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PRACTICE AREAS

Workers Compensation

Personal Injury

Motor Vehicle Accidents

Wrongful Death

Personal Injury From Animal Bites or Attacks

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It has become common in many rural areas, and even in big cities, for owners to take their dogs on a walk off the leash. Thus, the likelihood of getting bitten or attacked by a dog increases. Although many of these injuries occur with a dog and its owner, friend, or family member, there are also many cases that involve unrestrained or aggressive dogs that aren't familiar with the victims.

Should you suffer an injury from an animal bite or attack, there are several things you should keep in mind. You should become familiar with your local area's [leash laws](#), and you should be mindful of whether you may have provoked the animal, in which case you would have a much weaker case. Some states take the animal's previous behavior into account, as well as the owner's knowledge of any aggressive tendencies.

If you decide to hire an attorney and press charges, some steps that may aid your case are: seek proper medical attention and keep your records; talk to the dog owner's neighbors to determine if such behavior has been observed before; and talk to the dog's veterinarian and obtain a copy of the dog's medical history if possible.

A [personal injury](#) attorney may be especially helpful in cases where the dog owner refuses to accept responsibility for the injury, in cases where you anticipate the need for future counseling or medical attention, or when you just want to make sure you are compensated properly. Damages paid can cover lost wages, medical expenses, and other associated expenses. It may also be helpful to simply discuss your case with an attorney to determine whether you should take your case to court in the first place.