

who, at the time such was sustained, was committing a trespass or other tort, or was teasing, tormenting or abusing such dog. A person is lawfully upon the private property of such owner within the meaning of this Act when he is on such property in the performance of any duty imposed upon him by the laws of the State of Maryland, Acts relating to Anne Arundel County or postal regulations of the United States of America, or when he is on such property upon the invitation, expressed or implied, of the owner thereof.

The owner of any livestock or poultry injured or killed by any dog may recover as liquidated damages from the owner of such dog, devoid of proper legal defenses, twice the actual value of the animals killed or twice the value of damages sustained by reason of said injuries as the case may be. If two or more dogs kept by two or more owners or keepers injure or kill any livestock or poultry at the same time, the owners or keepers of such dogs are jointly and severally liable for such damage.

256-O. *Nuisance of Vicious, Chasing or Barking Dog.* If any person shall make complaint in writing and swear to the same before a justice of the peace in his district that any dog owned or harbored within his jurisdiction is a menace by reason of vicious disposition or a nuisance or hazard as evidenced by chasing persons, draft animals, vehicles or by such whining or barking as to constitute an annoyance to persons residing in the neighborhood, such justice of the peace shall direct the Warden or a peace officer to investigate the complaint including an examination of the complaint and to report his findings to the said justice of the peace who thereupon may call the owner of the dog complained of before him for questioning and may make such order concerning the restraint of such dog as he may deem to be necessary. Any time within ten days after such order the owner or keeper of such dog may bring a petition in the Circuit Court within the judicial district of which the dog is owned or kept, addressed to the justice of the court, praying that the order may be reviewed by the Court, and after such notice to the Warden or other officer involved as the Court may deem necessary, it shall review such action, hear the witnesses and affirm such order unless it shall appear that it was made without proper cause or in bad faith, in which case such order shall be reversed with costs against the complainant. The decision of the Court shall be final and conclusive upon the parties.

Any person owning or harboring such dog who shall fail to comply with any order of the justice of the peace or Circuit Court, as the case may be, shall be punished by a fine of not more than Ten Dollars (\$10.00) or by imprisonment for not more than thirty days or both. Provided, however, that this