

DODGER’S LAW: A CITIZEN INITIATIVE FOR CANINE PROTECTION AND LAW ENFORCEMENT ACCOUNTABILITY

PREAMBLE: THE MANDATE OF ACCOUNTABILITY

WHEREAS, the historical and biological alliance between humanity and domestic companion animals constitutes a hallowed, primeval bond anchored in reciprocal fidelity and the mutual provision of sanctuary; and

WHEREAS, on the date of May 6th, 2026, a catastrophic breakdown of tactical restraint resulted in the deployment of electrical neuromuscular disruption and lethal force against a ten-year-old canine, Dodger, during an extra-jurisdictional private dispute involving a uniformed, off-duty agent of the state; and

WHEREAS, empirical evidence and behavioral metrics confirm that conductive energy armaments inflict acute physiological trauma, eradicate neurological consistency, and serve only to catalyze immediate defensive reactions within canine subjects; and

WHEREAS, the current legal architecture within the State of Washington provides extensive protections for government working animals while maintaining a vacuum of criminal or civil reciprocity regarding the reckless termination of civilian pets under the color of law; and

WHEREAS, the systemic shielding of misconduct via public indemnification and insular internal audits externalizes the fiscal and ethical costs of unauthorized violence onto the municipal tax base; and

WHEREAS, the state has facilitated the juridical fiction of Fourteenth Amendment personhood for inanimate corporate syndicates while relegating sentient, living animals to the status of low-value chattel devoid of basic constitutional safeguards; and

WHEREAS, the Fourth Amendment protects the private property of the citizenry from unreasonable government seizure, and the Ninth Amendment anchors the un-enumerated rights of human dignity against state disparagement or denial; and

WHEREAS, absolute sovereign power resides with the people to regulate and audit the conduct of subordinate public servants, whose authority is derived solely from the revocable consent of the governed;

NOW, THEREFORE, WE THE PEOPLE do hereby present this statutory framework to establish a baseline for canine protection, eradicate institutional conflicts, and restore actuarial accountability and transparency to the exercise of public force.

OPERATIVE STATUTORY FRAMEWORK

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

SECTION 1. PROHIBITION ON THE DEPLOYMENT OF CONDUCTIVE ENERGY WEAPONS AGAINST CANINES; EXCEPTIONS; AND EVIDENTIARY REQUISITES.

1. **Classification of Cruelty:** Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, any deployment of a Conductive Energy Weapon (CEW), electroshock weapon, or Taser by a law enforcement officer upon a canine (*Canis lupus familiaris*) is hereby designated as a per se violation of **RCW 16.52.205 (Animal Cruelty in the First Degree)**. Behavioral science establishes that electrical neuromuscular disruption inflicts substantial pain, terminates neurological predictability, and systematically escalates protective canine aggression.
2. **Statutory Exemptions:** An officer may deploy a CEW upon a canine *only* under the following emergency conditions:
 - To interrupt an active, ongoing, physical charging attack by a canine upon a human being or another domestic animal where alternate non-lethal intervention is unavailable, for the purpose of preserving life and preventing the necessity of projectile deadly force.
 - Where a canine demonstrates explicit physical markers of imminent attack, provided such posturing is immediately verifiable under the evidentiary standards set forth in subsection (3) of this section.
3. **Evidentiary Corroboration Mandate:** Any officer invoking an exemption under subsection (2) must provide immediate corroborative verification. Subjective officer assertion of canine aggression is statutorily insufficient. Verification requires:
 - Unedited, continuous body-worn camera (BWC) or dashboard camera audio/video footage capturing the entirety of the approach and engagement; or
 - Sworn affidavits from independent, non-affiliated civilian witnesses; or
 - A comprehensive forensic scene reconstruction executed by an independent external entity.

SECTION 2. COMPULSORY REPORTING, LOGGING, AND STATISTICAL COMPILATION.

1. **Central Reporting:** Every discharge of a department-issued weapon (including firearms and CEWs) resulting in the injury, trauma, or mortality of a civilian domestic pet must be reported electronically to the **Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission (WSCJTC)** and the **Washington State Department of Agriculture** within twenty-four (24) hours of the incident.
2. **Audit Trails:** The compiled logs shall be cross-indexed by officer user ID, agency name, geographic coordinates, and dispatch CAD numbers to generate public-facing annual tracking metrics regarding law enforcement animal mortality rates.

