

ORDINANCE NO. 10612 (N.S.)

AN ORDINANCE TO ADD SECTION 364.7 TO ARTICLE XX OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY CODE OF ADMINISTRATIVE ORDINANCES AND SECTION 62.604 TO THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY CODE OF REGULATORY ORDINANCES, AND TO AMEND SECTION 62.601 OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY CODE OF REGULATORY ORDINANCES, RELATING TO FEES CHARGED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SERVICES

The Board of Supervisors of the County of San Diego ordains as follows:

Section 1. The Board of Supervisors finds and determines that the fees charged by the County Department of Animal Services must be adjusted to reflect increased expenses incurred by the Department. The amendments made by this Ordinance will allow the Department to recover a greater share of its costs in the provision of services.

Section 2. Section 364.7 is hereby added to the Code of Administrative Ordinances, as follows:

**SEC. 364.7. DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SERVICES.**

(a) SCHEDULE OF ANIMAL SERVICES FEES

(1) The following fees and charges shall be paid to the Department of Animal Services or the County collection agent:

Description	Fee
Dog License - 12 months (Altered)	18.00
Dog License - 24 months (Altered)	33.00
Dog License - 36 months (Altered)	45.00
Dog License - 12 months (Unaltered)	36.00
Dog License - 24 months (Unaltered)	66.00
Dog License - 36 months (Unaltered)	90.00
Dog License - late fee	20.00
Dog License - transfer fee	10.00
Dog License - tag replacement	10.00

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<b>Description</b>	<b>Fee</b>
Dog License - change of ownership	10.00
Impound - fowl	10.00
Impound - dog, cat, small animal	32.00
Impound - sheep, goat, medium animal	40.00
Impound - equine, bovine, large animal	60.00
Impound - dog found at large a second time	55.00
Impound - dog found at large a third/subsequent time	80.00
Impound - intact dog found at large a second or subsequent time	150.00
Relinquishment of dog, cat, small animal - at shelter	50.00
Relinquishment of dog, cat, small animal - in field	70.00
Boarding - dog, cat, small animal	10.00
Boarding - sheep, goat, medium animal	25.00
Boarding - equine, bovine, large animal	60.00
Medical - feline leukemia test	15.00
Medical - veterinarian care per hour	100.00
Medical - vaccinations - per injection	10.00
Adoption - kitten	75.00
Adoption - cat	65.00
Adoption - puppy	100.00
Adoption - dog	75.00
Adoption - dog/cat over 5 years	35.00
Adoption by Senior/Disabled person	35.00
Adoption by Senior/Disabled person of 5-years & older animal	No fee
Miscellaneous – livestock trailer fee (per trip, per owner)	98.00
Miscellaneous - spay/neuter fee or deposit	50.00

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Description	Fee
Miscellaneous – microchip fee plus registration	20.00
Miscellaneous - after hours redemption fee	25.00
Miscellaneous – redemption fee for persons who do not reside within Department jurisdiction	25.00
Owner-Requested Euthanasia - at shelter	20.00
Owner-Requested Euthanasia - in field	40.00
Owner-Requested Euthanasia (rabies quarantine) - at shelter for pathology	45.00
Owner-Requested Euthanasia (rabies quarantine) - in field for pathology	55.00
Quarantine - fee per visit	30.00
Kennel license application fee	150.00
Kennel license late fee (if fees are received less than six months after license expiration)	25.00
Kennel license late fee (if fees are received more than six months after license expiration)	75.00
Kennel deficiency follow-up inspection (each inspection)	50.00
Dangerous Dog or Public Nuisance initial registration fee	100.00
Dangerous Dog or Public Nuisance registration late fee	50.00
Dangerous Dog or Public Nuisance inspection fee	30.00
Dangerous Dog or Public Nuisance annual renewal	50.00
Dangerous Dog or Public Nuisance renewal late fee	25.00
Guard dogs – annual operator permit fee	100.00
Guard dogs - premises permit fee (includes one inspection)	50.00
Guard dogs – additional inspections	50.00
Protection dogs – annual premises permit fee (includes one inspection)	30.00
Protection dogs – additional inspections	30.00

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- (2) Whether or not a fee for dog licensing or animal control services is applicable shall be determined by the Director of the Department of Animal Services (Director).
- (3) Fees shall be paid when due except that the Director may authorize a payment arrangement or reduce or waive any fee in whole or in part as provided in Section 62.604 (b) of the Code of Regulatory Ordinances.

