

**RESPONSIBLE PET OWNER**  
**Code of Criminal Procedure**  
**Chapter 42A, Article 42A.511**  
**Administered by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation**  
*(Effective September 1, 2017)*

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Art. 42A.511. Community Supervision for Certain Offenses Involving Animals..... 0

**Art. 42A.511. Community Supervision for Certain Offenses Involving Animals**

- (a) If a judge grants community supervision to a defendant convicted of an offense under Section 42.09, 42.091, 42.092, or 42.10, Penal Code, the judge may require the defendant to:
  - (1) complete an online responsible pet owner course approved and certified by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation; or
  - (2) attend a responsible pet owner course sponsored by a municipal animal shelter, as defined by Section 823.001, Health and Safety Code, that:
    - (A) receives federal, state, county, or municipal funds; and
    - (B) serves the county in which the court is located.
- (b) For purposes of the online responsible pet owner course described by Subsection (a)(1), the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation or the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation, as appropriate:
  - (1) is responsible for the approval, certification, and administration of the course and course providers;
  - (2) may charge fees for:
    - (A) initial and renewal course certifications;
    - (B) initial and renewal course provider certifications;
    - (C) course participant completion certificates; and
    - (D) other fees necessary for the administration of the course and course providers;
  - (3) shall adopt rules regarding the administration of the course and course providers, including rules regarding:
    - (A) the criteria for course approval and certification;
    - (B) the criteria for course provider approval and certification;
    - (C) curriculum development;
    - (D) course length and content;

- (E) criteria for a participant to complete the course; and
  - (F) a course completion certificate that is acceptable to a court;
- (4) is authorized to monitor and audit the provision of the course by the course providers; and
- (5) may take enforcement actions as appropriate to enforce this subsection.