

**\*\*DRAFT \*\* Feb 26, 2023**

**Canine Behavior Evaluation**

Dog Name/ID#:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_   
Evaluator:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Observer/Scribe:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Cage Presentation Test – while dog is still in kennel:**

1. Stand quietly in front of the kennel, turned side-ways, look straight ahead, not at the dog. Watch out of the corner of your eye for 5 seconds.

1. stands quietly in cage, calmly looking at tester
2. comes towards front of cage in a calm solicitous manner (loose relaxed body)
3. stays in the back of the kennel run – shaking, low growl, whale eye (circle all that apply)
4. moves away, towards the back of run – shaking, low growl, whale eye (circle all that apply)
5. **charges at the front of the cage in a threatening manner (barking, snarling, growling)**

2. Turn and face the dog and look directly into his eyes for 5 seconds – DO NOT threaten dog remains calm with relaxed body postures (low wagging tail, soft eyes)

1. Displays avoidance behaviors (turns head sideways, divert eyes)
2. Displays submissive or fearful body postures (ears back, tail down, body low, backing up)
3. **displays defensive aggression (growling, barking, baring teeth – while moving away)**
4. **displays offensive aggression (growling, barking, baring teeth – while lunging away)**

3. Turn sideways, bend down and talk to the dog in a friendly, solicitous tone of voice for 5 seconds.

1. stands quietly looking at you
2. comes forward and solicits more interaction
3. stays in the back of cage, submissive or frightened (ears back, tail tucked)
4. **displays defensive aggression (barking, growling, snarling) – circle all that apply**
5. **displays offensive aggression (barking, growling, snarling) – circle all that apply**

**Sociability Test** – Take the dog to the evaluation room

1. Holding the end of the leash – stand and totally ignore the dog for 60 seconds

1. \_\_\_\_ dog made social contact lasting more than 2 seconds How many times?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_ **dog made contact less than 2 seconds at a time (drive bys)**
3. \_\_\_\_ **dog completely ignored you and continued to investigate the environment**

2. Stroke the dog from neck to back slowly – repeat 3 times waiting 5 seconds between strokes dog moved closer after 1st 2nd 3rd stroke (circle all that apply) and *solicited more*

1. \_\_\_\_ dog moved closer after 1st 2nd 3rd stroke (circle all that apply) and *stays next to you*
2. \_\_\_\_ dog stayed in the same position after 1st 2nd 3rd stroke (circle all that apply)
3. \_\_\_\_ **dog moved away after 1st 2nd 3rd stroke (circle all that apply) shake off?**
4. \_\_\_\_ **dog completely ignored you and continued to investigate the environment**

3. Sit down and ignore the dog for 5 seconds

1. \_\_\_\_ dog came over to you within 5 seconds & stayed with you the whole time
2. \_\_\_\_ dog came over to you within 5 seconds but then moved away
3. \_\_\_\_ **dog ignored you – did not come over**

4. Remain sitting and talk solicitously to the dog for a full 20 seconds

1. \_\_\_\_ dog came over within 1 second and stayed the entire 20 seconds
2. \_\_\_\_ dog came over within 1 second but then moved away – did this repeatedly
3. \_\_\_\_ **dog came over within 1 second but then moved away & never came back**
4. \_\_\_\_ **dog completely ignored you – never came over**

With the slip lead on the dog, carefully proceed to the handling portion of the test. Try to act like a typical owner while handling the dog, not a skilled dog professional. Watch the dog closely and be ready to react to any aggression. **STOP the test if the dog attempts to bite you or you feel that youare in danger of being bitten.**

\*If the dog showed no sociability during the sociability test – skip the handling portion and proceed to the resource guarding tests. You can come back to the handling if you see no resource guarding behavior.

**Teeth Exam** – Stand next to the dog holding the leash in one hand. With the other hand, lift the dog’s upper lips and hold them in that position for 5 seconds. Attempt to repeat this action 5 times in a row. Do not force the dog to accept this – release if he begins to struggle.

\_\_\_\_ allows teeth to be looked at 5 times without struggle

\_\_\_\_ struggles slightly but allows all 5 exams

\_\_\_\_ struggles during 1 2 3 4 5 but settles with the remaining 1 2 3 4 5 (circle appropriately)

\_\_\_\_ struggles more with each exam but allows all

\_\_\_\_ **struggles fiercely and does not allow a single exam**

\_\_\_\_ **tries to push you away with muzzle, jumps at you, barks at you (circle all that apply)** \_\_\_\_ **displays signs of uneasiness – stiffens, whale eye, low growl (circle all that apply)**

\_\_\_\_ **whips head around towards your hand in a threatening manner**

\_\_\_\_ **growls, snarls, snaps, or bites (circle all that apply)**

**Handling Test** – Use the following scale to rate the dog’s reaction to each handling exercise (record #) \***a 3 or a 4 during any handling exercise results in a failure of the handling test.**

