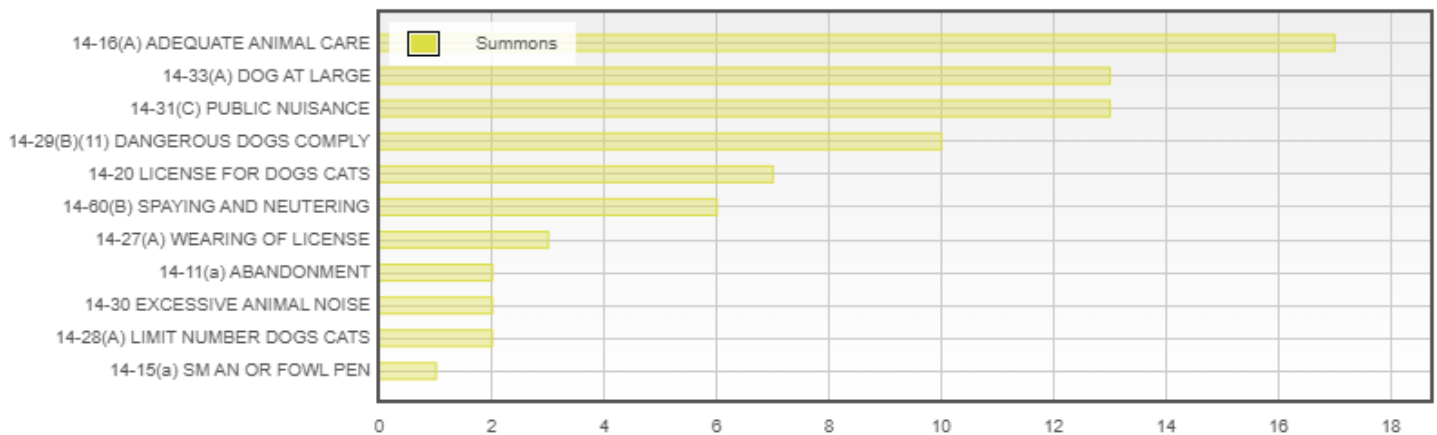


KCPP Animal Services Division Report for January 2025

Citations Issued / Enforcement

In January 2025, officers issued eighty (80) citations through the Thin Blue Line (TBL) system for review by the City Prosecutor. Prior to the issuance of citations, verbal and/or written warnings for violations may be presented by the officer, and citations are not submitted if compliance with animal ordinances are achieved within the given corrective action period.

Types of Municipal Citations Issued in January








Community Presence

Animal Services Officers had 6 patrol vehicles in use daily in January. Officially marked patrol vehicles spent 846 hours in the community and traveled 17,704 miles throughout the city, providing essential field services to the community.

Animal Services Division – Total Case Activities for January

Officers were dispatched to **1,878** activities in January 2025 (*a 11% increase in calls from last month*) and were dispatched to **1,331** unique cases.

				
Calls from Residents Resulting in Cases	Online Reports Received by ASD	Case Follow Up Activities Performed	Total Case Activities for the Month	% of Calls resulting in Case Creation
1,255	76	547	1878	37%

Animal Services Dispatch – Call Center Metrics

During the hours of 7 AM – 10 PM every day, our Dispatch Specialists handle all incoming calls from residents through the City's 311 Call Center, direct calls to our Animal Services' Dispatch Team, and our after-hours phone queue. (They also receive reports from residents via email through our website). Each reported animal-related concern is documented by location, assigned based on priority, and logged by council district as well as zip code.

January 2025	Answered	Unanswered	Total Calls	Abandoned Rate %
IN > Dispatch – 311 Queue	4	0	4	0%
IN > Dispatch – Dispatch Q	2084	97	2181	4%
IN > Dispatch – Dispatch After Hours Q	365	31	396	8%
Dispatch INBOUND Performance	2,453	128	2,581	5%
Dispatch OUTBOUND Performance	882	156	1,038	N/A
Total Performance for January 2025	3,335	284	3,619	8%

Dispatch 311 Queue: Incoming calls from the KCMO 311 menu that are routed to KC Pet Project for animal control related issues.

Dispatch Queue: Calls received from residents who call us directly to report an animal control related issue or concern.

Dispatch After Hours Queue: Calls received between the hours of 7pm- 7am that are primarily answered by a designated "on-call" officer.

