Cruelly Treated Animals

HSC Chapter 821 Subchapter B Officer applies for seizure warrant HSC 821.022(a)

If probable cause exists, judge issues seizure warrant and sets hearing within 10 days from date of issuance

HSC 821.022(b)

If no probable cause exists, no seizure warrant issued

Officer impounds animal, gives notice of hearing to owner HSC 821.022(c)

At hearing*, if court finds owner did treat animal cruelly, ownership of animal shall be divested (*county attorney represents the state) (*owner entitled to a jury trial)

HSC 821.023(d)

At hearing, if court finds owner did not cruelly treat animal, court orders animal returned to owner HSC 821.023(c)

1 of 3 Possible Orders Entered

- Order of public sale of the animal by auction;
- •Order animal given to municipal or county animal shelter or a non-profit animal welfare organization; or
- •Order animal to be humanely destroyed, if in the best interest of the owner and/or public health and safety

 HSC 821.023(d)(1)(2)(3)

Court shall order owner to pay all fees and court costs HSC 821.023(e)

Court enters judgment and shall set the amount of bond for appeal HSC 821.023(e-2)

Owner has 10 days to appeal, after date of order HSC 821.025(b)