



John W. Mays, Executive Director  
National Animal Control Association  
P.O. Box 480851  
Kansas City, MO 64148  
Phone: 913-768-1319  
Fax: 913-768-1378  
[naca@nacanet.org](mailto:naca@nacanet.org)

## **Personnel Training and Safety - Bite Stick**

### **Guideline Statement**

Bite sticks may be used as a defensive tool to provide an Animal Control Officer with non-lethal force for dealing with aggressive animals. Use of a bite stick for personal protection from humans should be in accordance with agency training, policies, and procedures.

### **Basis for Guideline**

Animal Control Officers frequently encounter hostile or aggressive animals and people. Officers must be able to defend themselves in order to retreat to call for assistance without placing their life in imminent danger.

### **Guideline Recommendation**

NACA recommends that no Animal Control Officer be permitted to carry or use a bite stick without proper animal related training. NACA further recommends that any agency approving the use of this item must have a written policy regarding their use and insure proper training.

Reviewed/Revised by the NACA Corporate Office - 09/17/02

The foregoing Guideline has been affirmed as duly adopted by the NACA Board of Directors.

***John W. Mays***

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