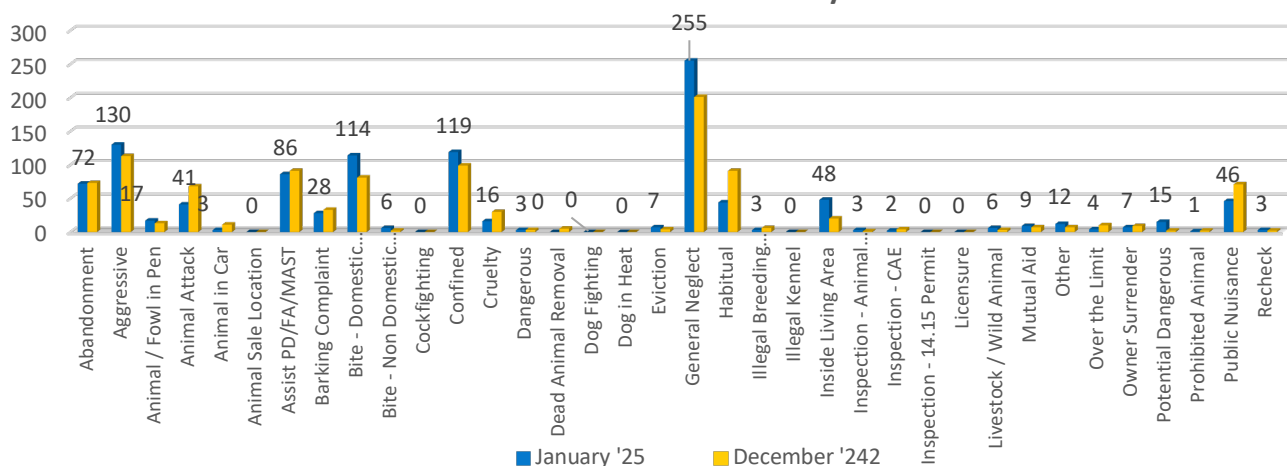
- ❖ Our Animal Services Dispatch team answered **2,453** live phone calls, completed **1,038** outbound calls, and resolved **89** voicemails.
- ❖ Dispatchers spent a total of **72 hours and 24 minutes** on the phone in the month of January
- ❖ Maintain an **average call wait time of 28 seconds** for the direct dispatch Queue.
- ❖ The Cruelty Tips Hotline received **9** calls in the month of January.
- ❖ In 2025, voicemails received by Animal Services Dispatch consisted of: **15%** of resolved voicemails were Animal Services requests (*inquiries regarding ordinance, citations, and/or division complaints*), **14%** were calls for case follow-up (*inquiries and repeat calls about active and/or closed animal services cases, or return calls requesting to speak to a specific officer*), and **10%** were stray roaming calls (*calls regarding stray animals roaming at-large and unconfined*)

Total Cases by Sub-Type Responded in January 2025

Calls related to stray animals continue to comprise nearly half of our monthly call volume from residents.

Approximately **137** of the **595** stray/loose animal calls were related to public safety concerns, such as reports of aggressive dogs or animals in the roadway.

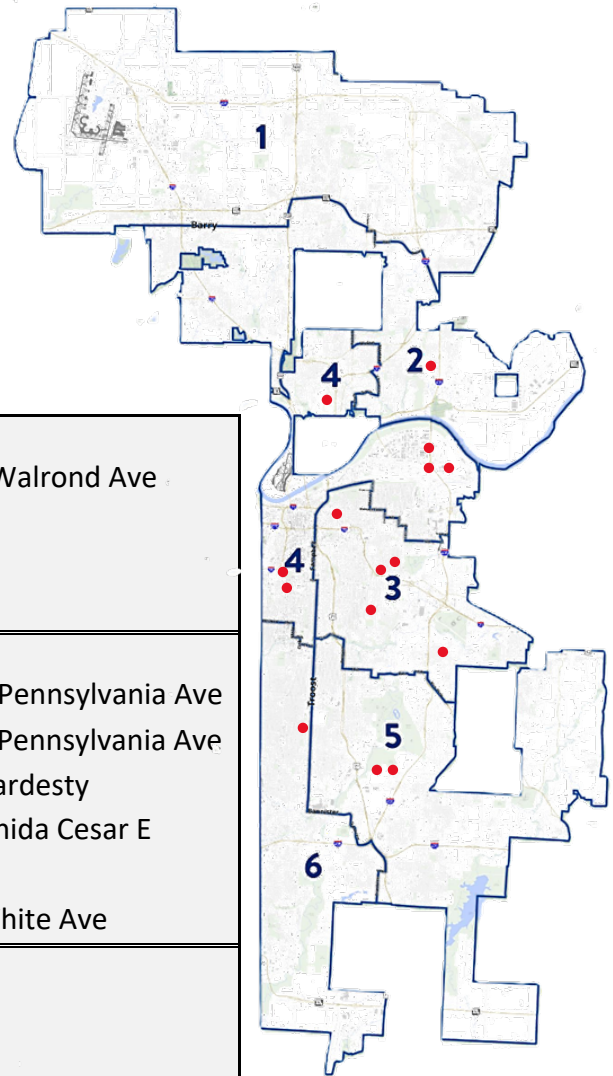
Animal Services Cases in KCMO January '25 vs. December '24