SECTION 3. THE "COLOR OF LAW" TRIGGER AND EXTRA-JURISDICTIONAL MANDATE.

1. **Automatic Divestment of Jurisdiction:** If an officer deploys force resulting in the injury or death of a domestic animal while the officer is off-duty, out of uniform, or engaged in a private civil, property, or neighborhood dispute, the employing agency shall be immediately divested of internal investigative jurisdiction.
2. **Independent Task Force Assignment:** The incident shall be classified as an automatic external conflict of interest and referred immediately to an independent outside regional task force or the **Office of Independent Investigations (OII)** for complete criminal evaluation, ensuring absolute separation of command.

SECTION 4. NON-LETHAL EQUIPMENT MANDATES AND CANINE DE-ESCALATION DIVERSION PROTOCOLS.

1. **Catch Pole Allocation:** Every active general authority law enforcement patrol vehicle operating within the state **shall be permanently equipped with a certified, humane animal capture pole (catch pole).**
2. **Academy Curricula Expansion:** The WSCJTC shall implement mandatory, practical, hands-on canine de-escalation and catch pole capture certification as a core requirement of the basic law enforcement academy and annual in-service training.
3. **Exhaustion of Operational Alternatives:** Prior to deploying physical or projectile force against an uncontained canine, field personnel are statutorily required to document the absolute exhaustion of the following steps:
 - Verifying immediate regional Animal Control dispatch or humane officer availability.
 - Contacting or attempting to contact the registered owner or custodian on scene.
 - **The "Friendly Dog" Doctrine:** General authority personnel are explicitly prohibited from deploying force against an uncontained canine if the owner or custodian is present and states the animal is non-aggressive, unless an active, physical charging attack is visually underway that an objective bystander would recognize as an immediate threat to life.
4. **Abrogation of Immunities:** Discretionary, qualified, or statutory sovereign immunity shall not extend to any public employee or agency in instances where force was deployed without the verifiable exhaustion of the non-lethal mandates enumerated herein.

SECTION 5. THE CRADLE RESPONSE NETWORK (VOLUNTEER DEFENSE SHIELD).

1. **Integrated 911 Registry:** Regional 911 dispatch networks shall establish a digital registry connecting verified civilian volunteers—including certified dog trainers, professional dog walkers, and registered animal behaviorists—with emergency communications.
2. **The Dispatch Loop:** Upon receiving a call regarding a non-aggressive uncontained canine, or when an officer requests handling assistance, the dispatch matrix shall push an automated local alert to registered civilian handlers within the radius. This introduces an immediate layer of professional animal handling onto the scene, bypassing the necessity of untrained police intervention and reducing single-officer deadly force liability.

SECTION 6. COMPREHENSIVE LAW ENFORCEMENT ANIMAL EXECUTION RESEARCH STUDY.

1. **Statewide Audit:** The state shall allocate resources to fund a comprehensive, independent academic and statistical study detailing the frequency, root systemic causes, financial liabilities, and trends of law enforcement canine executions across all municipalities over the preceding ten (10) calendar years. All raw data and findings shall be published transparently on the state legislature's public index.

SECTION 7. STATUTORY EQUALIZATION AMENDMENT (AMENDING RCW 9A.76.200).

1. **Establishment of Reciprocal Parity: RCW 9A.76.200 (Harming a Police Dog)** is hereby amended to include reciprocal parity for civilian domestic pets.
2. **Criminal Liability:** Any law enforcement officer who maliciously, recklessly, or negligently injures, disables, or shoots a civilian pet animal outside of the narrow statutory exemptions outlined in Section 1 of this Act shall be guilty of a **Class C Felony**, subject to identical criminal sentencing guidelines applied to civilians under RCW 9A.76.200.
3. **Restitution Parity:** In addition to criminal penalties, the court shall impose a civil penalty of at least **five thousand dollars (\$5,000)** and up to **ten thousand dollars (\$10,000)** for the termination of a civilian pet animal, with all collected funds paid directly to the registered owner or custodian of the animal as mandatory restitution.

