
STATE OF NEW YORK
Department of
AGRICULTURE AND MARKETS
Albany, New York 12235

ARTICLE 7

Of the Agriculture & Markets Law

(Chapters 220 & 221, Laws of 1978)

Relating to

LICENSING, IDENTIFICATION AND CONTROL OF DOGS

AND ANIMAL POPULATION CONTROL PROGRAM

Article 25B - Abandoned Animals

Parts 77, 78, & 79 of Title I (care of seized dogs)

Chapter 115 of the Laws of 1894 - Sections 8, 9 & 10

State Finance Law, Sections 97-rr & 97-xx

**(pet dealer licensing fund &
animal population control program)**

CIRCULAR 950

DIVISION OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY

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**ARTICLE 7
LICENSING, IDENTIFICATION AND CONTROL OF DOGS**

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§ 106. Purpose. The purpose of this article is to provide for the licensing and identification of dogs, the control and protection of the dog population and the protection of persons, property, domestic animals and deer from dog attack and damage.

§ 107. Application. 1. This article shall apply to all areas of the state except any city having a population of over two million except that the provisions in this article relating to the animal population control program shall be applicable to the entire state.

2. In the event that any dog owned by a resident of any city having a population of over two million or by a non-resident of this state is harbored within this state outside of any such city, such dog shall be exempt from the identification and licensing provisions of this article for a period of thirty days provided such dog is licensed pursuant to the provisions of law of the area of residence.

3. This article shall not apply to any dog confined to the premises of any public or private hospital devoted solely to the treatment of sick animals, or confined for the purposes of research to the premises of any college or other educational or research institution.

4. This article shall not apply to any dog confined to the premises of any person, firm or corporation engaged in the business of breeding or raising dogs for profit and licensed as a class A dealer under the Federal Laboratory Animal Welfare Act, provided that such person, firm or corporation has obtained a certificate of exemption. Application for such certificate shall be made annually to the commissioner and shall be accompanied by a fee of one hundred dollars.

5. Nothing contained in this article shall prevent a municipality from adopting its own program for the control of dangerous dogs; provided, however, that no such program shall be less stringent than this article, and no such program shall regulate such dogs in a manner that is specific as to breed. Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision one of this section, this subdivision and section one hundred twenty-one of this article shall apply to all municipalities including cities of two million or more.

§ 108. Definitions. As used in this article, unless otherwise expressly stated or unless the context or subject matter requires otherwise:

1. "Adoption" means the delivery to any natural person eighteen years of age or older, for the limited purpose of harboring a pet, of any dog, seized or surrendered, or any cat.

3. "Clerk" means the clerk of any town, city or village where licenses are validated or issued pursuant to this article.

4. "Commissioner" means the state commissioner of agriculture and markets.

5. "Dog" means any member of the species *canis familiaris*.

6. "Dog control officer" means any individual appointed by a municipality to assist in the enforcement of this article or any authorized officer, agent or employee of an incorporated humane society or similar incorporated dog protective association under contract with a municipality to assist in the enforcement of this article.

7. "Domestic animal" means any domesticated sheep, horse, cattle, fallow deer, red deer, sika deer, whitetail deer which is raised under license from the department of

environmental conservation, llama, goat, swine, fowl, duck, goose, swan, turkey, confined domestic hare or rabbit, pheasant or other bird which is raised in confinement under license from the state department of environmental conservation before release from captivity, except that the varieties of fowl commonly used for cock fights shall not be considered domestic animals for the purposes of this article.

8. "Euthanize" means to bring about death by a humane method.

9. "Guide dog" means any dog that is trained to aid a person who is blind and is actually used for such purpose, or any dog owned by a recognized guide dog training center located within the state during the period such dog is being trained or bred for such purpose.

10. "Harbor" means to provide food or shelter to any dog.

11. "Identification tag" means a tag which sets forth an official identification number as required by the provisions of this article.

12. "Identified dog" means any dog carrying an identification tag as provided in section one hundred twelve of this article.

13. "Municipality" means any county, town, city and village.

14. "Official identification number" means a series or combination of letters, numbers or symbols approved and furnished by the commissioner.

15. "Owner" means any person who harbors or keeps any dog.

16. "Owner of record" means the person in whose name any dog was last licensed pursuant to either subdivision one or subdivision two of section one hundred nine of this article, except that if any license is issued on application of a person under eighteen years of age, the owner of record shall be deemed to be the parent or guardian of such person. If it cannot be determined in whose name any dog was last licensed or if

the owner of record has filed a statement pursuant to the provisions of section one hundred thirteen of this article, the owner shall be deemed to be the owner of record of such dog, except that if the owner is under eighteen years of age, the owner of record shall be deemed to be the parent or guardian of such person.

17. "Person" means any individual, corporation, partnership, association or other organized group of persons, municipality, or other legal entity.

18. "Police work dog" means any dog owned or harbored by any state or municipal police department or any state or federal law enforcement agency, which has been trained to aid law enforcement officers and is actually being used for police work purposes.

19. "Recognized registry association" means any registry association that operates on a nationwide basis, issues numbered registration certificates and keeps such records as may be required by the commissioner.

20. "War dog" means any dog which has been honorably discharged from the United States armed services.

21. "Hearing dog" means any dog that is trained to aid a person with a hearing impairment and is actually used for such purpose, or any dog owned by a recognized training center located within the state during the period such dog is being trained or bred for such purpose.

22. "Service dog" means any dog that has been or is being individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of a person with a disability, provided that the dog is or will be owned by such person or that person's parent, guardian or other legal representative.

23. "Person with a disability" means any person with a disability as that term is defined in subdivision twenty-one of section two hundred ninety-two of the executive law.

24. (a) "Dangerous dog" means any dog which (i) without justification attacks a person, companion animal as defined in subdivision five of section three hundred fifty of this chapter, farm animal as defined in subdivision four of section three hundred fifty of this chapter or domestic animal as defined in subdivision seven of this section and causes physical injury or death, or (ii) behaves in a manner which a reasonable person would believe poses a serious and unjustified imminent threat of serious physical injury or death to one or more persons, companion animals, farm animals or domestic animals or (iii) without justification attacks a service dog, guide dog or hearing dog and causes physical injury or death.

(b) "Dangerous dog" does not include a police work dog, as defined in subdivision eighteen of this section, which acts in the manner described in this paragraph while such police work dog is being used to assist one or more law enforcement officers in the performance of their official duties.

25. "Working search dog" means any dog that is trained to aid in the search for missing persons, is actually used for such purpose and is registered with the department; provided, however, that such services provided by said dog shall be performed without charge or fee.

26. "Therapy dog" means any dog that is trained to aid the emotional and physical health of patients in hospitals, nursing homes, retirement homes and other settings and is actually used for such purpose, or any dog owned by a recognized training center located within the state during the period such dog is being trained or bred for such purpose.

27. "Detection dog" means any dog that is trained and is actually used for such purposes or is undergoing training to be used for the purpose of detecting controlled substances, explosives, ignitable liquids, firearms, cadavers, or school or correctional facility contraband.

28. "Physical injury" means impairment of physical condition or substantial pain.

29. "Serious physical injury" means physical injury which creates a substantial risk of death, or which causes death or serious or protracted disfigurement, protracted impairment of health or protracted loss or impairment of the function of any bodily organ.

§ 109. Licensing of dogs; rabies vaccination requirement. 1. Licensing of dogs. (a)

The owner of any dog reaching the age of four months shall immediately make application for a dog license. No license shall be required for any dog which is under the age of four months and which is not at large. Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision, a license shall be issued or renewed for a period of one year, provided, that at the option of the governing board of the municipality, a license may be issued or renewed for a period of one, two or three years, and provided further,

that no license shall be issued for a period expiring after the last day of the eleventh month following the expiration date of the current rabies certificate for the dog being licensed. All licenses shall expire on the last day of the last month of the period for which they are issued. In the event an applicant for a license presents, in lieu of a rabies certificate, a statement certified by a licensed veterinarian, as provided in subdivision three of this section, a license shall be issued or renewed for a period of one year from the date of said statement. Any municipality, authorized to issue licenses pursuant to this article, which has a population not exceeding two thousand five hundred may, upon the approval of and pursuant to rules and regulations promulgated by the commissioner, establish a common renewal date for all such licenses. A license issued by a municipality that has established a common renewal date shall expire no later than the common renewal date prior to the expiration date of the rabies certificate for the dog being licensed.

(b) Application for a dog license shall be made to the clerk of the town or city or, in the counties of Nassau and Westchester, incorporated village in which the dog is harbored or to the village clerk of those villages in the county of Rockland with a population of fifteen thousand or more which have elected to accept applications pursuant to the provisions of this paragraph or to the village clerk of the village of Newark in the county of Wayne upon the election of the village of Newark pursuant to the provisions of this paragraph. Provided, however, that in the counties of Nassau and Westchester, the board of trustees of any incorporated village may by resolution provide that applications for licenses shall no longer be made to the village clerk, but to the clerk of the town in which the village is situated. If such resolution is approved by the town board of the town in which the village is situated, such resolution shall become effective not less than six months after a certified copy of such resolution of the village board and of the resolution of approval of the town board shall have been filed with the commissioner. Provided further, however, that in the county of Rockland, the board of trustees of any incorporated village with a population of fifteen thousand or more may by resolution provide that application for licenses shall be made to the village clerk. Provided further, however, that in the county of Wayne, the board of trustees of the village of Newark may by resolution provide that application for licenses shall be made to the village clerk. If such resolution is approved by the town or towns in which the village is located, it shall become effective not less than six months after a certified copy of such approved resolution shall have been filed with the commissioner. The governing body of any town or city or, in the counties of Nassau and Westchester, incorporated village or in the county of Rockland, those villages with a population of fifteen thousand or more which have so elected to accept applications or in the county of Wayne, the village of Newark if such village has so elected to accept applications may, on resolution of such body, authorize that such application be made to one or more named dog control officers of any such town, city or village. The issuance of any license by any such officer shall be under the control and supervision of the clerk. In the case of a seized dog being redeemed or a dog being otherwise obtained from a county animal shelter or pound, such application may be made to the county dog control officer in charge of such facility provided such officer has been authorized by the commissioner to accept such applications. In the case of a dog being redeemed or a dog being adopted from a

shelter or pound established, maintained or contracted for, pursuant to section one hundred fifteen of this article, such application may be made to the manager of such facility, provided such manager has been authorized by the commissioner to accept such application. Such authorization shall be requested by the governing body of the pound or shelter and the granting or denial of such authorization shall be in the discretion of the commissioner.

(c) The application shall state the sex, actual or approximate age, breed, color, and official identification number of the dog, and other identification marks, if any, and the name, address, telephone number, county and town, city or village of residence of the owner.

(d) The application shall be accompanied by the license fee prescribed by section one hundred ten of this article and a certificate of rabies vaccination or statement in lieu thereof, as required by subdivision three of this section. In the case of a spayed or neutered dog, every application shall also be accompanied by a certificate signed by a licensed veterinarian or an affidavit signed by the owner, showing that the dog has been spayed or neutered, provided such certificate or affidavit shall not be required if the same is already on file with the clerk or authorized dog control officer. In lieu of the spay or neuter certificate an owner may present a statement certified by a licensed veterinarian stating that he has examined the dog and found that because of old age or other reason, the life of the dog would be endangered by spaying or neutering. In such case, the license fee for the dog shall be the same as for a spayed or neutered dog as set forth in paragraph (a) of subdivision one of section one hundred ten of this article.

