

ANIMAL CRUELTY IS PUNISHABLE BY LAW

Killing or harming cats and other animals is a serious crime. Anyone who takes any action to harm animals may be prosecuted for a felony and face imprisonment and substantial criminal fines. Attached an excerpt from the California Penal Code.

Cruelty or threats of cruelty against animals will be immediately reported to the Animal Control Department of the city where the crime or threats occur.

Excerpt from California Penal Code: Animal Cruelty

§597. Cruelty to Animals (a) Except as provided in subdivision (c) of this section or Section 599c, every person who maliciously and intentionally maims, mutilates, tortures or wounds a living animal or maliciously and intentionally kills an animal, is guilty of an offence punishable by imprisonment in the state prison or by a fine of not more than twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000), or by both the fine and imprisonment, or, alternatively, by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than one year, or by a fine of not more than twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000), or by both the fine and imprisonment.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (a) or (c), **every person who** overdrives, overloads, drives when overloaded, overworks, tortures, torments, **deprives of necessary sustenance, drink, or shelter**, cruelly beats, mutilates, or cruelly kills any animal, **or causes or procures any animal to be so** overdriven, overloaded, driven when overloaded, overworked, **tortured, tormented, deprived of necessary sustenance, drink, or shelter**, or to be cruelly beaten, mutilated, or cruelly killed; **and whoever, having the charge or custody of any animal, either as owner or otherwise, subjects any animal to needless suffering, or inflicts unnecessary cruelty upon the animal, or in any manner abuses any animal, or fails to provide the animal with proper food, drink, or shelter** or protection from the weather, or who drives, rides, or otherwise uses the animal when unfit for labor, **is for every such offence, guilty of a crime punishable as a misdemeanor as a felony or alternatively punishable as a misdemeanor or a felony and by a fine of not more than twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000).**

(c) Every person who maliciously and intentionally maims, mutilates or tortures any mammal, bird, reptile, amphibian, or fish as described in subdivision (d), is guilty of an offense punishable by imprisonment in the state prison, or by a fine of not more than twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000), or by both the fine and the imprisonment, or, alternatively, by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than one year, or by a fine of not more than twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000), or by both the fine and imprisonment.