Directed Patrol Areas

Frequently, our Animal Services Division receives reports from residents of dogs habitually roaming a neighborhood or dogs that have become a public safety concern or nuisance problem for a specific neighborhood. However, many times officers are unable to locate the dog(s) when they arrive. To resolve ongoing cases of this nature and to provide continued enforcement efforts for these issues, directed patrols have been established whereby officers schedule frequent drive-bys through these specific areas looking for the dogs. The following locations are currently identified as **Directed Patrol Areas** where officers are looking for dogs reported as habitually roaming, public nuisances, or aggressive dogs:

<u>Council District 1 Areas:</u> ✓ No Directed Patrols currently	<u>Council District 2 Areas:</u> ✓ 4200 block of N Walrond Ave
<u>Council District 3 Areas:</u> ✓ Lykins Park Area ✓ 4500 block of Hanover Court ✓ 2600 block of Askew Ave ✓ 400 block of Bales Ave	<u>Council District 4 Areas:</u> ✓ W 33rd Street & Pennsylvania Ave ✓ W 38th Street & Pennsylvania Ave ✓ 300 block of N Hardesty ✓ 600 block of Avenida Cesar E Chavez ✓ 500 block of N White Ave
<u>Council District 5 Areas:</u> ✓ 3100 & 3200 block of E 80th St ✓ 7200 block of E 89 th Ter	<u>Council District 6 Areas:</u> ✓ Loose Park Area



Bites Investigated in January 2025

- Number of bites from dogs/cats occurring on their own property or inside a home: 66
- Number of bites from dogs/cats occurring off property, i.e., stray dogs at large: 48
- Number of bites from dogs/cats in which bite location is unclassified: 0
- A total of 16 bats were taken to Lakeside Nature Center for quarantine following potential, but not confirmed, exposure with individuals. Quarantining bats allows for them to be safely released at the conclusion of the quarantine (or when temperatures are warm enough) if no sign of infectious disease is discovered. The only current alternative to testing is euthanasia. Currently in the United States, less than half of 1% of bats carry rabies.