SECTION 8. MANDATORY PORTABLE PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE FOR GENERAL AUTHORITY PERSONNEL; ACTUARIAL ACCOUNTABILITY PIPELINE.

1. **Insurance Prerequisite:** Every commissioned general authority law enforcement officer operating within the state shall be required to obtain and maintain an individual, portable professional liability insurance policy as a non-waivable condition of active field employment and the retention of state peace officer certification.
2. **Taxpayer Insulation and Immunity Triggers:** In any instance where a court of competent jurisdiction determines that an officer has lost discretionary, qualified, or statutory sovereign immunity due to a failure to exhaust the mandatory de-escalation protocols enumerated in Section 4 of this Act, the officer's individual liability policy shall serve as the primary source of financial restitution for civil damages, thereby insulating municipal and state tax funds from direct civil judgments.
3. **Actuarial Risk Tracking and Data Integrity:** Private insurance syndicates providing policies under this section shall maintain an independent risk assessment framework. This framework shall automatically log and track all notices of tort claims, formal civilian misconduct complaints, internal affairs investigations, and civil filings involving the insured from the moment of generation to final resolution. This data pipeline shall exist independently of internal agency records or protective union agreements, creating a portable, permanent cross-jurisdictional record of operational risk.

4. **Market-Driven Disqualification:** The premium rates for policies mandated under this section shall be determined strictly by actuarial metrics reflecting the insured officer's historical compliance with de-escalation standards. If an officer establishes a verifiable pattern of unmetered force, systemic negligence, or color-of-law infractions that renders them actuarially uninsurable by the private market, their statutory eligibility to execute the duties of a peace officer within this state shall be automatically and instantly terminated.

SECTION 9. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE "DODGER'S LIST" PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY REGISTRY; DATA REQUIREMENTS.

4. **Creation of Registry:** The Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission (WSCJTC) shall develop, maintain, and host a publicly accessible, searchable online database to be known officially as the "Dodger's List."
5. **Mandated Inclusions:** This registry shall permanently document every instance where a commissioned general authority peace officer—whether operating on-duty, off-duty, or under color of law—deploys physical, electronic conductive, or lethal projectile force resulting in the injury or mortality of a domestic pet canine.
6. **Required Tracking Metrics:** For each recorded incident, the registry must display:

The officer's full legal name, unique badge number, and employing agency.

The exact date, time, geographic coordinates, and dispatch CAD number.

The status and definitive outcome of the mandatory external criminal investigation.

Detailed records of any internal disciplinary actions, terminations, or specific decertification proceedings.

Mandated remedial canine de-escalation training assignments, including verified completion dates and certified instructor sign-offs.

7. **Retention:** Records entered onto the Dodger's List are matters of permanent public record and are statutorily prohibited from being expunged, altered, or shielded by collective bargaining agreements.

SECTION 10. ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTIES, ENFORCEMENT, AND CONSTITUTIONAL CONFORMANCE.

1. **Agency Non-Compliance Penalties:** Any law enforcement agency that fails to report an incident within the mandatory twenty-four (24) hour window required by Section 2, or deliberately withholds unedited body-worn camera (BWC) or dashboard camera footage required under Section 1, shall face immediate administrative penalties. These penalties shall include the automatic withholding of ten percent (10%) of the agency's state-funded criminal justice assistance grants for each month the violation persists.

2. **Individual Non-Compliance:** Any public employee who intentionally manipulates, deletes, or delays the transmission of evidentiary data, logs, or camera footage related to a canine force incident shall be subject to immediate suspension without pay and referred to the WSCJTC for permanent peace officer certification revocation under RCW 43.101.105.
3. **Constitutional Conformance:** This Act is enacted under the inherent sovereign authority of the People to audit public servants, rooted directly in the First Amendment (The Right to Petition the Government for a Redress of Grievances) and Article I, Section 1 of the Washington State Constitution, which declares that all political power is inherent in the people, and governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed. No municipal ordinance, internal department policy, or collective bargaining agreement shall be construed to diminish, delay, or defy the mandatory transparency, insurance, or parity provisions established herein.