(e) Upon validation by the clerk, authorized dog control officer or authorized pound or shelter manager, the application shall become a license for the dog described therein. Once an application has been validated, no refund therefor shall be made.

(f) The clerk, authorized dog control officer or authorized pound or shelter manager shall: (i) provide a copy of the license to the owner; (ii) send, by the fifth day of the month following the month of license issuance, a copy of the license, or a report of the information contained therein, to the commissioner; and (iii) retain a record of the license in the manner prescribed by the commissioner. In addition, the authorized pound or shelter manager shall send, within forty-eight hours of validation, a copy of the license to the licensing municipality within which the dog is to be harbored.

(g) No license shall be transferable. Upon the transfer of ownership of any dog, the new owner shall immediately make application for a license for such dog.

(h) Notwithstanding the provisions of any general, special or local law, or any rule or regulation to the contrary, the clerk, authorized dog control officer or authorized pound or shelter manager in municipalities having a population of less than one hundred thousand shall send to the commissioner a copy of the validated license, or a report of the information therein, by the fifth day of the month following the month of license issuance. In addition, the authorized dog control officer or authorized pound or shelter manager in such municipalities shall, within five business days after the license has been validated, send a copy of the validated license to the licensing municipality in which the dog is to be harbored.

2. Purebred license. (a) The owner of one or more purebred dogs registered by a recognized registry association may annually make an application for a purebred

license, in lieu of or in addition to the individual licenses required by subdivision one of this section. A purebred license shall be valid for a period of one year beginning with the first day of the month following the date of issuance and shall be renewable annually thereafter prior to the expiration date.

(b) Such application shall be made to the person specified in paragraph (b) of subdivision one of this section.

(c) The application shall state the name, address and telephone number of the owner; the county and city, town or village where such dogs are harbored; the sex, breed, registry name and number of each purebred registered dog over the age of four months which is harbored on the premises; and the sex and breed of each purebred dog over the age of four months which is harbored on the premises and which is eligible for registration. The application shall also include a statement by the owner that all purebred dogs over the age of four months which are harbored on the premises have been listed.

(d) The application shall be accompanied by the license fee prescribed by section one hundred ten of this article and a certificate of rabies vaccination or statement in lieu thereof, as required by subdivision three of this section.

(e) Upon receipt of the foregoing items, the clerk or authorized dog control officer shall assign a license number, which shall be reserved for the sole use of the named owner, and shall issue a purebred license. Once a purebred license has been issued, no refund therefor shall be made.

(f) The clerk, authorized dog control officer or authorized pound or shelter manager shall: (i) provide a copy of the purebred license to the owner; (ii) send, by the fifth day of the month following the month of license issuance, a copy of the purebred license, or a report of the information contained therein, to the commissioner; and (iii) retain a record of the purebred license in the manner prescribed by the commissioner. In addition, the authorized dog control officer or authorized pound or shelter manager shall send, within forty-eight hours of validation, a copy of the license to the licensing municipality within which the dog is to be harbored.

(g) No purebred license shall be transferable. Upon change of ownership of any dog licensed under a purebred license, such dog shall become subject to the licensing provisions of subdivision one of this section, except when the new owner holds a valid purebred license.

(h) Notwithstanding the provisions of any general, special or local law, or any rule or regulation to the contrary, the clerk, authorized dog control officer or authorized pound or shelter manager in municipalities having a population of less than one hundred thousand shall send to the commissioner a copy of the validated license, or a report of the information contained therein, by the fifth day of the month following the month of license issuance. In addition, the authorized dog control officer or authorized pound or shelter manager in such municipalities shall, within five business days after the license has been validated, send a copy of the validated license to the licensing municipality within which the dog is to be harbored.

3. The clerk, authorized dog control officer or authorized pound or shelter manager, at the time of issuing any license pursuant to this article, shall require the applicant to present a statement certified by a licensed veterinarian showing that the dog or dogs have been vaccinated to prevent rabies or, in lieu thereof, a statement

certified by a licensed veterinarian stating that because of old age or other reason, the life of the dog or dogs would be endangered by the administration of vaccine. The clerk, authorized dog control officer or authorized pound or shelter manager shall make or cause to be made from such statement a record of such information as may be required by the commissioner and shall file such record with a copy of the license.

§ 110. License fees. 1. The license fee for each dog license issued pursuant to subdivision one of section one hundred nine of this article shall be:

(a) two dollars and fifty cents for each spayed or neutered dog and seven dollars and fifty cents for each unspayed or unneutered dog licensed for one year;

(b) five dollars for each spayed or neutered dog and fifteen dollars for each unspayed or unneutered dog licensed for two years;

(c) seven dollars and fifty cents for each spayed or neutered dog and twenty-two dollars and fifty cents for each unspayed or unneutered dog licensed for three years.

2. The annual fee for each purebred license issued pursuant to subdivision two of section one hundred nine of this article shall be:

(a) twenty-five dollars, if no more than ten registered purebred dogs or purebred dogs eligible for registration over the age of six months are harbored on the owner's premises at the time of the application;

(b) fifty dollars, if no more than twenty-five registered purebred dogs or purebred dogs eligible for registration over the age of six months are harbored on the premises at the time of application; or

(c) one hundred dollars, if more than twenty-five registered purebred dogs or purebred dogs eligible for registration over the age of six months are harbored on the premises at the time of application.

3. There shall be no fee for any license issued for any guide dog, hearing dog, service dog, war dog, working search dog, detection dog, police work dog or therapy dog. Each copy of any license for such dogs shall be conspicuously marked "Guide Dog," "Hearing Dog," "Service Dog", "Working Search Dog", "War Dog", "Detection Dog", "Police Work Dog," or "Therapy Dog", as may be appropriate, by the clerk or authorized dog control officer.

4. a. Any town or city or any village issuing licenses pursuant to the provisions of this article may, by local law or ordinance, set license fees in addition to those set by subdivisions one and two of this section, provided that the total fee for an unspayed or unneutered dog shall be at least five dollars more than the total fee for a spayed or neutered dog, and further provided that such additional fees shall not exceed, in the case of subdivision one of this section, ten dollars for each year or portion thereof for which a license is issued and, in the case of subdivision two of this section, twenty-five dollars. Such additional fees shall be the property of the municipality setting the same and shall be used only for controlling dogs and enforcing this article and any rule, regulation, or local law or ordinance adopted pursuant thereto, including subsidizing the spaying or neutering of dogs and any facility as authorized under section one hundred seventeen of this article used therefor, and subsidizing public humane education programs in responsible dog ownership.

b. Any town, city or village enacting the provisions of paragraph a of this subdivision may adopt a resolution exempting from the payment of such additional fees, dogs owned by one or more persons each of whom is sixty-five years of age or over.

c. In addition to the fee charged pursuant to subdivisions one and two of this section, any person applying for a dog license for a period of up to and including one year or purebred license shall pay a fee of three dollars for any dog four months of age or older which has not been spayed or neutered unless an owner presents with the license application a statement certified by a licensed veterinarian stating that he or she has examined the dog and found that because of old age or other reason, the life of the dog would be endangered by spaying or neutering. Provided, however, that the fee shall be six dollars in the case of an unspayed or unneutered dog licensed for a period of more than one and no more than two years and nine dollars in the case of an unspayed or unneutered dog licensed for a period of more than two and no more than three years, unless the owner presents with the license application a statement certified by a licensed veterinarian stating that because of old age or other reason, the life of the dog would be endangered by spaying or neutering. All fees collected pursuant to the provisions of this paragraph shall be forwarded by the commissioner to the state comptroller for deposit in the animal population control fund, created pursuant to section ninety-seven-xx of the state finance law and section one hundred seventeen-a of this article.

d. In addition to any other applicable fee, any person applying for a dog or purebred license for a dog identified as unlicensed during an enumeration conducted pursuant to subdivision seven of section one hundred fourteen of this article shall pay a fee of five dollars. Such additional fee shall be the property of the licensing municipality and shall be used to pay the expenses incurred by the municipality in conducting the enumeration. In the event the additional fees collected exceed the expenses incurred by the municipality in conducting an enumeration in any year, such excess fees may be used by the municipality for any other lawful purpose.

§ 111. Disposition of license fees. 1. (a) On or before the fifth day of each month, the clerk or authorized county dog control officer shall remit to the appropriate county financial officer forty-seven percent of all license fees, except those exempted by paragraphs a, b and c of subdivision four of section one hundred ten of this article, collected during the preceding month. The remittance shall be accompanied by a report of license sales made during said month. A copy of such report shall simultaneously be sent to the commissioner. The balance of such license fees shall be the property of the reporting municipality and shall be used only for controlling dogs and enforcing this article and any rule, regulation, or local law or ordinance adopted pursuant thereto, including subsidizing the spaying or neutering of dogs and any facility, as authorized under section one hundred seventeen of this article, used therefor, and subsidizing public humane education programs in responsible dog ownership.

(b) On or before the fifth day of each month, the authorized pound or shelter manager shall remit to the financial officer of the county within which the shelter is located, forty-seven percent of all license fees, except those exempted by paragraphs a, b and c of subdivision four of section one hundred ten of this article, collected

during the preceding month. The remittance shall be accompanied by a report of license sales made during said month. A copy of such report shall simultaneously be sent to the commissioner. The authorized pound or shelter manager shall remit the balance of such license fees to the financial officer of the licensing municipality within which the shelter is located. The fees remitted to the municipality shall be the property of that municipality and shall be used only for controlling dogs and enforcing this article and any rule, regulation, or local law or ordinance adopted pursuant thereto, including subsidizing the spaying or neutering of dogs and any facility, as authorized under section one hundred seventeen of this article, used therefor, and subsidizing public humane education programs in responsible dog ownership.

2. On the fifteenth day of each month, the county financial officer shall remit to the commissioner thirty-six percent of all license fees received by the county under this article. The moneys retained by the county shall be used for controlling dogs and enforcing this article and any rule, regulation, or local law or ordinance adopted pursuant thereto, including subsidizing the spaying or neutering of dogs and any facility, as authorized under section one hundred seventeen of this article, used therefor, and subsidizing public humane education programs in responsible dog ownership, and may also be used for the prevention and investigation of cruelty to animals.

3. On or before the first day of February in each year, the county financial officer shall apportion and pay to the appropriate financial officer of each town, city and village in the county, ratably to the annual remittance made to the county by such town, city or village, seventy-five percent of any portion of the moneys not expended by the county during the preceding calendar year for the purposes set forth in subdivision two of this section. Such moneys shall be used by the towns, cities and villages only for the purposes set forth in subdivision one of this section.

4. (a) The moneys received by the commissioner pursuant to subdivision two of this section shall be paid into the state treasury, and shall, so far as necessary, be appropriated annually by the legislature to the department to be used by the commissioner in supervising the enforcement of and in implementing this article and rules and regulations promulgated pursuant thereto, including, without limitation, the issuance of special identification tags for guide dogs, service dogs, hearing dogs and detection dogs. In addition, from such moneys paid into the state treasury, the legislature shall appropriate annually to the New York State Veterinary College at Cornell a sum equivalent to ten cents for each dog license issued for a period of up to and including one year, a sum equivalent to twenty cents for each dog license issued for a period of more than one and no more than two years and a sum equivalent to thirty cents for each dog license issued for a period of more than two and no more than three years, to be used by the college to conduct studies into diseases of dogs and to search for and study viruses that affect man and animals, or to study and develop a pharmaceutical contraceptive for dogs.

