

**LIABILITY OF DOG OWNERS
IN THE STATE OF MARYLAND**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Annotated Code of Maryland–Dangerous Dogs	1
Summaries of State Statute & Local Ordinances	2
Allegany County	8
Anne Arundel County	8
Baltimore City	9
Baltimore County	10
Calvert County	12
Caroline County	12
Carroll County	12
Cecil County	12
Charles County	14
Dorchester County	16
Frederick County	16
Garrett County	18
Harford County	19
Howard County	20
Kent County	24
Montgomery County	25
Prince George’s County	27
Queen Anne’s County	29
St. Mary’s County	29

Somerset County	32
Talbot County	32
Washington County	32
Wicomico County	32
Worcester County	33
Maryland Pattern Jury Instructions	34
Overview of Relevant Maryland Case Law	35
I. Theories of Liability	35
A. General Standard	35
B. Strict Liability	35
C. Negligence	36
D. Plaintiff's Status on Property	37
II. Affirmative Defenses	38
A. Contributory Negligence	38
B. Assumption of the Risk	38