1. Remains calm, allows handling
2. Uncomfortable with handling; tenses up, turns had towards hand, resists by pulling away
3. **freezes, stiffens, whips around towards your hand, gives whale eye (indicate response)**
4. **growls, snarls, snaps, tries to bite (indicate response)**

**# Response**

1. a. stand perpendicular to the dog and stroke his far side \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. b. run hand down his back let and pick up hind foot \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. c. run hand down dog’s tail and tug slightly \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. d. touch and look inside both ears \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. e. wipe body with towel \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
6. f. tug slightly on the collar \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
7. g. apply slight pressure to the dog’s shoulders \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
8. h. hug the dog \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Arousal Test** – initiate play with the dog (toys, balls, tug-o-war with rope toy) for 30 seconds and then stop.

1. \_\_\_\_ nice level of play
2. \_\_\_\_ became fearful and moves away
3. \_\_\_\_ did not show any interest in playing
4. \_\_\_\_ became highly aroused but calmed down quickly once played ended
5. \_\_\_\_ **became highly aroused (hyper, intense focus, growling while tugging toy fiercely) stayed that way after you stopped**

**Food Bowl Test** – Give the dog a bowl of food. Once he is eating, use the assess-a-hand to first pet his back, then reach toward the bowl. Nudge his face a little and try to take the bowl away. Repeat this three times.

1. \_\_\_\_ stopped eating and backed away from the dish
2. \_\_\_\_ continued to eat but did not show any signs of uneasiness
3. \_\_\_\_ moved muzzle deeper into the dish and ate faster – intense about food
4. \_\_\_\_ stiffened slightly or moved muzzle toward hand (circle response)
5. \_\_\_\_ **froze, gave whale eye, snarled (circle response)**
6. \_\_\_\_ **growled, lunged, snapped at, or bit hand (circle response)**
7. \_\_\_\_ no interest in food – TEST AGAIN LATER

**Possession Test** – Give the dog a rawhide, pig ear, or piece of trash (empty hotdog wrapper, etc.). Once the dog has taken possession of the item. say “drop it” and then reach for the item using the hand – attempting to take away the item.

1. \_\_\_\_ readily dropped item upon request
2. \_\_\_\_ allowed assess-a-hand or real hand to take object away (circle one)
3. \_\_\_\_ resisted letting go of possession but did not show outward aggression
4. \_\_\_\_ **froze, gave whale eye, snarled (circle response)**
5. \_\_\_\_ **growled, lunged, snapped at, or bit hand (circle response)**
6. \_\_\_\_ showed no interest in any item – TEST AGAIN LATER

**Stranger Test** – Someone knocks on the door – you say, “who’s there? Come in!” Stranger then enters, stops at least 6 feet away and stares at the dog for 3 seconds; then takes two steps forward, stops, and reaches towards the dog. Stranger then squats down, facing sideways, and talks to the dog in a friendly voice.

1. \_\_\_\_ dog remains calm, and is friendly upon solicitation
2. \_\_\_\_ dog is nervous about stranger (ears back, tail tucked), is friendly upon solicitation
3. \_\_\_\_ dog alarm barks or growls and backs off completely, is friendly upon solicitation
4. \_\_\_\_ **dog alarm barks, hackles up, growls, doesn’t calm readily, eventually is friendly upon solicitation but in a cautious way.**
5. \_\_\_\_ **dog alarm barks, hackles up, growls can’t settle, will not approach upon solicitation**
6. \_\_\_\_ **dog alarm barks, hackles up, growls, snarls, lunges – not safe to allow approach**

**Dog-to-Dog Test** – Take the dog being tested outside and bring a previously tested dog out (both dogs leashed). Repeat tests with several dogs.

Upon seeing the other dog:

#1 #2 #3

\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ remains calm – with or without interest in the other dog (circle one)

\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ pulls forward to get closer to the other dog but body language remains friendly or neutral

\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ **reacts with threats (barking, lunging, snarling, growling)**

Bring dogs to each other and allow interaction. Be ready to separate at first signs of serious aggression(snarling, growling, lunging, snapping)

#1 #2 #3

\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ totally ignored other dog

\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ relaxed and friendly with other dog

\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ invited play (play bow, pawing, friendly barks or whines, etc.) (circle all that apply)

\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ displayed submissive behaviors (lowered body, tail tucked, ears down, rolled over) (circle all that apply)

\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ displayed dominant behaviors (placing head or paw on other dog’s back, mounting)

\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ **displayed defensively aggressive behavior (bared teeth, growling, lunging) (circle)**

\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ **displayed offensive aggressive behavior (bared teeth, growling, lunging)(circle)**

**\*\*\*Failed responses for each component test appear in italics**

**Number of failed components: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Additional Comments:   
  
  
  
  
Recommendation:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
  
Note**: This document is intended to be a sample and not a fully comprehensive document. It is highly recommended that your organization review and customize for the needs of the organization and have them reviewed by your attorney.