(b) The commissioner shall also remit to the state treasury the moneys received by him pursuant to the dog license law of the city of New York (section eight-a of chapter one hundred fifteen of the laws of eighteen hundred ninety-four, as added by chapter one thousand two of the laws of nineteen hundred seventy). Such moneys shall be

appropriated annually by the legislature to the veterinary college for the purposes set forth in paragraph (a) above.

(c) The expenditure of moneys from license fees appropriated to support research conducted at the New York State College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell into canine diseases affecting humans and animals shall not exceed the annual revenues obtained from fees received under this section for such purposes.

5. (a) On or before the fifteenth day of each month, the clerk of any city, town or village located in Nassau county where licenses are validated or issued pursuant to this article shall remit directly to the commissioner sixteen and ninety-two hundredths percent of all license fees collected during the preceding month, except the fees exempted by subdivision four of section one hundred ten of this article. The remittance shall be accompanied by a report of license sales made during such preceding month.

(b) The remaining eighty-three and eight hundredths percent of such license fees shall be the property of the reporting municipality and shall be used only for controlling dogs and enforcing the provisions of this article and any rule or regulation, or local law or ordinance adopted pursuant thereto, including subsidizing the spaying or neutering of dogs and any facility, as authorized under section one hundred seventeen of this article, used therefor, and subsidizing public humane education programs in responsible dog ownership.

(c) On or before the fifth day of each month, the authorized pound or shelter manager of each pound or shelter located in Nassau county shall remit directly to the commissioner sixteen and ninety-two hundredths percent of all license fees collected during the preceding month, except the fees exempted by subdivision four of section one hundred ten of this article. The remittance shall be accompanied by a report of license sales made during such preceding month.

(d) On or before the fifth day of the month, the authorized pound or shelter manager shall remit to the financial officer of the licensing municipality within which the shelter is located, the remaining license fees collected during the preceding month, including those collected pursuant to subdivision four of section one hundred ten of this chapter. Such fees shall be the property of the municipality and shall be used only for controlling dogs and enforcing this article and any rule, regulation, or local law or ordinance adopted pursuant thereto, including subsidizing the spaying or neutering of dogs and any facility, as authorized under section one hundred seventeen of this article, used therefor, and subsidizing public humane education programs in responsible dog ownership.

6. Notwithstanding any other provision in this article, on or before the fifth day of each month, all clerks and authorized county dog control officers and authorized pound and shelter managers shall remit to the commissioner all moneys they received during the preceding month pursuant to paragraph c of subdivision four of section one hundred ten of this article. The remittance shall be accompanied by a report of license sales to persons who paid the additional three dollar license fee. Such report shall also contain such other information as the commissioner may require by rule or regulation.

§ 112. Identification of dogs. 1. Each dog licensed pursuant to subdivision one of section one hundred nine of this article shall be assigned, at the time the dog is first licensed, a permanent official identification number. Such identification number shall be carried by the dog on an identification tag which shall be affixed to a collar on the dog at all times, provided that a dog participating in a dog show shall be exempt from this requirement during such participation.

2. The official identification number shall constitute the official identification of the dog to which it is assigned, regardless of changes of ownership, and the number shall not be reassigned to any other dog during the lifetime of the dog to which it is assigned.

3. At the time a dog is first licensed, one identification tag shall be furnished to the owner at no charge. Any replacement tag shall be obtained by the owner at his expense at a fee and in a manner prescribed by the commissioner.

4. No tag carrying an official identification number shall be affixed to the collar of any dog other than the one to which that number has been assigned.

5. The holder of a purebred license may procure, at his expense, any number of tags imprinted with the same number as the purebred license. One such tag shall be affixed to the collar of each dog harbored pursuant to the purebred license at all times, provided that a dog participating in a dog show shall be exempt from this requirement during such participation. Such a tag shall be affixed only to the collar of a dog owned by the holder of the purebred license and harbored on his premises.

6. The shape, size and form of imprints on identification tags and purebred license tags shall be prescribed by the commissioner, and any tag bearing an imprint other than that prescribed shall not constitute valid identification for the purposes of this article.

7. The applicant for a license for any guide dog, service dog, hearing dog or detection dog may procure a special tag for identifying such dog. This special tag shall be in addition to the identification tag required by subdivision one of this section. The commissioner shall prescribe the shape, size, color, and form of imprint of the tag which shall be a different color and shape than the official identification tag. Upon application, the commissioner shall furnish such tags without payment of a fee.

8. Fees received by the department pursuant to this section shall be deposited in an account within the miscellaneous special revenue fund.

§ 113. Change of ownership; lost or stolen dog. 1. In the event of a change in the ownership of any dog which has been assigned an official identification number or in the address of the owner of record of any such dog, the owner of record shall, within ten days of such change, file with the commissioner a written report of such change. Such owner of record shall be liable for any violation of this article until such filing is made or until the dog is licensed in the name of the new owner.

2. If any dog which has been assigned an official identification number is lost or stolen, the owner of record shall, within ten days of the discovery of such loss or theft file with the commissioner a written report of such loss or theft. In the case of a loss or theft, the owner of record of any such dog shall not be liable for any violation of this article committed after such report is filed.

3. In the case of a dog's death, the owner of record shall so notify the commissioner either prior to renewal of licensure or upon the time of such renewal as set forth in subdivision one of section one hundred nine of this chapter. Until such time that the commissioner files such information with the central registry of official identification numbers, said number shall not be reassigned. Failure to notify the commissioner of the death of a dog as so required herein shall constitute a violation and the owner of record shall be held liable.

§ 114. Dog control officers. 1. Each town and city, and each village in which licenses are issued, shall appoint, and any other village and any county may appoint, one or more dog control officers for the purpose of assisting, within the appointing municipality, with the control of dogs and the enforcement of this article and rules and regulations promulgated pursuant thereto.

2. In lieu of or in addition to the appointment of a dog control officer or officers, any town or city, or any village in which licenses are issued shall, and any other village and any county may, contract for dog control officer services with any other municipality or with any incorporated humane society or similar incorporated dog protective association, or shall appoint, jointly with one or more other municipalities, one or more dog control officers having jurisdiction in each of the cooperating municipalities.

3. The commissioner may appoint as many state dog control officers as he deems necessary to supervise the provisions of this article and any rules and regulations adopted pursuant thereto.

4. Every dog control officer shall have the power to issue an appearance ticket pursuant to section 150.20 of the criminal procedure law, to serve a summons and to serve and execute any other order or process in the execution of the provisions of this article. In addition, any dog control officer or any peace officer, when acting pursuant to his special duties, or police officer, who is authorized by a municipality to assist in the enforcement of this article may serve any process, including an appearance ticket, a uniform appearance ticket and a uniform appearance ticket and simplified information, related to any proceeding, whether criminal or civil in nature undertaken in accord with the provisions of this article or any local law or ordinance promulgated pursuant thereto.

5. Every dog control officer, peace officer, when acting pursuant to his special duties or police officer shall promptly make and maintain a complete record of any seizure and subsequent disposition of any dog. Such record shall include, but not be limited to, a description of the dog, the date and hour of seizure, the official identification number of such dog, if any, the location where seized, the reason for seizure, and the owner's name and address, if known.

6. Every dog control officer shall file and maintain, in the manner prescribed by the commissioner, such records as may be required by this article or rules and regulations promulgated pursuant thereto, and shall make such reports to the commissioner as may be required thereby.

7. The governing body of any municipality in which licenses are issued, may, either individually or in cooperation with other municipal entities, require its dog control officer or animal control officer or any other authorized agent to ascertain and list

the names of all persons in the municipality owning or harboring dogs, or in lieu thereof, such municipality may contract to have the same done.

§ 115. Pounds and shelters. 1. Each town and city, and each village in which licenses are issued shall, and any other village and any county may, establish and maintain a pound or shelter for dogs.

2. In lieu of or in addition to establishing and maintaining such pound or shelter, any town or city, or any village in which licenses are issued shall, and any other village and any county may, contract for pound or shelter services with any other municipality or with any incorporated humane society or similar incorporated dog protective association, or shall establish and maintain, jointly or with one or more other municipalities, a pound or shelter.

§ 116. Funds expended by municipality for services. No municipality shall be required to expend in any calendar year for dog control officer and pound or shelter services undertaken pursuant to this article, an amount of money greater than it receives during such year pursuant to this article and any local law or ordinance enacted pursuant thereto.

§ 117. Spaying and neutering facilities authorized. 1. Any municipality may, by local law or ordinance, provide for the establishment and operation of a facility to provide services for the alteration of the reproductive capacity through spaying or neutering of dogs and cats owned by the residents thereof.

2. Any animal which is presented at such facility for alteration must be accompanied by a notarized authorization signed by the owner thereof consenting to such alteration and agreeing to hold the municipality, its agents, servants and employees harmless for any damages arising therefrom or incidental thereto.

3. Any municipality enacting a local law or ordinance as authorized by this section shall further provide for the regulation of such facility with respect to the terms and conditions, including compensation, under which any animal will be maintained while the animal remains in the custody of the facility.

4. In no event shall any of the moneys or fees derived from, or collected pursuant to, the provisions of this article except as provided in paragraph c of subdivision four of section one hundred ten of this article and section one hundred seventeen-a of this article be used to subsidize the spaying or neutering of cats.

§ 117-a. Animal population control program. 1. The department shall establish and implement an animal population control program. The purpose of this program shall be to reduce the population of unwanted and stray dogs and cats thereby reducing potential threats to public health and safety posed by the large population of these animals. This program shall seek to accomplish its purpose by encouraging residents of New York state who are the owners of dogs and cats to have them spayed or neutered by providing low-cost spaying and neutering services to such owners meeting the criteria enumerated in subdivision two of this section. The department shall use its best efforts to encourage every adoption facility that

qualifies for participation in the low-cost spay-neuter program to do so to the maximum possible extent.

2. In order to be eligible to participate in the animal population control program, and therefore, be entitled to the low-cost spay/neuter services provided for herein, an owner of a dog or cat shall be a resident of New York state and shall submit proof to a veterinarian participating in the program as follows:

(a) in the form of an adoption agreement that their dog or cat was adopted from a pound, shelter, duly incorporated society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, humane society or dog or cat protective association; or

(b) proof of participation in at least one of the following:

(i) the food stamp program authorized pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 2011, et seq.;

(ii) the supplemental security income for the aged, blind and disabled program authorized pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 1381 et seq.;

(iii) the low income housing assistance program authorized pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 1437(f);

(iv) the Family Assistance program authorized pursuant to title ten of article five of the social services law;

(v) the Safety Net Assistance program authorized pursuant to title three of article five of the social services law;

(vi) the program of Medical Assistance authorized pursuant to title eleven of article five of the social services law; or

(vii) the food assistance program authorized pursuant to subdivision ten of section ninety-five of the social services law; and

(c) in any city, town, village, or county which has enacted a local law or ordinance requiring spay/neuter of all dogs and cats prior to adoption from shelters, pounds, duly incorporated societies for the prevention of cruelty to animals, humane societies and duly incorporated dog or cat protective associations within such city, town, village or county, eligibility for participation in the animal population control program shall be determined based solely on the provisions of paragraph (b) of this subdivision.