Dangerous Dog Investigations in January 2025

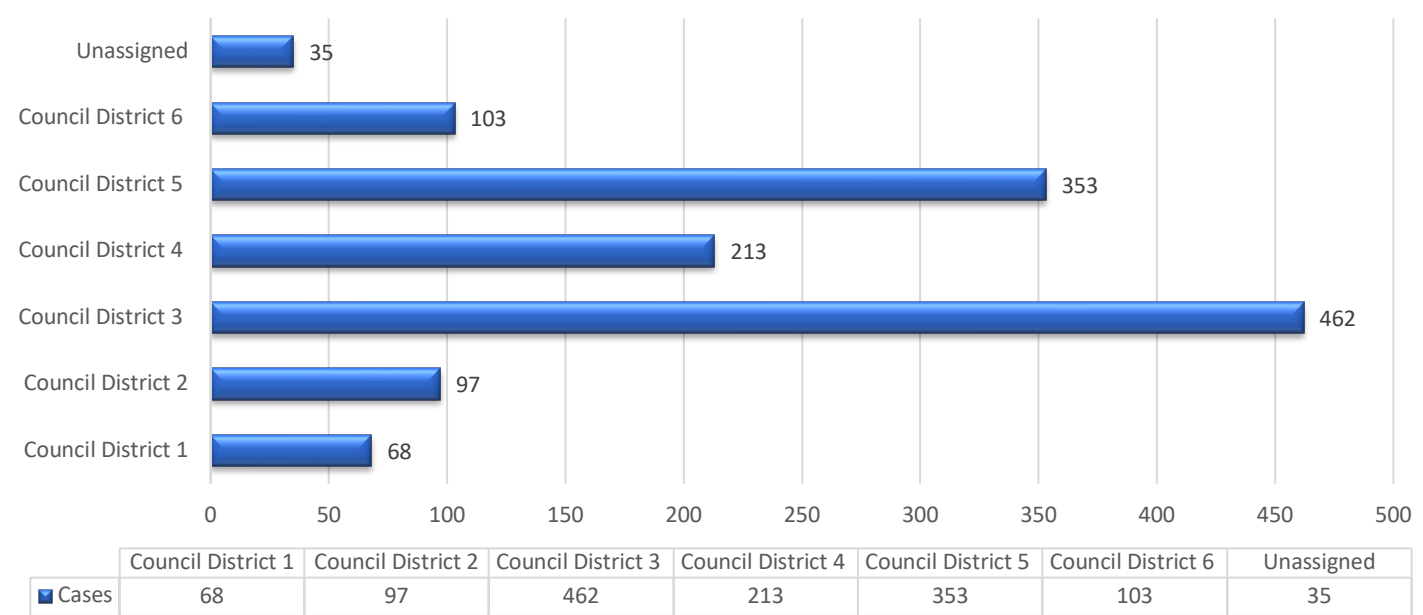
- Our office declared three (3) dogs as Potentially Dangerous Dogs and two (2) dogs as Dangerous Dogs for violations of Section 14-29 of the Code of City Ordinances.

- Four (4) citations were issued through the Municipal Court of Kansas City for failing to comply with Dangerous Dog orders. The owners who received these citations have mandatory court appearances.
- The owner of "Duke," a dog declared dangerous, was found guilty in municipal court of violating Sec. 14-31 Public Nuisance and ordered to surrender the involved dog to KC Pet Project. Following this court order, Duke was euthanized at the shelter due to being classified as a declared dog after multiple incidents in May 2024, where Duke caused injuries to both people and domestic animals. Euthanasia decisions are never made lightly and are only carried out when required for the health and safety of the public or the animal, in accordance with the KCMO City Code.

Compliance / Inspections / Permits

In January, Compliance Officer Oertwig issued one (1) Animal Display Permit, five (5) Commercial Animal Establishment Permits, no domestic animal advocacy permits, and no Special Exception for Fowl or Small Animal Permits issued under Chapter 14-15 of the Kansas City municipal code of ordinances.

Total Number of Calls by City Council District for January 2025



Stories from the Field

Jackson County Eviction

On January 22nd, Animal Services Officer Perry assisted Jackson County Civil Process Deputies with an eviction at a residence located on the 8800 block of E 111th Street in Kansas City, Jackson County, Missouri. Upon arrival and entering the home, Officer Perry observed unsanitary living conditions and found two canines that appeared to have been abandoned without adequate access to food or water, in violation of Chapter 14 of the city code. Officer Perry impounded the dogs and transported them to KC Pet Project for further evaluation and investigation into the circumstances surrounding their abandonment and the conditions in the home.

Following an investigation and interviews with the animal owner, it was determined that the dogs' redemption would be refused due to the owner being deemed "unfit" under Sec. 14-5 of the city code. The dogs were held at KC Pet Project

for five days, allowing the owner the opportunity to appeal the decision. However, the owner did not file an appeal, and the dogs became the property of KC Pet Project, who proceeded with adoption and transfer after completing the evidence collection.

The owner received multiple citations for alleged violations of the city code, including Failure to Provide Adequate Care. If found guilty, the owner may face a maximum fine of up to \$1,000 and/or up to 180 days in jail.

Bat Rescue

In January, Animal Services Officers Combs and Stapp responded to a call from a homeowner in Kansas City, Jackson County, Missouri, regarding a bat trapped in a glue trap. Upon arrival, the homeowner explained that the traps had been set to catch insects that were infesting the area, but a bat had accidentally gotten stuck.

The officers carefully handled the bat to avoid further sticking it to the glue and transported it to Lakeside Nature Center. There, the staff successfully freed the bat without injury. The bat is now under the care of a licensed rehabilitator, where it will recover and remain until the weather is warm enough to release it back into the wild. Animal Services Officers are responsible for the health and safety of animals of all kinds, including bats. Just like with domestic animals, they handle bats with compassion and ensure they receive the highest level of care.

