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ORDINANCE NO. 10843 (N.S.)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE XX OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE ORDINANCE CODE, SECTION 364.8 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 find and determines that the fees charged by the County Department of Animal Services must be adjusted to reflect increase 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. The Department will begin collecting fee increases and new fees on July 1, 2023.

Section 2. Section 364.8 of Article XX of the San Diego County Code of Administrative Ordinances is hereby amended to read as follows:

SEC. 364.8. 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)	20.00
Dog License - 24 months (Altered)	35.00
Dog License - 36 months (Altered)	50.00
Dog License - 12 months (Unaltered)	60.00
Dog License - 24 months (Unaltered)	100.00
Dog License - 36 months (Unaltered)	150.00
Dog License - late fee	25.00
Dog License - transfer fee	10.00
Dog License - tag replacement	10.00
Dog License - change of ownership	10.00
Impound - fowl	30.00
Impound - dog, cat, small animal	45.00
Impound - sheep, goat, medium animal	45.00
Impound - equine, bovine, large animal	70.00
Impound - dog found at large a second time	60.00

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Impound - dog found at large a third/subsequent time	85.00
Impound - intact dog found at large a second or subsequent time	150.00
Relinquishment of dog, cat, small animal - at shelter	60.00
Relinquishment of dog, cat, small animal - in field	75.00
Boarding - dog, cat, small animal	25.00
Boarding - sheep, goat, medium animal	35.00
Boarding - equine, bovine, large animal	80.00
Medical - feline leukemia test	25.00
Medical - veterinarian care per hour	125.00
Medical - vaccinations - per injection	20.00
Medical - Spay/Neuter for male cats, male rabbits	50.00
Medical - Spay/Neuter male dogs 0-30 lbs., female cats, female rabbits	75.00
Medical - Spay/Neuter for male dogs 31—60 lbs., female dogs 0-30 lbs.	85.00
Medical - Spay/Neuter for male dogs 61+ lbs., female dogs 31-60 lbs.	95.00
Medical - Spay/Neuter for female dogs 61+ lbs.	105.00
Adoption - kitten	100.00
Adoption - cat	75.00
Adoption - puppy	150.00
Adoption - dog	85.00
Adoption - rabbit	30.00
Adoption - dog/cat over 5 years	50.00
Adoption by Senior/Disabled person	No fee
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	75.00
Miscellaneous - microchip fee plus registration	25.00
Miscellaneous - after hours redemption fee	25.00
Miscellaneous - redemption fee for persons who do not reside within Department jurisdiction	65.00
Owner-Requested Euthanasia - at shelter	40.00
Owner-Requested Euthanasia - in field	75.00
Owner-Requested Euthanasia (rabies quarantine) - at shelter	45.00

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for pathology	
Owner-Requested Euthanasia (rabies quarantine) - in field for pathology	55.00
Quarantine - fee per visit	60.00
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)	75.00
Dangerous Dog or Public Nuisance initial registration fee	150.00
Dangerous Dog or Public Nuisance registration late fee	75.00
Dangerous Dog or Public Nuisance inspection fee	75.00
Dangerous Dog or Public Nuisance annual renewal	100.00
Dangerous Dog or Public Nuisance renewal late fee	75.00
Owner Requested Dead on Arrival (DOA)	35.00
Guard dogs - annual operator permit fee	150.00
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

(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

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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.

(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

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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. 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 the same in a newspaper of general circulation published in the County of San Diego.

(Added by Ord. No. 10612 (N.S.), effective 7-4-19)

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APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

CLAUDIA G. SILVA, COUNTY COUNSEL

BY: MARK DAY, COUNTY COUNSEL

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Diego this 23rd day of May 2023.



NORA VARGAS
Chair, Board of Supervisors
County of San Diego, State of California

The above Ordinance was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Vargas, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Desmond
ABSENT: (District 4 Seat Vacant)

ATTEST my hand and the seal of the Board of Supervisors this 23rd day of May 2023.

ANDREW POTTER
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By 
Nancy Vizcarra, Deputy



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