



City of La Quinta

P.O. Box 1504
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LA QUINTA, CALIFORNIA 92253

(760) 777-7000
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Requirement for Completing a Petition

Due to the fact that Barking Dog Petitions may be used in court we have very specific requirements for how they must be completed. This cover letter is to clarify the City's needs regarding Barking Dog Petitions.

- All portions of the petition must be neatly filled out in ink. Remember that the petition may go to court. Petitions that are filled out in any manner that would make them not presentable in court will not be processed. Examples would be use of vulgarity, filled out with a pencil, illegible, etc.
- All signatures on a petition and witness statements must be original. Faxes and copies are not acceptable.
- Petition filers and witness statements must come from people who live in the affected neighborhood. Visitors, guests and past resident statements are not acceptable.
- All documentation must be on City forms. "See attached" is not acceptable. If there is not enough room to add all of the necessary information please make a copy of the page and continue the documentation. If you do not have access to a copy machine, we would be happy to make the needed copies for you.
- The person who is filing the petition must make contact with the dog owner in an attempt to resolve the situation. The dog owner must be allowed a reasonable amount of time from the date of contact to correct the situation.
- Any person who submits a petition or signs a witness statement must be willing to be present and participate in the court action, if the situation escalates that far. Unsigned witness statement will not be accepted.

The basis for these requirements is that the court system does not want to be involved in these situations unless all other attempts at compliance have failed. The court demands that the involved parties must have attempted to work out the problem amongst themselves before involving the court system. Frequently, these cases are thrown out on minor technicalities or because witnesses do not show up to court. We attempt to reduce all possibilities that the case will be thrown out with the use of our forms, procedural requirements and original documentation.



CITY OF LA QUINTA
BARKING DOG PETITION

Date: _____

Name of Reporting Party: _____
(must reside at reporting address)

Address: _____ **Phone Number:** _____

Name of Dog Owner: _____

Dog owner's address: _____

The dog(s) is (are) located at: _____

Description of Dog(s): Breed: _____
Color: _____ **Sex:** _____

Date the dog owner was contacted: _____

Statement of facts in your own words relating to the disturbances, including exact dates and times the disturbance occurred.

The Undersigned State:

That the undersigned are disturbed by the habitual barking, whining, howling or other sounds of the described dog(s) in accordance with La Quinta Municipal Code, Section 10.28.020: I declare under penalty of perjury that the above statements are true and correct, and that I will appear in response to a subpoena and give testimony.

Print Name

Signature

Date

Please draw map showing relationship of dog owner's property in relation to your property.

List of times dog barks (exact times & dates) for at least two nights.

DATES	TIMES	DATES	TIMES
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

I declare under penalty of perjury that the above statements are true and correct, and that I will appear in response to a subpoena and give testimony. Perjury is punishable by imprisonment in the State Prison for two, three, or four years.

Print Name

Signature

Date

CITY OF LA QUINTA
BARKING DOG PETITION

WITNESS INFORMATION:

Date: _____

Print Name: _____ **Print Address:** _____

Home Telephone Number: _____ **Work Telephone Number:** _____

Barking Dog's Address: _____

Witnesses (at least one other household signing the petition is required). Civil Code 3480 Public Nuisance states that, "A public nuisance is one which affects at the same time an entire community or neighborhood, or any considerable number of persons, although the extent of the annoyance or damage inflicted upon individuals may be unequal." (If you need more room, please make a copy of this page to continue your documentation).

Statement of facts in your own words relating to the disturbance.

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Print Name

Signature

Date

CITY OF LA QUINTA
BARKING DOG PETITION

WITNESS INFORMATION:

Date: _____

Print Name: _____

Print Address: _____

Home Telephone Number: _____

Work Telephone Number: _____

Barking Dogs Address: _____

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WITNESS INFORMATION:

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Print Name

Signature

Date

**CITY OF LA QUINTA
MUNICIPAL CODE FOR BARKING DOGS**

10.28.020 Noise Disturbances by animals.

A. No person owning, keeping or having in his care or custody any dog or other animal, shall knowingly permit or suffer the dog or animal, by any barking or other noise or sound, to disturb any other person's peace and quiet. This section shall not be construed to prohibit the keeping of any watchdog, provided the keeper thereof takes immediate steps to quiet the dog whenever it barks, and provided the keeper never leaves the dog unattended on the premises in a place where its' barking, if prolonged or if repeated an undue number of times, disturbs any other person's peace and quiet.

B. No person, after being informed orally or in writing that his dog or other animal has by barking or other noise or sound disturbed any other person's peace and quiet, shall fail, refuse or neglect to take whatever steps or use whatever means are necessary to assure that the dog or animal does not again disturb the other person's peace and quiet.