2-a. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (a) of subdivision two of this section, no resident, otherwise qualified pursuant to such paragraph, shall be entitled to participate in the low cost spay/neuter program implemented by this section if the animal to be spayed or neutered:

(a) was imported or caused to be imported from outside the state;

(b) was adopted from an otherwise qualifying pound, shelter, duly incorporated society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, humane society or dog or cat protective association which included the cost of a spaying or neutering procedure in the cost of the adoption;

(c) was spayed or neutered by an otherwise eligible veterinarian who is employed by otherwise qualifying pounds, shelters, duly incorporated societies for the prevention of cruelty to animals, humane societies or dog or cat protective associations except to the extent that they shall have performed spay/neuter procedures in excess of the number of such procedures done upon animals adopted from such facility during nineteen hundred ninety-four; or

(d) was adopted from any facility that as a condition of adoption, required or encouraged the utilization of a specific veterinarian or veterinary facility to perform

such spay or neuter procedure. The establishment of such conditions by a facility shall constitute grounds for the disqualification of such facility to participate in the program. Nothing contained in this section shall be construed as precluding a facility from informing a person adopting an animal of the identity of those participating veterinarians in the vicinity of such facility in addition to providing them with the voucher provided under this section and any accompanying materials.

3. Any person submitting a dog or cat for spaying or neutering pursuant to the provisions of this section shall:

(a) Furnish any licensed veterinarian of this state participating in the program with proof that the owner meets the eligibility criteria pursuant to the provisions of subdivisions two and two-a of this section;

(b) Sign a consent form certifying that the person is the owner of the dog or cat or is authorized by the owner to present the dog or cat for the procedure;

(c) Pay a fee of thirty dollars to the veterinarian participating in the program if such dog or cat was adopted from a duly incorporated pound, shelter, duly incorporated society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, humane society or duly incorporated dog or cat protective association, or pay a fee of twenty dollars to the veterinarian participating in the program if such person participates in any of the programs enumerated in paragraph (b) of subdivision two of this section. When eligibility to participate in the animal population control program is based upon participation in a program enumerated in paragraph (b) of subdivision two of this section, the department shall issue vouchers to dog and cat owners upon provision of requisite proof required under paragraph (b) of subdivision two of this section and in accordance with any rules and regulations promulgated by the commissioner.

4. (a) Any licensed veterinarian of this state including, but not limited to, licensed veterinarians working at municipal facilities which provide dog and cat spaying and neutering services, other than with respect to animals who would not be eligible pursuant to subdivision two-a of this section may participate in the program upon filing with the commissioner an application therefor, on forms prescribed by the commissioner, which application shall certify, in addition to any other information requested by the commissioner, an animal sterilization fee schedule listing the fees charged for spaying and neutering in the normal course of business and for the presurgical immunization of dogs against distemper, hepatitis, leptospirosis, parvovirus and rabies, or if deemed necessary for the presurgical immunization of cats against feline panleukopenia, calici, pneumonitis, rhinotracheitis and rabies, as the case may be on the first day of January two thousand one and the first day of January each third year thereafter and the number of spay/neuter procedures done by such facility during such period. Additionally, such licensed veterinarian shall certify that the fees charged for procedures and vaccinations for which reimbursement is sought are equal to or less than the lowest fees charged to a private client for such procedures during the previous year. The veterinarian shall also provide the name of the veterinarian, animal hospital, veterinary clinic or other entity to which such reimbursement is to be made. These fees may vary with the animal's weight, sex and species. The commissioner may, however, disqualify from participation in the program any veterinarian whose fees are deemed unreasonable. Nothing contained in this subdivision shall limit the right of the state education

department to undertake such actions as it may deem necessary to enforce the provisions of article one hundred thirty-five of the education law. (b) Licensed veterinarians of this state participating in the program shall provide, if deemed necessary, for the presurgical immunization of dogs against distemper, hepatitis, leptospirosis, parvovirus and rabies, or if deemed necessary, for the presurgical immunization of cats against feline panleukopenia, calici, pneumonitis, rhinotracheitis and rabies, as the case may be. Charges for such services to the owner or person submitting the dog or cat for spaying or neutering shall be no more than fifty percent of the amount certified pursuant to paragraph (a) of this subdivision. In addition to other reimbursement to which a licensed veterinarian may be entitled under this section, a veterinarian may seek reimbursement for expenses incurred as a direct result of extraordinary circumstances which occurred during the course of a spay/neuter procedure up to an amount approved by the department which shall not exceed twenty percent of such veterinarian's fee for performing such procedure.

(c) The state comptroller upon the submission of vouchers by the commissioner shall, to the extent that monies are available from the animal population control fund, reimburse participating veterinarians for eighty percent of the balance of the fee charged pursuant to paragraph (a) of this subdivision, and after deducting that portion of the fee already paid to the veterinarian by those persons participating in the program pursuant to paragraph (c) of subdivision three of this section, for each animal spaying and neutering procedure administered after the submission to the commissioner of an animal sterilization certificate, prescribed by the commissioner, signed by the veterinarian and the owner of the animal or person authorized by the owner, for each spaying and neutering procedure performed in conjunction with the animal population control program. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, the state comptroller shall not reimburse veterinarians for any voucher which shall have been issued by the commissioner more than one year prior to the date upon which it is submitted to the commissioner unless the commissioner shall indicate good cause for the payment of such voucher. If the moneys are not immediately available from such fund, the commissioner shall give priority to approving reimbursement to participating veterinarians from counties from which the amount of fees deposited in such fund, after taking into consideration the administrative expenses to which the department is entitled, exceeds the money paid out to participating veterinarians in such counties. The participating veterinarian shall submit to the commissioner within sixty days of each animal spaying and neutering procedure an animal sterilization certificate for the purposes of reimbursement. Notwithstanding the provisions of this paragraph, the commissioner shall not approve reimbursement to municipal facilities, not-for-profit organizations, pounds, shelters, duly incorporated societies for the prevention of cruelty to animals, humane societies or dog or cat protective associations except to the extent that they shall have performed spay/neuter procedures in excess of the number of such procedures done by it during nineteen hundred ninety-four.

5. The commissioner may solicit and accept funds from any public or private source to help carry out the provisions of this section.

6. All fees collected pursuant to this section and paragraph c of subdivision four of section one hundred ten of this article shall be deposited in a miscellaneous special

revenue fund known as the animal population control fund. An amount not to exceed fifteen percent of the balance of the fund at the beginning of each fiscal year, following appropriation by the legislature and allocation by the director of the budget, shall be available for the purposes of implementation and promotion of the program. Such promotion shall include educating the public about the benefits associated with spaying and neutering. The remaining monies shall be used exclusively for the reimbursement to participating veterinarians pursuant to paragraph (b) of subdivision four of this section.

7. The commissioner shall, in consultation with such professional organizations as the commissioner deems appropriate, develop a list of veterinarians approved by the commissioner to participate in the low-cost spay/neuter program who provide care, including, but not limited to, spay/neuter procedures, to dogs and cats. Any otherwise qualifying pound, shelter, duly incorporated society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, humane society, or dog or cat protective association shall distribute such list of approved veterinarians to persons adopting a dog or a cat as a precondition to reimbursement under the low-cost spay/neuter program established in this section. In addition to such distribution, such pound, shelter, duly incorporated society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, humane society or dog or cat protective association shall not discriminate against any veterinarian on such list or directly or indirectly require, direct or recommend the utilization or non-utilization of any such veterinarian for any procedure for which reimbursement is to be sought under this program. Such discrimination may, in the discretion of the commissioner, constitute grounds for the revocation of the right of such facility to participate in the program.

§ 118. Seizure of dogs; redemption periods; impoundment fees; adoption.

1. Any dog control officer or peace officer, acting pursuant to his special duties, or police officer in the employ of or under contract to a municipality shall seize:

- (a) any dog which is not identified and which is not on the owner's premises; and
- (b) any dog which is not licensed, whether on or off the owner's premises.
- (c) any licensed dog which is not in the control of its owner or custodian or not on the premises of the dog's owner or custodian, if there is probable cause to believe the dog is a dangerous dog.
- (d) any dog which poses an immediate threat to the public safety.

Promptly upon seizure the dog control officer shall commence a proceeding as provided for in subdivision two of section one hundred twenty-one of this article.

2. Any dog control officer or peace officer, acting pursuant to his special duties, or police officer in the employ of or under contract to a municipality may seize any dog in violation of any local law or ordinance relating to the control of dogs, adopted by any municipality pursuant to the provisions of this article.

3. Each dog seized in accordance with the provisions of this article shall be properly sheltered, fed and watered for the redemption period as hereinafter provided.

4. Each dog which is not identified, whether or not licensed, shall be held for a period of five days from the day seized during which period the dog may be redeemed by its owner, provided that such owner produces proof that the dog has been licensed and has been identified pursuant to the provisions of this article and further provided that the owner pays the following impoundment fees:

- (a) ten dollars for the first impoundment of any dog owned by that person;
- (b) twenty dollars for the first twenty-four hours or part thereof and three dollars for each additional twenty-four hours or part thereof for the second impoundment, within one year of the first impoundment, of any dog owned by that person; or
- (c) thirty dollars for the first twenty-four hours or part thereof and three dollars for each additional twenty-four hours or part thereof for the third and subsequent impoundments, within one year of the first impoundment, of any dog owned by that person.

The impoundment fees set forth in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of this subdivision notwithstanding, any municipality may set by local law or ordinance such fees in any amount.

5. All impoundment fees shall be the property of the municipality to which they are paid and shall be used only for controlling dogs and enforcing this article and any rule, regulation, or local law or ordinance adopted pursuant thereto, including subsidizing the spaying or neutering of dogs and any facility as authorized under section one hundred seventeen of this article used therefor, and subsidizing public humane education programs in responsible dog ownership.

6. Promptly upon seizure of any identified dog, the owner of record of such dog shall be notified personally or by certified mail, return receipt requested, of the facts of seizure and the procedure for redemption. If notification is personally given, such dog shall be held for a period of seven days after day of notice, during which period the dog may be redeemed by the owner. If such notification is made by mail, such dog shall be held for a period of nine days from the date of mailing, during which period the dog may be redeemed by the owner. In either case, the owner may redeem such dog upon payment of the impoundment fees prescribed by subdivision four of this section and by producing proof that the dog has been licensed.

* 7. An owner shall forfeit title to any dog unredeemed at the expiration of the appropriate redemption period, and the dog shall then be made available for adoption or euthanized subject to the provisions of subdivisions two-a, two-b, two-c, two-d, and two-e of section three hundred seventy-four of this chapter. Provided that no dog in the custody of a pound or shelter shall be delivered for adoption unless it has been licensed pursuant to the provisions of this article prior to its release from the custody of a pound or shelter. Any municipality may by local law or ordinance establish additional conditions for adoption including the requirement that adopted dogs shall be spayed or neutered before or after release from custody upon such terms and conditions as the municipality may establish.

* NB Effective until October 9, 2010

* 7. An owner shall forfeit title to any dog unredeemed at the expiration of the appropriate redemption period, and the dog shall then be made available for adoption or euthanized subject to subdivisions six, eight and nine of this section and subject to the provisions of section three hundred seventy-four of this chapter. Provided that no dog in the custody of a pound or shelter shall be delivered for adoption unless it has been licensed pursuant to the provisions of this article prior to its release from the custody of a pound or shelter. Any municipality may by local law or ordinance establish additional conditions for adoption including the requirement that adopted dogs shall be spayed or neutered before or after release from custody upon such terms and conditions as the municipality may establish.

