



CHAPTER 19A  
ARTICLE 1 - CIVIL REMEDY FOR PROTECTION OF ANIMALS

N.C.G.S. § 19A-4.

Permanent injunction.

| SOURCE                                                                   | LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT                      | RETRIEVED                    | SOURCE FINGERPRINT                                                     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly | S.L. 2006-113, s. 1.2 — fifth act in the lineage | 21 September 2026, 03:35 UTC | 8e36ef9c6e2d3f1d343466cf - 53e8eab58d36af05c09fac49 - 9c19b4d205736a65 |

**§ 19A-4(a)** In accordance with G.S. 1A-1, Rule 65, a district court judge in the county in which the original action was brought shall determine the merits of the action by trial without a jury, and upon hearing such evidence as may be presented, shall enter orders as the court deems appropriate, including a permanent injunction and dismissal of the action along with dissolution of any preliminary injunction that had been issued.

**§ 19A-4(b)** If the plaintiff prevails, the court in its discretion may include the costs of food, water, shelter, and care, including medical care, provided to the animal, less any amounts deposited by the defendant under G.S. 19A-70, as part of the costs allowed to the plaintiff under G.S. 6-18. In addition, if the court finds by a preponderance of the evidence that even if a permanent injunction were issued there would exist a substantial risk that the animal would be subjected to further cruelty if returned to the possession of the defendant, the court may terminate the defendant's ownership and right of possession of the animal and transfer ownership and right of possession to the plaintiff or other appropriate successor owner. For good cause shown, the court may also enjoin the defendant from acquiring new animals for a specified period of time or limit the number of animals the defendant may own or possess during a specified period of time.

**§ 19A-4(c)** If the final judgment entitles the defendant to regain possession of the animal, the custodian shall return the animal, including taking any necessary steps to retrieve the animal from a foster care provider.

**§ 19A-4(d)**

The court shall consider and may provide for custody and care of the animal until the time to appeal expires or all appeals have been exhausted.

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS I  
5 ACTS

Amendment lineage

The State prints this history as a single parenthetical at the foot of the section. It is reproduced verbatim in the colophon and unpacked below in order of enactment.

| 1969                            |      | 1988                                   |           | 2006 |
|---------------------------------|------|----------------------------------------|-----------|------|
| TICK HEIGHT = ACTS IN THAT YEAR |      | DASHED = RECODIFICATION, NOT AMENDMENT |           |      |
| Nº                              | YEAR | ACT                                    | CHARACTER |      |
| 01                              | 1969 | c. 831                                 | ENACTED   |      |
| 02                              | 1971 | c. 528, s. 10                          | AMENDED   |      |
| 03                              | 1979 | c. 808, s. 4                           | AMENDED   |      |
| 04                              | 2003 | S.L. 2003-208, s. 1                    | AMENDED   |      |
| 05                              | 2006 | S.L. 2006-113, s. 1.2                  | AMENDED   |      |

APPARATUS II  
3 AUTHORITIES

Authorities referenced

Every G.S. cross-reference appearing in the text of this section, in order of first appearance. Nothing is characterized; the operative language is quoted from the section itself.

| REFERENCE   | APPEARS IN | OPERATIVE LANGUAGE IN THIS SECTION                |
|-------------|------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| G.S. 1A-1   | (a)        | <i>"In accordance with"</i>                       |
| G.S. 19A-70 | (b)        | <i>"amounts deposited by the defendant under"</i> |
| G.S. 6-18   | (b)        | <i>"costs allowed to the plaintiff under"</i>     |

## APPARATUS III

## Citation

## FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 19A-4 (2006).

## PINPOINT

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 19A-4(a) (2006).

Pinpoint keys are set in the left margin of the text rather than line numbers: subsection designators are stable across editions and paper sizes, line numbers are not.

## COLOPHON

## Provenance

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The text of the section is unaltered. Subsection designators have been moved from the run of text into the margin. The amendment history and the table of authorities are derived from the section by mechanical extraction — they add no characterization of the law.

This is not the official text. The official text is published by the General Assembly of North Carolina.

## HISTORY PARENTHETICAL, AS PRINTED BY THE STATE

(1969, c. 831; 1971, c. 528, s. 10; 1979, c. 808, s. 4; 2003-208, s. 1; 2006-113, s. 1.2.)

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