**(b) FEE EXEMPTIONS**

- (1) **FEE EXEMPT DOG LICENSES:** Guide, signal, and service dogs as defined in Penal Code section 365.5(d), (e), and (f) or Civil Code section 54.1(b)(6)(C); dogs that have served with the armed forces of the United States of America; dogs that provide services to a law enforcement agency; and dogs kept on federal Indian trust or restricted land within the boundaries of the County are eligible for a fee exempt license.

To qualify for this exemption, the dog must be currently vaccinated against rabies in accordance with State and County laws relating to vaccination and licensing of dogs, and the owner must furnish an affidavit or declaration to this effect under penalty of perjury on a form furnished by the Director. A license fee exemption granted for one dog may not be transferred to another dog.

- (2) **ONE-TIME FEE EXEMPTION FOR ADOPTED DOGS:** Any resident of the unincorporated area of San Diego County who adopts a dog from the Department shall be issued a one-time, one-year free dog license.
- (c) **LICENSE DURATION AND EXPIRATION:** Dog licenses are valid for up to 12, 24, or 36 months from the date of issue, depending on the fees paid or exempted and the remaining anti-rabies immunity duration period. However, in no instance shall a license be issued for a period beyond the date on which anti-rabies revaccination is due.
  - (d) **LATE FEE:** The dog license late fee shall apply if the application for a dog license or renewal is not received or postmarked on or before the time period specified in San Diego Code of Regulatory Ordinances, section 62.620.

The owner or custodian of a dog is responsible for renewing his or her dog license before it expires. The failure to receive a Department courtesy notice does not relieve the owner or custodian from the obligation to renew the dog license on time or pay a late fee.

- (e) **TRANSFER OF JURISDICTION LICENSE FEE:** Owners of dogs having a current license issued through an authorized licensing agency other than the County of San Diego may be issued a transfer license valid for up to 12 months upon payment of the applicable transfer of jurisdiction license fee. The rabies vaccination or application for vaccination exemption must meet all requirements for licensing purposes under the San Diego County Code. A late fee may be applied if the application is not made within 30 days after the owner of the dog first resides in a jurisdiction where animal control services are provided by the County of San Diego.
- (f) **LICENSE TAG REPLACEMENT FEE:** A replacement license tag may be issued upon payment of the replacement tag fee. No changes may be made to the expiration date of the actual license. Replacement license tags are not subject to a late fee.

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- (g) **CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP FEE:** A dog license reflecting a change of ownership may be issued to the new owner of a dog that was currently licensed through the Department upon payment of the applicable fee. The new license shall be valid for the same period as the original license. A late fee shall apply if the application is not received or postmarked on or before 30 days after the date the dog was obtained.
- (h) **REFUND OF MONEY FOR LICENSE FEES PAID:** Dog license fees may be refunded under the following circumstances:
- (1) A license was not required when it was issued and is not required when a refund application is submitted; or
  - (2) An overpayment was made.
- (i) **IMPOUND FEES:** Cumulative violations for impound fees refer to the owner regardless of the dog involved. The impound fee for a lactating mother includes all nursing offspring. The Director may determine fees to recover the Department's costs to impound a wild or exotic animal and/or for any private animal transportation services.
- (j) **RELINQUISHMENT FEES:** Relinquishment fee for a lactating mother includes all nursing offspring. The Director may determine fees to recover the Department's costs to accept and board other relinquished animals not listed in subdivision (a)(1).
- (k) **BOARD FEES:** Board fees apply per day, not including the day of impoundment for a small or medium sized animal. Large animal board fees for the first day of impoundment shall be one half of the daily fee. The Director may determine fees to recover the Department's costs for boarding a wild or exotic animal and/or for any off-site animal boarding services.
- (l) **MEDICAL FEES:** The Director may determine fees to recover the Department's costs for any vaccinations, medications, and other medical supplies, and for any medical services provided by a private veterinary facility or laboratory. The fee for a rabies vaccination shall not exceed the current California Department of Health Services approved "Actual Cost" vaccination fee as published in the California Compendium of Rabies Control and Prevention.
- (m) **ADOPTION FEES:** The Director may determine fees to recover the Department's costs for adoption of animals not listed in subdivision (a)(1). For purposes of adoption fees, a "senior" is a person who is at least 60 years old, and "disabled" means a recipient of either Supplemental Security Income or Social Security Disability payments, or an individual with a disability as defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- (n) **EUTHANASIA FEES:** The Director may determine fees to recover the Department's costs for owner-requested euthanasia of animals not listed in subdivision (a)(1).
- (o) **QUARANTINE FEES:** The quarantine fee applies per visit by an animal control officer for a rabies quarantine effected at any location other than a County animal shelter. Animals quarantined at a County animal shelter shall be subject to the normal impound, medical, and board fees.

