

ALABAMA DOG BITE STATISTICS



4.5 million dog bites occur in the United States every year.

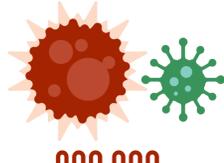
DOG BITES \$\$\$\$
NORMAL INJURY \$\$

The **cost** of treating dog bites is **2X** more than a normal injury-related hospital stay.



\$18,200

The average cost of a dog-bite related injury is approximately **\$18,200**



900,000

Dog bites can lead to infections. Each year, **900,000** dog bites become infected. Dog bite-related infections can occur months after a surgery was performed, leading to more complications down the road.

With mounting medical costs and lost wages, who is responsible for the costs of a dog-attack related injury?

THE OWNER/ KEEPER IS RESPONSIBLE IF

The injured person did not provoke the dog

The injured person was not trespassing

The injured person was on the dog's owner's/ keeper's property or had just left the property and was chased off it by the dog



ALABAMA

Alabama uses a combination of Strict Liability and the One Bite Law in dog attack cases.



DOG OWNER

The dog owner, or the person responsible for keeping the dog, is responsible for the costs of the injury, including medical and lost wages. This applies even if the owner did not know his or her dog had aggressive tendencies or if it was the first time their dog was aggressive.

MEDICAL COST

LOST WAGES

SOME BREEDS ARE MORE AGGRESSIVE THAN OTHERS



Pitt bulls are responsible for **77%** of fatal dog attacks



The next leading breeds in terms of fatal attacks are Labradors (**10%**)



American Bulldogs (**6%**)



German Shepherds (**6%**)



Rottweilers (**6%**)

WHAT COULD CAUSE A DOG TO ATTACK?



A dog is possessive of property (**toys, food, space, owner, person**)



A dog is fearful of strangers and **unfamiliar** situations



A dog has strong maternal instincts towards her puppies



A dog is in pain



A dog is startled by someone jogging or cycling

WHAT CAN PET OWNERS DO TO HELP PREVENT DOG ATTACKS?



Set a Containment Policy



Make sure you have a secure way to keep your pet on your property



Consider adding a physical fence or an invisible fence on your property



If you do have a physical fence, check to make sure there are no vulnerable areas (holes or areas underneath that your pet has dug up)



If you do not have a fence, you must take your dog for regular walks using a leash at all times

TRAIN YOUR DOG



In order to reduce any behavioral problems, work on training your dog or take your dog to a trainer



Make sure that they know basic commands such as sit, stay, stop etc.

SOCIALIZE YOUR DOG

- ▶ This way, your pet can engage with other humans and pets in a safe way and become more comfortable
- ▶ Regularly take your dog out to parks and around the neighborhood



If you own a dog, it is important to have homeowners or renter's insurance as a liability in case a dog attack occurs on your property.

SOURCE:

floydhunter.com/watch-attorney-mike-white-share-insights-on-alabama-dog-bite-accident-laws/

If you or a loved one has been injured in a dog attack, call Johnston, Moore & Thompson

Call Us at 800-240-5770 for help

Our experienced Alabama Dog Attack Lawyers will fight to protect your right to the full and fair compensation you deserve. We will investigate your situation, and explain your rights under the law. Let one of our experienced Alabama dog bite attorneys help you after a dog attack.



www.alabamajusticecenter.com

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