Animal Cruelty/Neglect/Abuse Cases Under Investigation

At the beginning of February, the Cruelty Investigations Team had **27** open animal cruelty cases under investigation (a 27% decrease from December 2024) that carried over from January.

- ✓ **25** reports of general neglect
- ✓ **2** reports of cruelty

In January, the Cruelty Investigation Team closed **236** animal cruelty case activities for our community, including **50** reports of animal abandonment, **174** reports of general neglect, and **12** reports of cruelty.

In January, the Cruelty Investigations Manager refused the redemption of 5 animals to owners for being “unfit owners” pursuant to Sec. 14-5 of the city code.

Case Results for January 2025





Results for Calls with Animals	January 2025	December '24	% Change
Animals Impounded by Officers	341	364	6% decrease
Wildlife Relocated/Transferred Out	28	22	27% increase
Animals Returned Home by Officers	24	27	11% decrease

Twenty four loose/lost animals (24 dogs) that could be returned in the field were reunited with their owners by officers, rather than impounding them at the shelter. This practice allows our officers to build trust-based relationships with our community, keeps pets safe at home, and allows connections to resources if needed. Additionally, it preserves limited shelter resources for those animals truly in need of sheltering.

Reasons for Animals Impounded by Officers in January 2025

Animal Services Division Seizures/ Impounds	January '25	December '24
Abandoned in Home/Yard	26	49

Bite Quarantine	15	5
Cruelty/Neglect	14	4
Death of Owner	3	2
Dead on Arrival	12	10
Evictions	9	17
Injured	0	2
Left in Car	0	2
Medical Emergency	6	5
Meet P.D./MAST/Fire	1	1
Other Ordinance Violation	1	1
Police Arrests	6	14
Sick	0	1
Signed Over by Owner in Field	38	29
Stray / At Large	210	222
Total Animals Impounded:	341	364

Impoundments by Species	
 Dogs: 295	 Cats: 43
 Lovebird: 1	 Chicken: 1

City Council District Overview for January 2025

Council District 1:

Total Unique Animal Services Cases in District: **68**
Zip code with greatest number of case activities: 64155
Stray/Animals at Large: 31
Cruelty Investigations/Neglect: 7
Dog/Cat Bites Investigated: 9
Other Services (Police/Fire/MAST/Evictions): 4

Council District 2:

Total Unique Animal Services Cases in District: **97**
Zip code with greatest number of case activities: 64151
Stray/Animals at Large: 34
Cruelty Investigations/Neglect: 20
Dog/Cat Bites Investigated: 8
Other Services (Police/Fire/MAST/Evictions): 1

Council District 3:

Total Unique Animal Services Cases in District: **462**
Zip code with greatest number of case activities: 64127
Stray/Animals at Large: 218
Cruelty Investigations/Neglect: 63
Dog/Cat Bites Investigated: 34
Other Services (Police/Fire/MAST/Evictions): 32

Unassigned:

Total Unique Animal Services Cases in District: **35**
Zip code with greatest number of case activities: N/A
Stray/Animals at Large: 13
Cruelty Investigations/Neglect: 6
Dog/Cat Bites Investigated: 0
Other Services (Police/Fire/MAST/Evictions): 2

Council District 4:

Total Unique Animal Services Cases in District: **213**
Zip code with greatest number of case activities: 64123
Stray/Animals at Large: 84
Cruelty Investigations/Neglect: 29
Dog/Cat Bites Investigated: 27
Other Services (Police/Fire/MAST/Evictions): 9

Council District 5:

Total Unique Animal Services Cases in District: **353**
Zip Code with greatest number of case activities: 64132
Stray/Animals at Large: 186
Cruelty Investigations/Neglect: 46
Dog/Cat Bites Investigated: 28
Other Services (Police/Fire/MAST/Evictions): 7

Council District 6:

Total Unique Animal Services Cases in District: **103**
Zip Code with greatest number of case activities: 64131
Stray/Animals at Large: 29
Cruelty Investigations/Neglect: 14
Dog/Cat Bites Investigated: 8
Other Services (Police/Fire/MAST/Evictions): 6

Note: Numbers shown above in each district for stray animals, cruelty investigations/neglect cases, dog bite investigations, and other services reflect some of the most common Animal Services case types reported last month in the districts.



Evan LaDue, Cruelty Investigations Manager, KC Pet Project