

Sec. 4-31. - Classification of dangerous dogs; requirements.

- (a) The provisions of F.S. §§ 767.10 through 767.14, and all subsequent amendments regulating dangerous dogs, and defined in F.S. § 767.11(1), are adopted by reference and incorporated herein.
- (b) The owner of a dangerous dog shall present the city with proof that they have procured liability insurance or a surety bond in the amount of no less than one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) covering any damage or injury which may be caused by such dangerous dog. Said policy shall contain a provision requiring that the city be given notice immediately by the agent issuing the policy in the event the policy is canceled, terminates, or expires. Such liability insurance shall be obtained prior to issuing a certificate of registration for the dangerous dog as provided for in this chapter or prior to releasing the dog from impoundment, and shall be maintained so long as the dangerous dog resides within the city.
- (c) An owner transferring ownership of any dog found to be dangerous under this article shall provide written notice to the new owner regarding the dog's classification as dangerous. An owner either, transferring ownership of, or moving the location of, a dog classified as dangerous under this article shall notify the city in writing regarding the new address, or the name, address, phone number of the person receiving the dog. Any person receiving a dog classified as dangerous must comply with all requirements of this chapter.
- (d) A violation of this section shall constitute a class C civil infraction, punishable as provided within this chapter.

(Ord. No. L-80, § 2, 4-20-09; Ord. No. 16-015, § 1, 8-15-16.)

Sec. 4-52. - Registration process and fees.

- (a) The animal control division will administer the registration program and is authorized to adopt rules and procedures necessary to fulfill this responsibility.
- (b) Owners or custodians of dogs and cats requiring registration pursuant to this article, shall register and obtain tags as follows:
 - (1) Within thirty (30) days of acquiring the dog or cat; or
 - (2) Within thirty (30) days after the owner or custodian takes residence in the incorporated areas of Fort Pierce, whichever occurs later.
 - (3) Upon transfer of a previously registered animal to a new owner or custodian, the owner or custodian shall have a period of thirty (30) days within which to comply with the requirements of this article. Except that upon the transfer of a dangerous or vicious dog, as provided in this chapter, the owner or custodian shall have a period of seven (7) days to comply.
- (c) Registrations must be purchased from the animal control division, participating veterinarians, animal shelter, or other agents as approved by the city, except that only the animal control division shall process the registration of vicious or dangerous dogs.
 - (1) Applications for registration must include a proof of current and valid rabies vaccination as provided within this chapter, and applications for registration of sterilized dogs or cats must include a sterilization certificate issued by a licensed veterinarian. No registration will be issued without such certifications.
 - (2) Applications for the registration of vicious animals or dangerous dogs must include certificate of

liability insurance as required within this chapter. Any registration issued pursuant to the presentation of this certificate, shall immediately become invalid upon an owners failure to maintain such liability insurance. No registration will be issued without such certificate.

- (3) Fees, applications, and certification information will be forwarded to the city clerk by selling agents as required by administrative rule.
- (d) The registration certificate and tag shall be valid for one year from the date of issuance.
- (e) The registration provisions of this article shall not apply to:
 - (1) Any owner or custodian who is a nonresident or temporary resident, as defined herein, provided that the owner's animal has been vaccinated for rabies and this vaccination remains valid for the duration of the anticipated stay within the incorporated areas of the city and that a valid rabies tag is worn as required by this chapter. A "temporary resident" as used herein shall be defined to mean a person who intends to reside within the city for a total period of less than six (6) months during any twelve-month period.
 - (2) The ownership, care, custody or maintenance, in the ordinary course of business, of any animal by a research or veterinary medical facility, animal shelter, boarding facility, or commercial pet shop, provided that said shelter, facility, or shop is operating in accordance with all applicable occupational licensing, code, and zoning ordinances.
 - (3) Government-owned law enforcement service dogs.
- (f) Fees for registrations shall be charged as follows:
 - (1) Annual fee for each sterilized cat or dog: \$ 10.00
 - (2) Annual fee for each nonsterilized cat or dog: 75.00
 - (3) Replacement tags 5.00
 - (4) Non-sterilized cats and dogs that are registered with a veterinarian's certification that the animal's age or health prevents sterilization shall pay the same fee for sterilized cats and dogs.
 - (5) Fees shall be waived for any service dog or cat that is specially trained and actively engaged in service to assist the handicapped; however, these animals must be registered and comply with requirements to wear tags.
- (g) Fees for the registration of dangerous dogs as required within this chapter shall be one hundred dollars (\$100.00), which is in addition to the applicable standard registration fee as provided herein.
- (h) Proceeds from the registration program shall first be used for program administration; and then, remaining proceeds may be used for education and to support free or reduced cost pet spay and neuter programs

(Ord. No. L-80, § 2, 4-20-09; Ord. No. 16-015, § 1, 8-15-16)