

# Rebecca Gomez

Coal City, Illinois / [REDACTED] / [REDACTED]

**Animal Control / Shelter Manager for City of Aurora Animal Control**

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## Professional Summary

Animal Control professional with nearly 20 years of municipal experience in animal control and shelter operations. Experienced leader with 6.5 years as Assistant Director, supervising officers, shelter staff, and daily operations. Strong background in ordinance enforcement, policy development, public complaint resolution, and humane animal care. Proven ability to collaborate with police departments and municipalities while leading with empathy, professionalism, and accountability.

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## Professional Experience

Joliet Township Animal Control — Joliet, IL

**Assistant Director** | 2019–Present

**Animal Control Officer / Shelter Operations** | 2012–2019

- Supervise Animal Control Officers and shelter staff; serve as acting supervisor in Director's absence
- Oversee daily animal control and shelter operations to ensure compliance with state and local regulations
- Coordinate with police departments and municipal partners on ordinance enforcement, dangerous and vicious dog cases, and large-scale cruelty investigations
- Serve as primary supervisor for citizen complaints and de-escalation of high-conflict situations
- Assist with development, review, and implementation of animal control ordinances and departmental policies
- Support budget planning, fleet management, and operational improvements
- Improve shelter operations through population management, kennel expansion, and workflow efficiencies
- Oversee adoptions, rescue coordination, owner surrenders, and intake decisions
- Work closely with veterinary staff to support animal health and welfare
- Prepare and deliver reports to township leadership and governing boards

## **Naperville Animal Control — Naperville, IL**

### **Animal Control Officer | 1996–2001**

- Enforced municipal animal control ordinances and state regulations
  - Responded to animal-related calls, investigations, and public complaints
  - Handled animal intakes, impounds, and field operations
  - Assisted with shelter care and daily animal handling
  - Worked collaboratively with law enforcement and municipal staff
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## **Certifications & Training**

- Certified Euthanasia Technician
  - ASP Certified
  - OC Certified
  - NACA Training
  - Community Leadership School (10-week program), 2025
  - Continuing education in animal control, shelter operations, and enforcement
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## **Education**

- Plainfield High School 1990-1994 (Diploma)
- College of Dupage 1995-1996

## **Core Skills**

Leadership • Supervision • Operations • Ordinances • Policy • Compliance • Enforcement • De-escalation • Mediation • Public Relations • Animal Welfare • Investigations • Adoptions • Intakes • Rescues • Budgeting • Reporting • Training • Collaboration • Documentation • Microsoft Word • Outlook • Excel

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## **Leadership Philosophy**

I believe effective leadership is built on communication, empathy, accountability, and consistent support of staff. My approach balances humane animal welfare with firm, fair enforcement and strong team leadership.