

VII. INVESTIGATIONS; ENFORCEMENT; INTERFERENCE

- a. Any Dog Control Officer shall have the authority to investigate any circumstances, facts, conditions, or complaints regarding a possible violation of the requirements or prohibitions of this Ordinance. Any Dog Control Officer may request the assistance of the Lowndes County Sheriff or other appropriate law enforcement officials with respect to such investigations or violations.
- b. At any time there is probable cause to believe that a violation of this Ordinance has occurred, a law enforcement official may apply to the appropriate court for a search warrant to inspect the property, premises, or area where such violation may have occurred, or may be occurring, or for an inspection warrant under the provisions of OCGA § 2-2-11.
- c. It shall be a violation of this Ordinance for anyone to interfere or hamper, or cause the interfering or hampering, with the facilities, personnel, or operation of the Animal Shelter or to remove from any such facility without the prior consent of a Dog Control Officer any dog kept therein.
- d. It shall be a violation of this Ordinance for anyone to resist, hinder, delay, interfere with, or molest any Dog Control Officer in the performance of his duties under this Ordinance.

VIII. VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES

- a. It shall be a violation of this Ordinance:
 1. to fail to comply with any provision of this Ordinance;
 2. to fail to comply with any lawful order of a Dog Control Officer, law enforcement official, or other authorized enforcement officer enforcing this Ordinance unless such order is lawfully stayed or reversed; or
 3. to fail to pay fees, expenses, or costs imposed by this Ordinance unless payment thereof is lawfully stayed or reversed.
- b. Each day's, or part thereof, violation of any provision of this Ordinance shall be a separate offense under this Ordinance.
- c. Any person who violates any provision of this Ordinance or who fails to do anything required by this Ordinance shall be amenable to the process of the Magistrate Court of Lowndes County.
- d. The punishment imposed for any violation of this Ordinance shall not exceed a fine of \$1,000.00 or six-months' imprisonment, or both, provided the Magistrate Judge shall probate not less than 120 days of any sentence imposed, except as otherwise provided by general law, and shall not exceed the maximum punishment specified by this Ordinance. In the event a sentence is revoked, a defendant shall not serve more than sixty (60) days in a county jail.