
Louisiana Dog Bite Liability Toolkit

Who Is at Fault and What to Do First

First 72 Hours: Do This First

- Get to a safe location and call 911 if there is active danger or serious bleeding.
- Wash the wound with soap and running water and seek medical care the same day when possible.
- Identify the dog and the person controlling it, and take quick photos of tags, collar, and the scene.
- Report the bite to local animal control so there is an independent record.
- Write down what happened while it is fresh: where, when, who saw it, and what the dog did before and after.
- Do not post a detailed story online or argue with an adjuster before you have your facts together.

Evidence Checklist: What to Preserve

- Photos of the wound at multiple angles on day 1 and then daily for at least 10 to 14 days.
- Contact info for the dog owner, handler, and any witnesses, plus screenshots of texts or messages.
- Proof of vaccination status when available and any vet or microchip information you can obtain.
- Video from doorbells, nearby businesses, or phones, saved before it auto-deletes.
- Receipts and documentation for medical visits, prescriptions, time missed from work, and replacement services.

Defense Angles to Expect

- Provocation: they claim you teased, hit, or startled the dog.
- No notice: they claim the owner had no reason to expect a bite.
- Trespass: they claim you had no right to be where you were.
- Minor injury: they claim you healed fast so the claim is small.
- Wrong defendant: they claim someone else owned or controlled the dog.

Leverage note:

Fast photos + clean timelines make it harder for the insurer to rewrite what happened.

Infographic 1: Evidence Blueprint

Use this one-page map to protect proof early.

Dog Bite Evidence Blueprint

5 steps to protect
proof before it shifts

1 Safety + Report
Get safe, call 911
Report bite location

2 Identify Dog
Owner/handler info
Photo dog + tags

3 Medical + Photos
Wash wound, get care
Photo injuries daily

4 Build Timeline
Write details now
Save witness contacts

5 Insurance File
Save insurer messages
Keep receipts + notes

First 72 Hours Checklist

- Dog/owner photos
- Your wound photos
- Clothing saved
- Witness phone list
- Animal control log
- Medical visit notes
- Vaccination proof
- Adjuster call log

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Infographic 2: Defense vs Evidence

Match each defense angle with an evidence anchor.

Defense vs Evidence

Close the gaps
before adjusters

Common Defense	Evidence Anchor
You provoked the dog	Witness + video show no provocation
No notice of danger	Prior complaints, texts, vets, animal control
You were trespassing	Invite/permission, lease, signage, who had access
Minor bite, you healed	Medical record, photos over time, scar notes
Not our dog or wrong owner	Owner ID, tags, microchip, vet records

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Free Case Review: Dog Bite Questions

A focused review built around speed, proof, and leverage.

This toolkit is general information, not legal advice. If you were bitten in Louisiana, the fastest risk is often lost proof, not paperwork.

What We Help You Build

- A clean timeline that locks in who had control and what happened first.
- A proof plan for photos, witnesses, animal control records, and medical documentation.
- A strategy for handling insurer calls so your words do not become their defense.

What To Have Ready (If You Can)

- Where the bite happened and when, plus the address if you have it.
- Any photos or video you already took.
- Dog owner or handler name and phone number, if known.
- Medical visit dates and the name of the clinic or hospital.

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