* NB Effective October 9, 2010

* 7-a. Any dog or cat in the custody of a pound or shelter shall be made available for adoption or euthanized subject to the provisions of subdivisions two-a, two-b, two-c, two-d, and two-e of section three hundred seventy-four of this chapter after the time for redemption has expired.

* NB Effective until October 9, 2010

* 7-a. Any dog or cat in the custody of a pound or shelter shall be made available for adoption or euthanized subject to subdivisions six, eight and nine of this section and subject to the provisions of section three hundred seventy-four of this chapter after the time for redemption has expired.

* NB Effective October 9, 2010

8. The redemption periods set forth above in this section notwithstanding, any municipality may establish the duration of such periods by local law or ordinance, provided that no such period shall be less than three days, except that where notice to the owner is given by mail, no such period shall be less than seven days.

9. Any dog, owned by a resident of any city having a population of over two million or by a non-resident of this state, seized and impounded pursuant to the provisions of this article, and whose owner can be identified, shall be subject to subdivision six of this section. If the dog is licensed pursuant to the provisions of law of the area of the owner's residence, the licensing requirements of this article shall not apply provided such dog is not harbored within this state outside any city having a population of over two million for a period exceeding thirty days.

10. The seizure of any dog shall not relieve any person from any violation provided for by section one hundred nineteen of this article.

11. No liability in damages or otherwise shall be incurred on account of the seizure, euthanization or adoption of any dog pursuant to the provisions of this article.

§ 119. Violations. 1. It shall be a violation, punishable as provided in subdivision two of this section, for:

- (a) any owner to fail to license any dog;
- (b) any owner to fail to have any dog identified as required by this article;
- (c) any person to knowingly affix to any dog any false or improper identification tag, special identification tag for identifying guide, service or hearing dogs or purebred license tag;
- (f) any owner or custodian of any dog to fail to confine, restrain or present such dog for any lawful purpose pursuant to this article;
- (g) any person to furnish any false or misleading information on any form required to be filed with any municipality or the commissioner pursuant to the provisions of this article or rules and regulations promulgated pursuant thereto;
- (h) the owner or custodian of any dog to fail to exercise due diligence in handling his or her dog if the handling results in harm to another dog that is a guide, hearing or service dog.

2. It shall be the duty of the dog control officer of any municipality to bring an action against any person who has committed within such municipality any violation set forth in subdivision one of this section. Any municipality may elect either to prosecute such action as a violation under the penal law or to commence an action to recover a civil penalty. A violation of this section shall be punishable, subject to such an election, either:

(a) where prosecuted pursuant to the penal law, by a fine of not more than twenty-five dollars, except that (i) where the person was found to have violated this section or former article seven of this chapter within the preceding five years, the fine may be not more than fifty dollars, and (ii) where the person was found to have committed two or more such violations within the preceding five years, it shall be punishable by a fine of not more than one hundred dollars or imprisonment for not more than fifteen days, or both; or

(b) where prosecuted as an action to recover a civil penalty, by a civil penalty of not more than twenty-five dollars, except that (i) when the person was found to have violated this section or former article seven of this chapter within the preceding five years, the civil penalty may be not more than fifty dollars, and (ii) where the person was found to have committed two or more such violations within the preceding five years, the civil penalty may be not more than one hundred dollars.

3. A defendant charged with a violation of any provision of this article or any local law or ordinance promulgated pursuant thereto may himself plead guilty to the charge in open court. He may also submit to the magistrate having jurisdiction, in person, by duly authorized agent, or by registered mail, a statement (a) that he waives arraignment in open court and the aid of counsel, (b) that he pleads guilty to the offense charged, (c) that he elects and requests that the charge be disposed of and the fine or penalty fixed by the court, (d) of any explanation that he desires to make concerning the offense charged, and (e) that he makes all statements under penalty of perjury. Thereupon the magistrate may proceed as though the defendant

had been convicted upon a plea of guilty in open court, provided however, that any imposition of fine or penalty hereunder shall be deemed tentative until such fine or penalty shall have been paid and discharged in full. If upon receipt of the aforesaid statement the magistrate shall deny the same, he shall thereupon notify the defendant of this fact, and that he is required to appear before the said magistrate at a stated time and place to answer the charge which shall thereafter be disposed of pursuant to the applicable provisions of law.

4. Any person who shall violate any other provision of this article or rules and regulations promulgated pursuant thereto shall be subject to the penalty provisions of sections thirty-nine and forty of this chapter, but not section forty-one of this chapter. Such violations shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(a) failure of any owner of record to notify the commissioner of any change of ownership or address as required by section one hundred thirteen of this article;

(b) failure of any person to perform any other duty or carry out any other requirement imposed pursuant to the provisions of this article or the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant thereto. Each day that failure continues shall constitute a separate violation.

5. For the purpose of participating in the "animal population control program" established under section one hundred seventeen-a of this article, it shall be a violation punishable as provided in subdivision six of this section, for:

(a) any person to falsify proof of adoption from a pound, shelter, duly incorporated society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, humane society or dog or cat protective association or to falsify proof of participation in any of the programs enumerated in paragraph (b) of subdivision two of section one hundred seventeen-a of this article;

(b) any person to furnish any licensed veterinarian of this state with inaccurate information concerning his or her residency or the ownership of an animal or such person's authority to submit an animal for a spaying or neutering procedure pursuant to section one hundred seventeen-a of this article or to knowingly furnish the department or any licensed veterinarian of this state with inaccurate information concerning his or her participation in any of the programs enumerated in paragraph (b) of subdivision two of section one hundred seventeen-a of this article;

(c) any licensed veterinarian to furnish the commissioner with false information concerning an animal sterilization fee schedule or an animal sterilization certificate submitted pursuant to subdivision four of section one hundred seventeen-a of this article.

6. Any person or veterinarian who violates the provisions of subdivision five of this section or any rule or regulation promulgated by the commissioner to carry out the provisions of section one hundred seventeen-a of this article shall be subject to a fine of not more than two hundred fifty dollars where prosecuted pursuant to the penal law, or where prosecuted as an action to recover a civil penalty of not more than two hundred fifty dollars.

7. Any person who intentionally refuses, withholds, or denies a person, because they are accompanied by an on-duty police work dog, working search, war, or detection dog as defined in section one hundred eight of this article, any accommodations, facilities, or privileges thereof shall be subject to a civil penalty of

up to two hundred dollars for the first violation and up to four hundred dollars for each subsequent violation.

§ 120. Disposition of fines. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, all moneys collected as fines or penalties by any municipality as a result of any prosecution for violations of the provisions of this article or any local law or ordinance and all bail forfeitures by persons charged with such violations shall be the property of the municipality and shall be paid to the financial officer of such municipality. Such moneys shall be used only for controlling dogs and enforcing this article and any rule, regulation, or local law or ordinance adopted pursuant thereto, including subsidizing the spaying or neutering of dogs and any facility as authorized under section one hundred seventeen of this article used therefor, and subsidizing public humane education programs in responsible dog ownership.

§ 121. Dangerous dogs. 1. Any person who witnesses an attack or threatened attack, or in the case of a minor, an adult acting on behalf of such minor, may make a complaint of an attack or threatened attack upon a person, companion animal, farm animal as defined in subdivision twenty-four of section one hundred eight of this article, or a domestic animal as defined in subdivision seven of section one hundred eight of this article to a dog control officer or police officer of the appropriate municipality. Such officer shall immediately inform the complainant of his right to commence a proceeding as provided in subdivision two of this section and, if there is reason to believe the dog is a dangerous dog, the officer shall forthwith commence such proceeding himself.

2. Any person who witnesses an attack or threatened attack, or in the case of a minor, an adult acting on behalf of such minor, may, and any dog control officer or police officer as provided in subdivision one of this section shall, make a complaint under oath or affirmation to any municipal judge or justice of such attack or threatened attack. Thereupon, the judge or justice shall immediately determine if there is probable cause to believe the dog is a dangerous dog and, if so, shall issue an order to any dog control officer, peace officer, acting pursuant to his special duties, or police officer directing such officer to immediately seize such dog and hold the same pending judicial determination as provided in this section. Whether or not the judge or justice finds there is probable cause for such seizure, he shall, within five days and upon written notice of not less than two days to the owner of the dog, hold a hearing on the complaint. The petitioner shall have the burden at such hearing to prove the dog is a "dangerous dog" by clear and convincing evidence. If satisfied that the dog is a dangerous dog, the judge or justice shall then order neutering or spaying of the dog, microchipping of the dog and one or more of the following as deemed appropriate under the circumstances and as deemed necessary for the protection of the public:

(a) evaluation of the dog by a certified applied behaviorist, a board certified veterinary behaviorist, or another recognized expert in the field and completion of training or other treatment as deemed appropriate by such expert. The owner of the dog shall be responsible for all costs associated with evaluations and training ordered under this section;

(b) secure, humane confinement of the dog for a period of time and in a manner deemed appropriate by the court but in all instances in a manner designed to: (1) prevent escape of the dog, (2) protect the public from unauthorized contact with the dog, and (3) to protect the dog from the elements pursuant to section three hundred fifty-three-b of this chapter. Such confinement shall not include lengthy periods of tying or chaining;

(c) restraint of the dog on a leash by an adult of at least twenty-one years of age whenever the dog is on public premises;

(d) muzzling the dog whenever it is on public premises in a manner that will prevent it from biting any person or animal, but that shall not injure the dog or interfere with its vision or respiration; or

(e) maintenance of a liability insurance policy in an amount determined by the court, but in no event in excess of one hundred thousand dollars for personal injury or death resulting from an attack by such dangerous dog.

3. Upon a finding that a dog is dangerous, the judge or justice may order humane euthanasia or permanent confinement of the dog if one of the following aggravating circumstances is established at the judicial hearing held pursuant to subdivision two of this section:

(a) the dog, without justification, attacked a person causing serious physical injury or death; or

(b) the dog has a known vicious propensity as evidenced by a previous unjustified attack on a person, which caused serious physical injury or death; or

(c) the dog, without justification, caused serious physical injury or death to a companion animal, farm animal or domestic animal, and has, in the past two years, caused unjustified physical injury or death to a companion or farm animal as evidenced by a "dangerous dog" finding pursuant to the provisions of this section. An order of humane euthanasia shall not be carried out until expiration of the thirty day period provided for in subdivision five of this section for filing a notice of appeal, unless the owner of the dog has indicated to the judge in writing, his or her intention to waive his or her right to appeal. Upon filing of a notice of appeal, the order shall be automatically stayed pending the outcome of the appeal.

4. A dog shall not be declared dangerous if the court determines the conduct of the dog (a) was justified because the threat, injury or damage was sustained by a person who at the time was committing a crime or offense upon the owner or custodian of the dog or upon the property of the owner or custodian of the dog; (b) was justified because the injured, threatened or killed person was tormenting, abusing, assaulting or physically threatening the dog or its offspring, or has in the past tormented, abused, assaulted or physically threatened the dog or its offspring; (c) was justified because the dog was responding to pain or injury, or was protecting itself, its owner, custodian, or a member of its household, its kennels or its offspring; or was justified because the injured, threatened or killed companion animal, farm animal or domestic animal was attacking or threatening to attack the dog or its offspring. Testimony of a certified applied behaviorist, a board certified veterinary behaviorist, or another recognized expert shall be relevant to the court's determination as to whether the dog's behavior was justified pursuant to the provisions of this subdivision.

