

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS



Department of Agricultural Resources
100 Cambridge Street, 9th Floor, Boston, MA 02114
www.mass.gov/agr



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Ashley E. Randle
COMMISSIONER

December 28, 2023

Dear Animal Control Supervisor,

In accordance with Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 140, Section 151, the mayor of each city and the board of selectmen of each town shall annually designate an animal control officer ("ACO"), who may be a police officer or constable. The mayor or board of selectmen shall immediately submit to the commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources ("Department") the names, addresses and dates of hire of such animal control officer(s).

The Department is required under MGL Chapter 140, section 151A to inspect the facilities that municipalities use to hold stray dogs and other animals that come into the possession of the ACO. Municipal animal holding locations must be reported to the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources.

Below you will find prepopulated information from our current ACO database. To confirm, add, or to make changes to your ACO designations please visit [Municipal Animal Control Officer Designation 2024 | Mass.gov](#). Please note, if you prefer this email can be printed out and updated forms can be uploaded into the portal above, or emailed to sheri.gustafson@mass.gov

Please submit designation confirmation and any needed changes no later than February 1, 2024.

Should an ACO leave his or her position mid-year, please notify the Department immediately. Any of the required information pertaining to any new hire employed during the year should be submitted on a new designation form immediately upon their hiring.

If you have any questions, please contact sheri.gustafson@mass.gov

Sincerely,

Michael Cahill, Director
Division of Animal Health,
MA Dept. of Agricultural Resources

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