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**Revisor's Note:** [In accordance with Section 3.090, the language of statutory sections enacted during the 2016 legislative session are available through a link to the relevant 2016 enacted bill, which will appear in the Chapter Table of Contents of the online Revised Statutes \(designated in red\) on the effective date of such enacted statutory section.](#)  
[The language contained in a 2016 enacted bill may differ from the final language of any codified statutory section based on other enactments in 2016.](#)  
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## Missouri Revised Statutes

Chapter [273](#)  
Dogs--Cats

[←273.346](#)

Section [273.347.1](#)

[273.348→](#)

August 28, 2016

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### Court action for enforcement, when--crime of canine cruelty, penalty.

[273.347.1](#). Whenever the state veterinarian or a state animal welfare official finds past violations of sections [273.325](#) to [273.357](#) have occurred and have not been corrected or addressed, including operating without a valid license under section [273.327](#), the director may request the attorney general or the county prosecuting attorney or circuit attorney to bring an action in circuit court in the county where the violations have occurred for a temporary restraining order, preliminary injunction, permanent injunction, or a remedial order enforceable in a circuit court to correct such violations and, in addition, the court may assess a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed one thousand dollars for each violation. Each violation shall constitute a separate offense.

2. A person commits the crime of canine cruelty if such person repeatedly violates sections [273.325](#) to [273.357](#) so as to pose a substantial risk to the health and welfare of animals in such person's custody, or knowingly violates an agreed-to remedial order involving the safety and welfare of animals under this section. The crime of canine cruelty is a class C misdemeanor, unless the person has previously pled guilty or nolo contendere to or been found guilty of a violation of this subsection, in which case, each such violation is a class A misdemeanor.

3. The attorney general or the county prosecuting attorney or circuit attorney may bring an action under sections [273.325](#) to [273.357](#) in circuit court in the county where the crime has occurred for criminal punishment.

4. No action under this section shall prevent or preclude action taken under section [578.012](#) or under subsection 3 of section [273.329](#).

(L. 2011 S.B. 113 & 95, A.L. 2011 S.B. 161)

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Missouri General Assembly

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