5. (a) The owner of a dog found to be a "dangerous dog" pursuant to this section may appeal such determination, and/or the court's order concerning disposition of the dog to the court having jurisdiction to hear civil appeals in the county where the "dangerous dog" finding was made. The owner shall commence such appeal by filing a notice of appeal with the appropriate court within thirty days of the final order pursuant to this section. Court rules governing civil appeals in the appropriate jurisdiction shall govern the appeal of a determination under this section.

(b) Upon filing a notice of appeal from an order of humane euthanasia pursuant to this section, such order shall be automatically stayed pending final determination of any appeal. In all other circumstances, the owner of the dog may make application to the court to issue a stay of disposition pending determination of the appeal.

6. The owner of a dog who, through any act or omission, negligently permits his or her dog to bite a person, service dog, guide dog or hearing dog causing physical injury shall be subject to a civil penalty not to exceed four hundred dollars in addition to any other applicable penalties.

7. The owner of a dog who, through any act or omission, negligently permits his or her dog to bite a person causing serious physical injury shall be subject to a civil penalty not to exceed one thousand five hundred dollars in addition to any other applicable penalties. Any such penalty may be reduced by any amount which is paid as restitution by the owner of the dog to the person or persons suffering serious physical injury as compensation for unreimbursed medical expenses, lost earnings and other damages resulting from such injury.

8. The owner of a dog who, through any act or omission, negligently permits his or her dog, which had previously been determined to be dangerous pursuant to this article, to bite a person causing serious physical injury, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than three thousand dollars, or by a period of imprisonment not to exceed ninety days, or by both such fine and imprisonment in addition to any other applicable penalties. Any such fine may be reduced by any amount which is paid as restitution by the owner of the dog to the person or persons suffering serious physical injury as compensation for unreimbursed medical expenses, lost earnings and other damages resulting from such injury.

9. If any dog, which had previously been determined by a judge or justice to be a dangerous dog, as defined in section one hundred eight of this article, shall without justification kill or cause the death of any person who is peaceably conducting himself or herself in any place where he or she may lawfully be, regardless of whether such dog escapes without fault of the owner, the owner shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor in addition to any other penalties.

10. The owner or lawful custodian of a dangerous dog shall, except in the circumstances enumerated in subdivisions four and eleven of this section, be strictly liable for medical costs resulting from injury caused by such dog to a person, companion animal, farm animal or domestic animal.

11. The owner shall not be liable pursuant to subdivision six, seven, eight, nine or ten of this section if the dog was coming to the aid or defense of a person during the commission or attempted commission of a murder, robbery, burglary, arson, rape in the first degree as defined in subdivision one or two of section 130.35 of the penal law, criminal sexual act in the first degree as defined in subdivision one or two of

section 130.50 of the penal law or kidnapping within the dwelling or upon the real property of the owner of the dog and the dog injured or killed the person committing such criminal activity.

12. Nothing contained in this section shall limit or abrogate any claim or cause of action any person who is injured by a dog with a vicious disposition or a vicious propensity may have under common law or by statute. The provisions of this section shall be in addition to such common law and statutory remedies.

13. Nothing contained in this section shall restrict the rights and powers derived from the provisions of title four of article twenty-one of the public health law relating to rabies and any rule and regulation adopted pursuant thereto.

14. Persons owning, possessing or harboring dangerous dogs shall report the presence of such dangerous dogs pursuant to section two hundred nine-cc of the general municipal law.

§ 121-a. Exemption from civil liability. 1. If any dog shall, without justification, attack a person, or behaves in a manner which a reasonable person would believe poses a serious and unjustified imminent threat of serious physical injury to a person, when such person is peaceably conducting himself in a place where he may lawfully be, such person or any other person witnessing the attack or threatened attack may destroy such dog while so attacking, and no liability in damages or otherwise shall be incurred on account of such destruction.

2. If any dog shall, without justification, attack a companion animal, farm animal or domestic animal, or shall behave in a manner which a reasonable person would believe poses a serious and unjustified imminent threat of serious physical injury or death to a companion animal, farm animal or domestic animal, where such animal is in any place where it may lawfully be, the owner or caretaker of such animal, or any other person witnessing the attack, may destroy such dog, and no liability in damages or otherwise shall be incurred on account of such destruction.

§ 121-b. Offenses against service animals and handlers.

1. Definitions. For purposes of this section:

(a) "Service animal" shall mean any animal that has been partnered with a person who has a disability and has been trained or is being trained, by a qualified person, to aid or guide a person with a disability.

(b) "Disability" shall have the same meaning as provided in section two hundred ninety-two of the executive law.

(c) "Handler" shall mean a disabled person using a service animal.

(d) "Formal training program" or "certified trainer" shall mean an institution, group or individual who has documentation and community recognition as a provider of service animals.

2. Any person who owns an animal or possesses control of such animal and who, through any act or omission, recklessly permits his or her animal to interfere with the proper working of a service animal, exposing the handler and service animal to danger or resulting in injury or death of the service animal shall be subject to a civil penalty not to exceed one thousand dollars in addition to any other applicable penalties.

3. Any person who owns an animal or possesses control of such animal and who, through any act or omission, recklessly permits his or her animal to interfere with the proper working of a service animal, exposing the handler and service animal to danger or resulting in injury or death of the service animal, where the animal causing such injury has previously been determined to be dangerous pursuant to this article, shall be guilty of a violation punishable by a fine of not more than two thousand dollars, or by a period of imprisonment not to exceed fifteen days, or by both such fine and imprisonment in addition to any other applicable penalties.

4. The handler of the service animal incapacitated, injured or killed shall have the right to pursue any and all civil remedies available to recover damages for medical and veterinary expenses, rehabilitation or replacement of the service animal, and lost wages, transportation expenses or other expenses directly related to the temporary or permanent loss of the service animal.

§ 122. Protection of deer. 1. Whenever the governing body of any municipality shall determine that the deer population in the municipality or part thereof is suffering severe depredation due to dogs attacking, chasing or worrying deer, such governing body may by order require that all dogs in such municipality or part thereof shall be securely confined during the period of time designated in the order or, if no time is designated, until the order is revoked.

2. Notice of such order shall be given by publication in a newspaper or newspapers of general circulation in said municipality which shall be designated by such governing body and by filing a copy of the order in the office of each clerk in the area affected by such order. Such order shall be in full force and effect at the expiration of twenty-four hours following publication of such notice.

3. If any dog is not confined as required by such order, any dog control officer, peace officer, acting pursuant to his special duties, or police officer shall seize such dog. Any dog so seized shall be subject to the provisions of section one hundred eighteen of this article. A dog shall not be deemed to be in violation of such order if accompanied by and under the full control of the owner.

4. If any dog, which is not confined as required by such order, shall attack, chase or worry any deer, any dog control officer, peace officer, acting pursuant to his special duties, or police officer upon witnessing the same, shall destroy, or seize and destroy, such dog, and no liability in damages or otherwise shall be incurred on account of such destruction.

5. If any dog shall kill or cripple any deer, the owner shall be subject to a civil penalty in the amount of one hundred dollars for the first deer killed or crippled by the dog or by the pack of dogs, if any, of which the dog was a member, and in the amount of one hundred fifty dollars for each additional deer killed or crippled, to be recovered in an action brought by the commissioner of environmental conservation on behalf of the people of the state of New York.

6. This section and any order issued pursuant thereto shall not apply to dogs in special dog training areas or shooting preserves enclosed and licensed pursuant to the provisions of the environmental conservation law, while such dogs are under the control of the owner or trainer.

§ 123. Night quarantine. 1. The governing body of any municipality may at any time by order require that all dogs in such municipality shall be securely confined between sunset and one hour after sunrise during the period of time designated in the order, or, if no time is so designated, until the order is revoked.

2. Notice of such order shall be given by publication in a newspaper or newspapers of general circulation in said municipality which shall be designated by such governing body and by filing a copy of the order in the office of each clerk in the area affected by such order.

3. Any dog control officer, peace officer, acting pursuant to his special duties, or police officer shall destroy or seize any dog not confined as required by such order, and no liability in damages or otherwise shall be incurred on account of such destruction or seizure. Any dog so seized shall be subject to the provisions of section one hundred eighteen of this article. A dog shall not be deemed to be in violation of such order if accompanied by and under the full control of the owner.

§ 124. Local laws or ordinances. 1. Any municipality may enact a local law or ordinance upon the keeping or running at large of dogs and the seizure thereof, provided no municipality shall vary, modify, enlarge or restrict the provisions of this article relating to identification, licensing, rabies vaccination and euthanization.

2. Such local law or ordinance may:

(a) impose penalties for violation of such restrictions to be recovered in a civil action in the name of such municipality;

(b) provide for enforcement by fine or imprisonment for any such violation; or

(c) provide for the issuance pursuant to the criminal procedure law of an appearance ticket, or in lieu thereof, a uniform appearance ticket, or in lieu thereof, a uniform appearance ticket and simplified information, as provided in section one hundred fourteen of this article, by any dog control officer, peace officer, acting pursuant to his special duties, or police officer, who is authorized by any municipality to assist in the enforcement of this article for any such violation.

§ 125. Indemnification for dog damage. 1. Each county shall be liable for damage done within the county by dogs to domestic animals, including such veterinary fees and costs as may arise from such damage or injury. Indemnification therefor shall be made in the manner provided by this section. Such indemnification shall not exceed the actual damage. In no event shall indemnification exceed:

(a) eight hundred dollars for each animal, in the case of horses or cattle;

(b) fifteen dollars for each domesticated fowl, duck, goose, swan, turkey, pheasant or other bird which is raised in confinement under license from the state department of environmental conservation before release from captivity, and confined domestic hare or rabbit;

(c) one hundred dollars for any other domestic animal as defined in this article;

(d) twelve hundred dollars for each animal, in the case of registered purebred dairy and beef cattle or of purebred dairy and beef cattle eligible for registration and less than one year of age;

(e) two hundred fifty dollars for each animal, in the case of each registered purebred sheep, goat or swine, or of purebred sheep, goat or swine eligible for registration and less than one year of age;

(f) three hundred fifty dollars for each fallow deer, red deer, sika deer, whitetail deer which is raised under license from the department of environmental conservation or each llama.

2. No indemnification shall be paid for fowl of the varieties commonly used for cock fights.

3. The name of the owner of the dog causing the damage, if known, shall be reported to the financial officer of the county and such owner shall be liable to the county in reimbursement for any amounts paid by the county for such indemnification, in an action to be brought in the name of the county by the financial officer of the county or the county dog control officer in a court of competent jurisdiction.

4. The owner of a domestic animal injured or killed as a result of being attacked, chased or worried by any dog shall, immediately upon the discovery of such injury or death, notify the nearest assessor of the city or town where the damage was done of the fact of such injury or death, and that the owner claims indemnity therefor and requires that the damage be determined. The assessor or any other individual designated in writing by the governing body of the city or town shall immediately inquire into the matter and shall examine the animal injured or killed and, if he deems it necessary, shall examine witnesses in relation thereto. If the assessor or designated individual is satisfied that the injuring or killing of the animal was caused by a dog, and that the owner of the animal had taken reasonable precautions to prevent the damage done, the assessor or designated individual shall determine the amount of the damage apparent at the time and make a report of the amount of damages. Provided, however, that if the amount of damage is determined by the assessor or designated individual to be more than four hundred dollars, the assessor or designated individual shall immediately give notice of the claim to all the other assessors or designated individuals, if any, of the city or town, or a majority of them, who shall, within three days, inquire into the matter and make a report in the manner provided above. The report shall be promptly filed with the financial officer of the county and the commissioner, and a copy provided to the claimant.

