such bite if the dog has a current rabies vaccination that was administered by a licensed veterinarian.