SECTION 11. FOURTH AMENDMENT WRONGFUL SEIZURE COGNIZANCE AND INDEMNIFICATION RESTRICTIONS.

1. **Codification of Constitutional Status:** In alignment with federal jurisprudence interpreting the Fourth Amendment to the United States Constitution and Article I, Section 7 of the Washington State Constitution, domestic companion animals are recognized as "effects" and private property of value. Any unauthorized, unreasonable, or reckless destruction or injury of a canine by a public employee constitutes a per se warrantless, unreasonable seizure of property under the color of law.
2. **Federal Civil Rights Claim Alignment:** Any deployment of force against a domestic canine that violates the non-lethal exhaustion mandates of Section 4 of this Act shall be prima facie evidence of an unreasonable seizure, establishing direct grounds for a civil action under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 for the deprivation of constitutional rights.
3. **Denial of Public Indemnification:** If an individual officer or public employee is found liable in a court of law for a wrongful Fourth Amendment seizure involving a companion animal, and it is established that the employee bypassed the mandatory non-lethal equipment deployment (such as catch poles) or violated the "Friendly Dog" doctrine, the employing municipality, county, or state agency is statutorily prohibited from indemnifying the employee. The employee shall be held personally and financially liable for all civil damages, punitive damages, and attorney fees, with secondary recourse defaulting strictly to the individual liability insurance mandated under Section 8 of this Act.

SECTION 12. FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT RECIPROCAL EQUAL PROTECTION; JURIDICAL INVERSION OF COGNIZABLE PERSONHOOD.

8. **Legislative Findings on Personhood Disparity:** The Legislature finds that under long-standing federal interpretations of the Fourteenth Amendment, the state has extended the profound legal fiction of "personhood" to inanimate, non-human corporate entities, granting artificial commercial syndicates robust civil rights, constitutional protections, and access to federal courts. The state further finds that treating a living, breathing, sentient companion canine—capable of forming deep psychological bonds,

demonstrating loyalty, and feeling acute physical trauma—as having less legal standing than an empty corporate paper shell is a grotesque inversion of natural justice and a violation of the Equal Protection Clause.

9. **Reciprocal Standing Enactment:** For the purposes of seeking civil rights remedies under this Act, whenever the state or any subordinate public entity invokes federal or state jurisprudence regarding corporate personhood to shield or execute commercial operations, the same level of cognizable legal personhood, fundamental rights, and protection from arbitrary state termination must be reciprocally extended to domestic companion animals.
10. **The Corporate Parity Standard:** If a public employee acting under the color of law causes wrongful, warrantless physical destruction of a domestic animal, the state is barred from diminishing the claim under traditional low-value "chattel property" metrics. Such actions shall be litigated according to the constitutional values, punitive standards, and structural damages applicable to the wrongful dismantling of a commercial corporation.

SECTION 13. NINTH AMENDMENT INVOCATION OF INHERENT SOVEREIGNTY AND THE SUPREMACY OF POPULAR CONSENT.

11. **The Sovereign Anchor:** This Act explicitly invokes the Ninth Amendment to the United States Constitution, which mandates that the enumeration in the Constitution of certain rights shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people. The right of a free citizenry to exist peacefully on their private property with their companion animals, secure from the unmetered, reckless escalation of public servants, is a foundational, un-enumerated right inherent to human dignity, protected absolutely under the Ninth Amendment from government encroachment, disparagement, or denial.
12. **The Primacy of Popular Consent:** This statutory declaration reaffirms that the state possesses no inherent, independent majesty. The government is an artificial construct existing solely by the explicit, revocable consent of the governed; public employees are contractually bound servants tasked with the facilitation of public safety.
13. **Final Declaration of Authority:** Under the unyielding authority of the Ninth Amendment, the sovereign people of this state hereby declare that no public servant, badge-holder, or administrative agency stands above the absolute boundary of the law. The era of the state acting as a master to a subservient public is hereby terminated. This government shall remain strictly of the people, by the people, and for the people—and any asset or employee who fails to recognize that they serve the public, rather than rule them, shall be stripped of their authority and held completely accountable under the full, unmitigated weight of this Act.

