



## FACA Policy Statement

### Chemical Immobilization

The Florida Animal Control Association (FACA) recognizes that, under limited circumstances, Animal Control Officers and Humane Personnel must utilize chemical immobilization to safely and humanely capture animals that pose a threat to public safety and health. The use of a tranquilizer gun or a blowpipe for chemical immobilization requires proper training. Animal control and humane personnel who use chemical immobilization equipment must successfully complete a minimum 16-hour certification course prior to using such equipment, as mandated by FL Statutes, Chapter 828.27.

FACA further emphasizes the need for those engaged in chemical immobilization to maintain a working knowledge of:

- Remote Drug Delivery Technology
- Drug Pharmacology
- Drug Licensure and Recordkeeping
- Species Specific Drug Calculations
- Medical Emergencies Associated with Chemical Immobilization
- Post Capture Care and Patient Monitoring
- Prevention of Accidental Human Exposure to Immobilizing Drugs

For these reasons, the Florida Animal Control Association recommends that chemical immobilization equipment only be used after the person has received the proper training, and then only as a last resort when other methods of capture have failed. Prior to using this equipment on a live animal, it is imperative that the user is familiar with all mechanical aspects of the specific projector to be used. Trained Chemical Immobilization technicians also routinely practice with their specific projector on inanimate targets before utilization in the field.

The use of chemical immobilization equipment by non-certified personnel is prohibited and in violation of FL Statutes, Chapter 828.27.

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