5. The governing body of any county may establish by local law a procedure for reviewing the decision of the assessor or designated individual. If a procedure has been established, the claimant or financial officer of the county may, within twenty days after the receipt of the report of any assessor or designated individual, if dissatisfied with the amount of the damages stated therein, request a review pursuant to the procedure established by the governing body of the county. The decision after review shall be in writing and copies thereof shall be mailed to the financial officer of the county, the claimant and the commissioner.

6. In the event that the county shall not have established a procedure for review of the decision such review shall be made by the commissioner. Upon receipt of such request, the commissioner shall cause an investigation to be made of the alleged attack upon the claimant's domestic animal, the facts surrounding such attack, and the amount of damage incurred thereby for which indemnification should be made in

accordance with the intent of this section. The claimant shall permit the commissioner or his authorized representative to enter the premises on which the attack is alleged to have been made and shall furnish to the commissioner or his representative whatever information and proof may be available to the claimant and may be deemed necessary by the commissioner or his representative to complete the investigation. Upon completion of the investigation, the commissioner shall decide whether the attack was in fact made by a dog upon a domestic animal, as defined in section one hundred eight of this article, and whether the owner had taken reasonable precautions to prevent the damage done and, if he so finds, shall either confirm or deny the determination of the assessor or designated individual, or modify it as may appear proper and adequate in view of the facts. The decision of the commissioner shall be in writing, and copies thereof shall be mailed to the financial officer of the county and the claimant.

7. After the expiration of twenty days from the filing of the assessor's or designated individual's report with the financial officer of the county, such officer shall mail to the claimant a certificate of indemnity due to the claimant, provided however, that in those counties where a review procedure has been established and a request for a review has been presented, such certificate shall be mailed to the claimant upon the filing of a copy of the decision, after review, with the county financial officer. The financial officer shall retain a copy of the certificate and shall mail a copy to the commissioner.

8. If, subsequent to the determination of damage, it develops that damage, which was not apparent at the time of determination, was caused to any domestic animal, a supplemental notice of claim for such damage shall be promptly given by the claimant upon discovery thereof to the assessor at any time within six months after the discovery of the original damage. Such notice shall set forth the facts upon which the additional claim was based. The same proceedings shall thereupon be had as upon the original claim.

9. The amount of the damage determined as hereinbefore provided shall be paid by the financial officer of the county to the claimant, upon presentation of the aforesaid certificate, from the funds received by such officer pursuant to section one hundred eleven of this article, and if such funds shall be insufficient therefor, then from such other funds as shall be raised by the county governing body, in the manner that funds are raised to pay other county charges.

§ 126. Duties and powers of commissioner. 1. The commissioner shall:

- (a) supervise the enforcement of this article;
- (b) maintain a central registry of official identification numbers;
- (c) prescribe the form of all notices, reports and other papers and documents required by this article and the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant thereto; and
- (d) prescribe the manner in which all reports required by this article and the rules or regulations promulgated thereto are to be filed and maintained, and all licenses issued or validated; and
- (e) furnish all forms and other supplies, including identification tags and preprinted license applications, necessary for the implementation and

enforcement of this article and the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant thereto; and

(f) supply, for identification purposes, names and addresses of owners of record of identified dogs immediately upon request; and

(g) furnish such information and assistance to dog control officers as he deems necessary for enforcement purposes.

2. The commissioner is hereby authorized to:

(a) promulgate, after public hearing, such rules and regulations as are necessary to supplement and give full effect to the provisions of this article; and

(b) exercise all other powers and functions as are necessary to carry out the duties and purposes set forth in this article.

**ARTICLE 25-B
ABANDONED ANIMALS**

Section 331. Abandonment of certain animals.

332. Disposition.

§ 331. Abandonment of certain animals. An animal is deemed to be abandoned when it is placed in the custody of a veterinarian, veterinary hospital, boarding kennel owner or operator, stable owner or operator, or any other person for treatment, board, or care and:

1. Having been placed in such custody for a specified period of time the animal is not removed at the end of such specified period and a notice to remove the animal within ten days thereafter has been given to the person who placed the animal in such custody, by means of registered letter mailed to the last known address of such person, or:

2. Having been placed in such custody for an unspecified period of time the animal is not removed within twenty days after notice to remove the animal has been given to the person who placed the animal in such custody, by means of a registered letter mailed to the last known address of such person.

3. The giving of notice as prescribed in this section shall be deemed a waiver of any lien on the animal for the treatment, board or care of the animal but shall not relieve the owner of the animal removed of his contractual liability for such treatment, board or care furnished.

*** § 332. Disposition.** Any person having in his care, custody, or control any abandoned animal, as defined in section three hundred thirty-one of this chapter, may deliver such animal to any humane society or society for the prevention of cruelty to animals having facilities for the care and eventual disposition of such animals, or, in the case of dogs, cats and other small animals, to any pound maintained by or under contract or agreement with any county, city, town, or village within which such animal was abandoned. The person with whom the animal was abandoned shall, however, on the day of divesting himself of possession thereof, notify the person who had placed such animal in his custody of the name and address of the animal society or pound to which the animal has been delivered, such notice to be by registered letter mailed to the last known address of the person intended to be so notified. If an animal is not claimed by its owner within five days after being so delivered to such humane society or society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, or pound, such animal may at any time thereafter be placed for adoption in a suitable home or euthanized. In no event, however, shall the use of a decompression chamber or decompression device of any kind be used for the purpose of destroying or disposing of such animal.

* NB Effective until October 9, 2010

*** § 332. Disposition.** Any person having in his care, custody, or control any abandoned animal, as defined in section three hundred thirty-one of this article, may deliver such animal to any duly incorporated society for the prevention of

cruelty to animals having facilities for the care and eventual disposition of such animals, or, in the case of dogs, cats and other small animals, to any pound maintained by or under contract or agreement with any county, city, town, or village within which such animal was abandoned. The person with whom the animal was abandoned shall, however, on the day of divesting himself of possession thereof, notify the person who had placed such animal in his custody of the name and address of the animal society or pound to which the animal has been delivered, such notice to be by registered letter mailed to the last known address of the person intended to be so notified. If an animal is not claimed by its owner within five days after being so delivered to such duly incorporated society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, or pound, such animal may at any time thereafter be placed for adoption in a suitable home or euthanized in accordance with the provisions of section three hundred seventy-four of this chapter. In no event, however, shall the use of a decompression chamber or decompression device of any kind be used for the purpose of destroying or disposing of such animal.

* NB Effective October 9, 2010

**PARTS 77, 78 & 79 OF TITLE 1
THE OFFICIAL COMPILATION OF CODES, RULES &
REGULATIONS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK**

**Part 77
Standards for the Care of Seized Dogs**

Section 77.1	Definitions
Section 77.2	Standards for the care of seized dogs
Section 77.3	Euthanasia and disposal
Section 77.4	Access and inspection
Section 77.5	Dog dealer prohibited from appointment as dog control officer

Section 77.1 Definitions.

For the purpose of this Part, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(a) Properly sheltered means the provision of shelter suitable to the breed and age of the dog. Said shelter shall be structurally sound, clean, and sufficient to protect the dog from detriment to its well-being, and shall provide adequate space to allow the dog to move about in a natural manner, light, air and temperature sufficient to protect the animal.

(b) Properly fed means the provision, at suitable intervals, of wholesome food appropriate for the breed and age of the dog and sufficient to maintain a reasonable level of nutrition in each dog. Such food shall be served in a receptacle, dish or container that has been physically cleaned so that agents injurious to the health of the dog have been removed and destroyed to a practical minimum.

(c) Properly watered means the provision of constant access to a supply of clean, fresh, potable water in a sanitary manner, or the provision of such access at intervals suitable for the breed and age of the dog.

Section 77.2 Standards for the care of seized dogs.

Every dog seized pursuant to article 7 of the Agriculture and Markets Law, or any local law, ordinance, or order adopted or issued pursuant thereto, shall be properly cared for, sheltered, fed and watered for the redemption period provided by said article or for the period established by local law or ordinance as authorized by said article.

Section 77.3 Euthanasia and disposal.

(a) Humane methods of euthanasia shall be those designated as acceptable (approved) by the American Veterinary Medical Association.

(b) Disposal of such euthanized animals shall be consistent with laws and regulations of the New York State Departments of Environmental Conservation and Health.

Section 77.4 Access and inspection.

In order to supervise the enforcement of the provisions of article 7 of the Agriculture and Markets Law and any rules or regulations adopted pursuant thereto, the commissioner or his duly authorized agents may, at any reasonable time, including but not limited to normal business hours, enter and inspect any municipal shelter or pound or any establishment under contract with a municipality to provide pound or shelter services.

Section 77.5 Dog dealer prohibited from appointment as dog control officer.

A dog dealer shall neither be appointed as a dog control officer by a municipality, nor provide dog control officer services pursuant to a contract between a municipality and an incorporated humane society or similar incorporated dog protective association. For the purposes of this section, the term dog dealer shall mean any person who buys, sells, leases, or otherwise deals in dogs as a business enterprise.

**Part 78
Records**

Section 78.1	Inspection of records.
Section 78.2	Notification of commissioner: dog control officer and pound or shelter services.
Section 78.3	Notification of commissioner: local license fee.
Section 78.4	Notification of commissioner: lost or stolen dog.
Section 78.5	Filing of dog quarantine order.
Section 78.6	Notification of commissioner: dangerous dog finding.
Section 78.7	Establishment of a common renewal date.
Section 78.8	Application for authorization of the manager of a pound or shelter to issue dog licenses.
Section 78.9	Authorization of the manager of a pound or shelter to issue dog licenses.
Section 78.10	Performance of duty of the authorized manager of a pound or shelter.

Section 78.1 Inspection of records.

Any records required to be maintained by any municipality pursuant to the provisions of article 7 of the Agriculture and Markets Law, or any rules or regulations adopted pursuant thereto, shall be open to inspection by the commissioner or his duly authorized agents at any reasonable time, including but not limited to normal business hours.

Section 78.2 Notification of commissioner: dog control officer and pound or shelter services.

On or before March 1, 1980, the governing body of each municipality required to provide dog control officer and pound or shelter services, pursuant to Agriculture and Markets Law, sections 114 and 115, shall notify the commissioner in writing of the name and address of the person or persons providing the municipality with such services. Such notification shall specify whether the municipality has appointed a dog control officer or officers and established a pound or shelter, contracted for such services with another municipality, duly incorporated humane society or similar dog protective association, or has, jointly with one or more other municipalities, appointed a dog control officer or officers and established a pound of shelter. Said governing body shall report any change in the personnel or method used to provide the required services within 30 days of said change.

Section 78.3 Notification of commissioner: local license fee.