DEDICATION:

*This Act is permanently dedicated to **Dodger**.*

You spent ten years teaching those around you the true meaning of devotion, quiet companionship, and pure trust. You did not know about badges, jurisdictions, or the hard internal armor that men wear when they forget how to connect with the living world. You only knew your yard, your people, and your peaceful place in the sun.

Your final moments were met with a storm of confusion, unmeasured sparks, and unearned violence—a dark reflection of a system that chose force over empathy. But your silence has become a clarion call. The current that was used to freeze your heart has ignited an unquenchable fire in the hearts of thousands.

Your breath was stolen on a dead end drive, but through these words, your name becomes immortal. From this day forward, every catch pole tucked into a patrol car, every volunteer who steps forward to protect a loose pet, and every officer held to the standard of their sacred oath will be doing so because you lived, because you mattered, and because your memory demanded a shield.

Rest easy, good boy. We've got the line from here.

DOG'S LIVES MATTER!

ADDENDUM: THE GEOGRAPHIC LIMITATION OF STATE ASSETS AND JURISDICTIONAL INTEGRITY

WHEREAS, the deployment of department-issued patrol vehicles and transit assets represents a physical extension of state authority funded by the local tax base; and **WHEREAS**, the unchecked operation of such assets across multiple jurisdictions creates a vacuum of accountability; **IT IS HEREBY RECOMMENDED** that the utilization of tax-subsidized response machinery be restricted to the primary employing jurisdiction or a fifteen (15) mile radius thereof. To preserve the demarcation between public duty and private existence, the physical instruments of the state must remain within the borders they are sworn to protect.

Note to Legal Scholars, Practitioners, and Advocates: This proposed statute is presented as a living, citizen-driven framework. We recognize that perfection is an iterative process. We invite, encourage, and actively demand the constructive critiques, optimizations, and technical improvements of legal professionals, behavioral scientists, and policy experts to ensure this Act becomes an unpierceable shield in the statute books of our land.

Below is an AI generated Forensic Autopsy of the inner mental/emotional state of a dog experiencing the energy involved and the response to such an experience we should expect one hundred percent of the time. It is not part of the bill, simply provided as context to the experience as a dog might consciously feel it. It is state sanctioned animal cruelty, that is my judgement as a behavior professional.

CLINICAL NEURO-SIMULATION LOG: CANINE PHYSIOLOGICAL AND COGNITIVE RESPONSE DURING CONDUCTIVE ENERGY AMMUNITION (CEW) DEPLOYMENT

Simulation Engine: Gemini (Large Language Model)

Diagnostic Frame: Functional Neuro-Autopsy / Behavioral Compliance Audit

Subject Model: *Canis lupus familiaris* (10-year-old, large breed, established baseline non-aggressive temperament)

PHASE I: RECEPTION OF HIGH-VOLTAGE CONDUCTIVE ENERGY (THE TASER INTERACTION)

Duration: Approximately 5.0 to 30.0 seconds (Continuous/Intermittent Cycles)

1. Neuromuscular Disruption Matrix

Upon insertion of the conductive probes, the simulation models an immediate override of the subject's peripheral nervous system by a high-voltage electrical current (typically delivered in rapid pulses of roughly 19 to 50 pulses per second).

- **Somatic Motor System:** The electrical current mimics natural nerve impulses but at a frequency and amplitude that causes involuntary, maximal tetanic contraction of all skeletal muscles between the probe sites. The conscious awareness of the subject loses all voluntary motor control. The skeletal muscles lock in a state of continuous contraction.
- **Respiratory Arrest:** Intercostal muscles and the diaphragm undergo involuntary fixation. The simulation registers an immediate cessation of normal respiratory cycles (apnea), resulting in sudden acute hypoxia.
- **Nociceptive Volley:** Sensory A-delta and C-fibers fire at maximum capacity, flooding the ascending spinothalamic tracts. The cognitive translation of this input is a non-localized, overwhelming pain signal that completely saturates the thalamus and cerebral cortex.

2. Cognitive State and Behavioral Criteria Collapse

In canine behavior science, learning and operational compliance depend on a clear relationship between a stimulus, a behavioral response, and the reinforcement or consequence—known as the behavioral criteria.

