

## Requirements for owning a vicious animal in Derby

**Licensing:** The animal must be licensed annually with the City Clerk. The license fee is \$100. If the animal's residency changes, you must notify the City Clerk's office and the Police Department at least seven days prior to the change.

**Microchip:** A microchip must be inserted by a licensed veterinarian that is traceable to the animal and contains the owner's current information. Verification of the procedure is required from a licensed veterinarian.

**Insurance:** A liability insurance policy is required to be maintained in the sum of \$100,000. The City of Derby must be named as an additional insured. Present the certificate of insurance at the time of licensing your animal.

**Secure enclosure:** The animal must be secured in an indoor enclosure or on your property in a secure enclosure that meets the specifications set forth in Ordinance 1863.

**Sign:** A sign must be posted on your property clearly visible to the general public, alerting that a vicious animal is maintained on the premises.

**Muzzling:** It is unlawful for the animal to be outside of a secure enclosure unless you are transporting it to and from a veterinarian. At such times, you are required to properly muzzle the animal and have it under the control of an owner or responsible keeper.

If I own a "vicious" animal, what do I need to do to license my animal in compliance with City ordinance?

Bring the following items with you to the customer service desk of Derby City Hall and request a "vicious animal" license:

A certificate of liability insurance in the sum of \$100,000 that names the City of Derby as an additional insured.

Verification from a licensed veterinarian that your animal has been implanted with a traceable microchip that will also identify you and your current contact information.

A picture of your animal (front and side view). This will help the authorities more quickly and humanely locate and capture your animal if it should run at-large.

(Optional) Proof of spay/neuter

Payment of \$100

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**For more information, please contact:**

**Derby City Hall**

**611 Mulberry Rd. Suite 300**

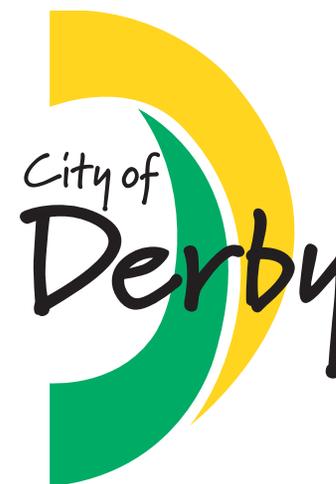
**Derby, KS 67037**

**316/788-1519**

**[www.derbyweb.com](http://www.derbyweb.com)**

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## What you should know about owning a vicious animal in Derby



*Provided courtesy of the City of Derby, Kansas*

# Frequently Asked Questions

## What is a “dangerous or vicious” animal?

In Derby, a “dangerous or vicious” animal is an animal that has been declared by a municipal judge to pose an unreasonable risk to the public because of a propensity or history of violent behavior. City ordinance allows the judge to consider many mitigating factors in the decision such as the conditions surrounding the incident, the conditions in which the animal is normally maintained, the animal’s history of behavior, the likelihood that the animal will physically harm a human being or a domestic animal in the future, etc.

Declaring an animal “vicious” is typically a rare occurrence but nonetheless a necessary option to have for the protection of public safety.

## What if my animal was declared “dangerous or vicious” in another community other than Derby?

If your animal has ever been declared “dangerous or vicious” by an authority outside of the Derby community, then your animal continues to be considered “dangerous or vicious” here in Derby. You must abide by the regulations for a “dangerous or vicious” animal set forth by Ordinance 1863.

## My pet can only be declared “dangerous or vicious” if it physically attacks someone, right?

Your pet can be found “dangerous or vicious” if it physically attacks a human being or another domestic animal. In addition, if your animal demonstrates a vicious or dangerous propensity towards human beings or domestic animals and is capable of inflicting serious harm or death to humans it can be declared vicious. If the animal is on your property and properly secured from the general public, you dramatically decrease the likelihood that your animal can be declared “dangerous or vicious.”

## What can I do to prevent my animal from being declared “dangerous or vicious?”

Owner responsibility is the key to successful animal ownership in a community. You alone have the responsibility to choose and maintain a suitable animal and you alone are accountable for the actions of your animal.

Before selecting a pet, you should carefully consider the breed of animal that best fits your lifestyle and demands a level of responsibility that you are

## Do I need to license my pet if it’s been declared “dangerous or vicious?”

If you own a cat or dog in Derby, you must license that animal annually with the City. In most cases, you can coordinate licensing of the animal through your personal veterinarian. But if you own a vicious animal, you will need to visit the customer service desk in City Hall to complete the licensing.

## What if I don’t license my vicious animal?

Failure to license an animal that has been declared “vicious” could result in a fine up to \$500 and/or up to 6 months in jail. As a practical matter, if you don’t license your animal, it could increase your risk for being found liable if your animal is involved in an attack in the future. Failure to license your animal could demonstrate a history of negligence. Hopefully, you will view the responsibility to license your animal as a small concession for maintaining your pet.

capable of providing and maintaining.

To decrease the likelihood that your animal will become a danger to the community, properly train your animal so that it will be less likely to have the *ability* to be vicious and/or secure your animal from the general public so that it won’t have the *opportunity* to act out in a dangerous or vicious manner.