Any city, town or licensing village may, by local law or ordinance, set local license fees as provided for by article 7 of the Agriculture and Markets Law. Upon the filing of a written request by a municipality, the department shall print the amount of said local license fee on the license renewal forms mailed to the dog owners in that municipality. The local license fee shall be printed on the license renewal forms within 30 days of the receipt of said request, or on the effective date of the local law or ordinance, whichever is longer. If the department does not receive a written request from a municipality, the license renewal forms sent to the dog owners in that municipality will not bear a local license fee and it shall be the responsibility of the municipality to notify dog owners of local fees.

Section 78.4 Notification of commissioner: lost or stolen dog.

(a) Any owner of record filing a written report of a lost or stolen dog, pursuant to Agriculture and Markets Law, section 113(2), shall notify the commissioner of the return of said dog within 10 days of such event.

(b) The identification number of a dog reported lost or stolen shall remain on file with the department for a minimum of one license renewal period. Upon the receipt of a license renewal form for such a dog, the owner of record shall notify the department as to whether the dog remains lost or stolen. Upon receipt of information that the dog remains lost or stolen, the commissioner shall remove the identification number from the active file.

Section 78.5 Filing of dog quarantine order.

Any municipality issuing a night quarantine or deer depredation order pursuant to Agriculture and Markets Law, sections 122 and 123 shall, upon the issuance of said order, file a certified copy of the order with the commissioner.

Section 78.6 Notification of commissioner: dangerous dog finding.

Upon a finding by a judge or justice that a dog is a dangerous dog pursuant to Agriculture and Markets Law section 121, the judge or justice shall notify the commissioner of such finding and whether the dog was ordered to be securely confined or destroyed. Upon receipt of such notification, the commissioner shall make and maintain a record of such finding. Said record shall be maintained for the life of the dog.

Section 78.7 Establishment of a common renewal date.

Any municipality authorized to issue licenses pursuant to article 7 of the Agriculture and Markets Law, which has a population not exceeding 2,500, may request that the commissioner establish a common renewal date for such licenses. Upon the filing with and approval by the department of a certified copy of a resolution of the governing body of the municipality authorizing such request, together with a completed application form, the commissioner shall set a month and day upon which all such license renewals shall annually become due.

Section 78.8 Application for authorization of the manager of a pound or shelter to issue dog licenses.

The governing body of a shelter or pound established, maintained or contracted for, pursuant to section 115 of the Agriculture and Markets Law may, by filing a certified copy of a resolution of said governing body authorizing such application together with a completed application form, apply to the commissioner for authorization of the manager of said shelter or pound to accept applications for licenses for dogs being redeemed or adopted from said shelter or pound. The granting, denial or termination of such authorization shall be within the discretion of the commissioner.

Section 78.9 Authorization of the manager of a pound or shelter to issue dog licenses.

(a) The commissioner may authorize the issuance of dog licenses by the manager of a pound or shelter established, maintained, or contracted for, pursuant to section 115 of the Agriculture and Markets Law. Such manager must be 18 years of age or older. In order to receive and retain such authorization, a manager of a pound or shelter must file with the department and thereafter maintain a surety bond in an amount to be determined by the department, which shall be related to the volume of annual license sales by said manager and shall be conditioned upon the manager faithfully discharging the duties of an authorized manager of a pound or shelter pursuant to article 7 of the Agriculture and Markets Law and the regulations promulgated pursuant thereto, and well and truly keeping, promptly paying over and promptly accounting for all moneys or property, including dog license fees and validation numbers, received in said capacity. Said bond shall indemnify the State and the licensing municipality and county within which the pound or shelter is located and shall provide that in the case of default, the parties executing such bond shall pay all damages, costs and expenses resulting from such default, not exceeding the sum specified in such bond. Said bond shall further provide that the surety shall notify the department, in writing, 90 days prior to the cancellation, expiration or other termination of such bond. In lieu of the bond required herein an authorized manager who, as a municipal officer or employee, is covered by an existing bond or undertaking, may file a copy of such bond or undertaking together with an acknowledgment from the issuer that the coverage of the existing bond or

undertaking extends to the municipal employee's faithful discharge of the duties of an authorized manager of a pound or shelter pursuant to article 7 of the Agriculture and Markets Law and the regulations promulgated pursuant thereto and to the prompt payment and accounting for all moneys or property, including dog license fees and validation numbers, received by the manager in said capacity.

(b) The authorization of a manager of a pound or shelter shall be valid until terminated by the commissioner, or until the authorized manager is no longer employed by the shelter or pound, or the bond filed by said manager is cancelled, expires or otherwise terminates. The governing body of the shelter or pound and the manager shall report such a cessation of employment or termination of a bond to the department within one business day of such occurrence and shall immediately confirm such report in writing. In the event that the authorization of a manager is terminated, or a pound or shelter ceases to employ a manager authorized to issue licenses or the bond filed by a manager is cancelled, expires or otherwise terminates, the manager shall, within two business days of such occurrence return to the department, either personally or by certified mail, all licensing materials, including unissued validation numbers, together with a complete accounting for all licenses sold and all license fees collected.

Section 78.10 Performance of duty of the authorized manager of a pound or shelter.

(a) Without the prior written approval of the department, an authorized manager of a pound or shelter shall not remove from the pound or shelter any licensing material, including validation numbers, consigned thereto.

(b) An authorized manager of a pound or shelter shall provide license issuing services in a timely, efficient and businesslike manner.

(c) An authorized manager of a pound or shelter shall issue licenses only for dogs being redeemed or adopted from said shelter.

(d) An authorized manager of a pound or shelter shall immediately report to local law enforcement authorities the theft from the pound or shelter of licensing material, including validation numbers and fees from licenses which have been sold.

(e) An authorized manager of a pound or shelter shall submit all required records, reports and remittances in a timely manner and shall draft and sign them properly.

(f) An authorized manager of a pound or shelter shall not bring direct or indirect pressure on any person adopting or redeeming a dog to purchase the required license, at the pound or shelter rather than from another authorized licensing agent, such as a municipal clerk.

(g) An authorized manager of a pound or shelter shall collect only those fees for the issuance of a dog license authorized by article 7 of the Agriculture and Markets Law, which fees shall be remitted and accounted for as provided therein.

(h) An authorized manager of a pound or shelter shall allow authorized employees of the department or the Office of the State Comptroller to inspect their license issuing operations and records at any reasonable time.

**Part 79
Accounting**

- Section 79.1 Accounting.
- Section 79.2 Disposition of fines, penalties and bail forfeitures.

Section 79.1 Accounting.

The accounting for all money collected and distributed pursuant to the provisions of article 7 of the Agriculture and Markets Law or any local law or ordinance enacted pursuant thereto shall be in accordance with the accounting system prescribed by the State Comptroller.

Section 79.2 Disposition of fines, penalties and bail forfeitures.

(a) All money collected by any town or village court as a fine, penalty or bail forfeiture, in actions brought pursuant to the provisions of article 7 of the Agriculture and Markets Law or any local law or ordinance enacted pursuant thereto, shall be the property of the municipality in which said money is collected, but it shall first be reported and remitted to the State Comptroller in the same manner as other fines, penalties and bail forfeitures.

(b) The State Comptroller shall return all money remitted pursuant to this Part to the town or village remitting it and said money shall be identified as "fines and penalties-- dog cases."

CHAPTER 115 OF THE LAWS OF 1894

Section 1 - Every person who owns or harbors one or more dogs within the corporate limits of any city having a population of over two million, shall procure a yearly license and pay the sum of seven dollars and forty cents, plus a tag fee of one dollar, for each dog, as hereinafter provided; and in applying for such license, or any renewal under section two hereof, the owner shall state in writing the name, sex, breed, age, color and marking of the dog, for which the license is to be procured. In the case of a spayed or neutered dog, every application shall also be accompanied by a certificate signed by a licensed veterinarian or an affidavit signed by the owner, showing that the dog has been spayed or neutered. In lieu of the spay or neuter certificate or affidavit an owner may present a statement certified by a licensed veterinarian stating that he has examined the dog and found that because of old age or other reason, the life of the dog would be endangered by spaying or neutering.

Section 3-a - In addition to the fee charged pursuant to sections one and two of this chapter, any person applying for a dog license shall pay a fee of three dollars for any dog six months of age or older which has not been spayed or neutered unless an owner presents with the license application a statement certified by a licensed veterinarian stating that he has examined the dog and found that because of old age or other reasons, the life of the dog would be endangered by spaying or neutering. All fees collected pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be forwarded to the state comptroller for deposit in the animal population control fund created pursuant to section 97-xx of the state finance law and section 117-a of the agriculture and markets law.

Section 9 - Any person or persons, who shall hinder or molest or interfere with any officer or agent of said society in the performance of any duty enjoined by this act, or who shall use a license tag on a dog for which it was not issued, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor. Any person who owns or harbors a dog without complying with the provisions of this act shall be deemed guilty of disorderly conduct, and upon conviction thereof before any magistrate shall be fined for such offense any sum not exceeding ten dollars, and in default of payment of such fine may be committed to prison by such magistrate until the same be paid, but such imprisonment shall not exceed ten days. Any person who for the purpose of participating in the "animal population control program" shall falsify proof of adoption from a pound, shelter, duly incorporated society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, humane society or dog or cat protective association or who shall furnish any licensed veterinarian of this state with inaccurate information concerning his or her residency or the ownership of an animal or such person's authority to submit an animal for a spaying or neutering procedure pursuant to section 117-a of the agriculture and markets law and any veterinarian who shall furnish the commissioner with false information concerning an animal sterilization fee schedule or an animal sterilization certificate submitted pursuant to subdivision 4 of section 117-a of the agriculture and markets law shall be guilty of a violation punishable by a fine of not more than two hundred fifty dollars where prosecuted pursuant to the penal law, or where prosecuted as an action to recover a civil penalty of not more than two hundred fifty dollars.

STATE FINANCE LAW

§97-rr. Pet dealer licensing fund. 1. There is hereby established in the joint custody of the state comptroller and the commissioner of taxation and finance, a fund to be known as the "pet dealer licensing fund".

2. Such fund shall consist of all monies collected pursuant to article twenty-six-A of the agriculture and markets law, except for monies collected pursuant to subdivision five of section four hundred three of such article, and all other monies credited or transferred thereto from any other fund or source pursuant to law.

3. Monies of the fund shall be expended solely for the purposes of carrying out the provisions of article thirty-five-D of the general business law and article twenty-six-A of the agriculture and markets law. Monies shall be paid out of the fund on the audit and warrant of the state comptroller on vouchers approved by the commissioner of agriculture and markets. Any interest received by the comptroller on monies on deposit in the pet dealer licensing fund shall be retained in and become part of such fund.

§97-xx. Animal population control fund. 1. There is hereby established in the joint custody of the state comptroller and the commissioner of taxation and finance a fund to be known as the "animal population control fund".

2. Such fund shall consist of all moneys collected pursuant to paragraph c of subdivision four of section one hundred ten of the agriculture and markets law, subdivision five of section one hundred seventeen-a of the agriculture and markets law, and section three-a of chapter one hundred fifteen of the laws of eighteen hundred ninety-four, and all other moneys credited or transferred thereto from any other fund or source pursuant to law.

3. Moneys of the fund shall be expended for the purposes of carrying out the provisions of section one hundred seventeen-a of the agriculture and markets law. Moneys shall be paid out of the fund on the audit and warrant of the state comptroller on vouchers approved by the commissioner of agriculture and markets. Any interest received by the comptroller on moneys on deposit in the animal population control fund shall be retained in and become part of such fund.