Overall Ranking: Bottom Tier

**Minnesota Research Facility Protection Law**


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**Subd. 2. Liability for damages.** A person who without permission releases an animal lawfully confined for science, research, commerce, or education is liable:

(1) to the owner of the animal for damages, including the costs of restoring the animal to confinement and to its health condition prior to release;

(2) for damage to personal and real property caused by the released animal;

(3) if the release causes the failure or interruption of an experiment, for all costs of repeating the experiment,
including replacement of the animals, labor, and materials; and

(4) for any other damage the person causes to property in the facility from which the animal was released.

Subd. 3. Amount of damages. A person who is damaged under subdivision 2, clause (3) or (4), is entitled to recover a minimum of $5,000 or three times the actual damages incurred by that person under subdivision 2, clause (3) or (4), whichever is greater, and punitive damages, costs, and reasonable attorney fees.

Subd. 4. Third party liability; presumption. A person or organization who plans or assists in the development of a plan to release, without permission, an animal lawfully confined for science, research, commerce, or education, or who otherwise aids, advises, hires, counsels, or encourages another to commit the act is jointly and severally liable for all damages under subdivision 3. There is a rebuttable presumption that a person or organization who claims responsibility for the act is liable under this subdivision.

Minnesota Animal Cruelty Law

Minnesota does not have an exemption for scientific research in its animal cruelty law.

Minnesota Data Practices Act


Subdivision 1. Public data. All government data collected, created, received, maintained or disseminated by a government entity shall be public unless classified by statute, or temporary classification pursuant to section 13.06, or federal law, as nonpublic or protected nonpublic, or with respect to data on individuals, as private or confidential. The responsible authority in every government entity shall keep records containing government data in such an arrangement and condition as to make them easily accessible for convenient use. Photographic, photostatic, microphotographic, or microfilmed records shall be considered as accessible for convenient use regardless of the size of such records.

Subd. 3. Request for access to data. (a) Upon request to a responsible authority or designee, a person shall be permitted to inspect and copy public government data at reasonable times and places, and, upon request, shall be informed of the data's meaning. If a person requests access for the purpose of inspection, the responsible authority may not assess a charge or require the requesting person to pay a fee to inspect data.

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(c) The responsible authority or designee shall provide copies of public data upon request. If a person requests copies or electronic transmittal of the data to the person, the responsible authority may require the requesting person to pay the actual costs of searching for and retrieving government data, including the cost of employee time, and for making, certifying, and electronically transmitting the copies of the data or the data, but may not
charge for separating public from not public data. However, if 100 or fewer pages of black and white, letter or legal size paper copies are requested, actual costs shall not be used, and instead, the responsible authority may charge no more than 25 cents for each page copied. If the responsible authority or designee is not able to provide copies at the time a request is made, copies shall be supplied as soon as reasonably possible.

### Minnesota Harassment Law

**MINN. STAT. ANN. § 609.748 (2010). Harassment; restraining order.**

**Subdivision 1. Definition.** For the purposes of this section, the following terms have the meanings given them in this subdivision.

(a) “Harassment” includes:

1. a single incident of physical or sexual assault or repeated incidents of intrusive or unwanted acts, words, or gestures that have a substantial adverse effect or are intended to have a substantial adverse effect on the safety, security, or privacy of another, regardless of the relationship between the actor and the intended target;

2. targeted residential picketing; and

3. a pattern of attending public events after being notified that the actor's presence at the event is harassing to another.

(b) “Respondent” includes any adults or juveniles alleged to have engaged in harassment or organizations alleged to have sponsored or promoted harassment.

(c) “Targeted residential picketing” includes the following acts when committed on more than one occasion:

1. marching, standing, or patrolling by one or more persons directed solely at a particular residential building in a manner that adversely affects the safety, security, or privacy of an occupant of the building; or

2. marching, standing, or patrolling by one or more persons which prevents an occupant of a residential building from gaining access to or exiting from the property on which the residential building is located.

**Subd. 2. Restraining order; jurisdiction.** A person who is a victim of harassment may seek a restraining order from the district court in the manner provided in this section. The parent, guardian, or stepparent of a minor who is a victim of harassment may seek a restraining order from the district court on behalf of the minor.
Notice: These statutes are provided only for reference purposes and are current through the 2010 legislative session. Every effort has been made to ensure their accuracy, however they will not contain information that has been inserted after their preparation. The National Association for Biomedical Research makes no warranty, express or implied, of the accuracy of these statutes. To be certain of the current version of the statutes and regulations, please refer to the official printed version of the statutes and regulations.