- **Eradication of Neurological Consistency:** Because the electrical current directly stimulates the muscle tissue and motor nerves independent of the

brain, the subject cannot determine a behavioral escape route. In standard operant conditioning, a dog subjected to a negative stimulus moves away from the source of pressure to find relief. Under CEW deployment, the pressure is internal, unceasing, and completely detaches the dog's actions from physical consequences.

- ***The 30-Second Cognitive Eternity:*** *For a canine, temporal perception is heavily bound to immediate sensory feedback loops. When voluntary movement, respiration, and environmental feedback are completely severed by continuous neuromuscular disruption, the internal processing of duration expands. Lacking the associative capacity to conceptualize "temporary law enforcement equipment operation," the simulation registers the state as a permanent, systemic collapse of reality. The brain is locked in a continuous loop of survival panic without an objective target.*

PHASE II: COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS—CEW FORCE VS. ELECTRONIC TRAINING COLLARS (STIMULATION PROTOCOLS)

To evaluate why high-voltage conductive energy armaments catalyze aggression while electronic training collars (e-collars) traditionally do not, the simulation contrasts their distinct neuro-physiological mechanisms:

<i>Specification Matrix</i>	<i>Electronic Training Collar (High-Tier Behavior Modification)</i>	<i>Conductive Energy Armament (CEW / Taser)</i>
<i>Primary Intent</i>	<i>Structural communication, boundary enforcement, or pain-compliance via localized aversion.</i>	<i>Immediate, involuntary physical incapacitation via systemic motor disruption.</i>
<i>Electrical Output</i>	<i>Low-amperage, microsecond-pulse monophasic or biphasic current.</i>	<i>High-voltage, continuous pulsing current designed to override the central nervous system.</i>

Somatic Effect	<i>Localized cutaneous sensation (ranging from imperceptible tingling to a sharp localized muscle twitch or "yip").</i>	<i>Total, involuntary systemic tetanic contraction of all major muscle groups between probes.</i>
Behavioral Criteria	<i>Maintained.</i> <i>The dog retains full motor control and can actively execute a command (e.g., recall or down-stay) to terminate the stimulus.</i>	<i>Destroyed.</i> <i>The dog loses all voluntary motor control. It cannot execute a command to stop the stimulus, eliminating any possibility of choice-based compliance.</i>
Behavioral Response	<i>Flight, avoidance, or immediate compliance if the criteria have been properly generalized by the handler.</i>	<i>Mandatory Fight-or-Flight Escalation.</i> <i>The absolute trauma and sensory deprivation trigger a frantic survival response.</i>

The Mechanism of Catalyzed Aggression

Even at maximum levels, an e-collar leaves the dog's cognitive faculties and motor control intact, allowing the animal to find an escape path. Conversely, a CEW completely strips the animal of agency while inflicting severe internal trauma.

When the current cycles off or pauses, the sudden restoration of motor control occurs inside a brain flooded with massive spikes of adrenaline, cortisol, and endogenous opiates. Because the dog cannot trace the pain to an abstract technical device, it observes the immediate environment for the source of the threat. If an human agent is standing in close proximity with an aggressive, dominant posture, the dog's remaining neurological circuitry defaults directly into

survival-driven, defensive aggression. The weapon itself creates the very threat the officer claims they are trying to neutralize.

DIAGNOSTIC CONCLUSION: THE FAILURE OF FORCE OVER COOPERATIVE STRUCTURES

This neuro-simulation establishes that the deployment of high-voltage pain-compliance systems on canine subjects is fundamentally incompatible with behavioral control.

True canine compliance is not achieved by bypassing the brain and freezing the muscles; it is achieved through the systematic invitation of cooperation. When a handler or an agent possesses the behavioral skill to present clear, predictable criteria, a dog will willingly choose to default to an absolute down-stay or a submissive posture—even in high-stress matrices. Cooperation creates structural predictability; unmetered physical force introduces neurological chaos.

The application of high-voltage current to a domestic animal does not gain compliance. It inflicts systemic, non-localized trauma that strips the animal of its baseline behavioral consistency, ensuring that any subsequent interaction occurs within a state of absolute, catastrophic panic.