Section 3. Section 62.601 of the Code of Regulatory Ordinances is hereby amended, as follows:

**SEC. 62.601. PURPOSE.**

The California Food and Agriculture Code establishes some animal control regulations that apply Statewide and authorizes a county to adopt its own comprehensive regulations to control animals within its jurisdiction. This chapter establishes animal control regulations in the unincorporated area of the County related to dog licensing, rabies vaccinations, treatment and isolation of diseased animals, impoundment of strays, guard dogs, potentially dangerous dogs, cats and other animals. The purpose of this chapter is to supplement State law, to protect the health and safety of the public and animals in the unincorporated area of the County.

Section 4. Section 62.604 is hereby added to the Code of Regulatory Ordinances, as follows:

**SEC. 62.604. FEES.**

(a) Fees shall be charged and collected by the Department for dog licensing and for other animal control services and enforcement, as provided in the fee schedule in section 364.7 of the Code of Administrative Ordinances. Such fees shall be collected by County personnel or deputized personnel and deposited in the County treasury.

The owner of any animal which is lawfully impounded shall pay all fees and expenses related to such impoundment including, but not limited to, impound, board, vaccination, examination, and any medical treatment fees for the animal, whether or not the animal is claimed.

(b) Fees shall be paid when due unless the Director, in accordance with Department policy, authorizes a payment arrangement or waives such fees in full or in part.

Specified fees may be deferred subject to the conditions of the Department policy, if the owner claims an economic hardship or the lack of ability to pay the fees when due, provides satisfactory evidence of personal identification, and agrees to pay the fees within a thirty (30) day period.

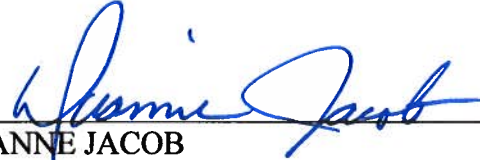
An owner claiming an economic hardship in paying the fees may submit an application for waiver on forms provided by the Department. The forms shall be executed under penalty of perjury and contain a declaration as to the truthfulness and correctness of the information contained therein. Upon submittal of the completed forms, the fees may be waived if no disqualifying conditions, as set forth in the Department policy, exist. The Department may also waive fees if necessary in order to accomplish the protection of animal or public health, safety or welfare or if the owner provides satisfactory evidence that he/she was not at fault for the violation or incident which led to the Department action and that such action was not justified.

Section 5. This Ordinance shall take effect and be in force thirty days after its passage, and before the expiration of fifteen days after its passage, a summary hereof shall be published once with the names of the members of this Board voting for and against it in the Daily Transcript, a newspaper of general circulation published in the County of San Diego.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY  
COUNTY COUNSEL

By: Mark Day, Senior Deputy County Counsel

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Diego this 4<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2019.



DIANNE JACOB  
Chairwoman, Board of Supervisors  
County of San Diego, State of California

The above Ordinance was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Jacob, Gaspar, Fletcher, Desmond  
ABSENT: Cox

ATTEST my hand and the seal of the Board of Supervisors this 4<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2019.

ANDREW POTTER  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By   
Joana Santiago, Deputy



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