

**PINELLAS COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. 15 - \_\_\_\_\_**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF PINELLAS AMENDING CHAPTER 14 OF THE PINELLAS COUNTY CODE (“CODE”) RELATING TO ANIMALS; ADDING A NEW SECTION 14-39 TO THE CODE RELATING TO BITE INCIDENTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR AREA EMBRACED; PROVIDING FOR FILING, PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**BE IT ORDAINED** BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA, in meeting duly assembled this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015, that:

**Section 1.** Chapter 14 of the Pinellas County Code is hereby amended by adding Section 14-39 to read as follows:

**~~Secs. 14-39—14-45.~~ Reserved. Bite Incidents.**

It shall be a violation of this code, punishable by a minimum fine of \$300, for an owner to fail to prevent their domestic animal (“owner’s animal”) from severely injuring or killing another domestic animal (“victim animal”) while the owner’s animal is at large, provided that the victim animal did not instigate the incident and was not in violation of any provision of this code at the time of the incident.

**Secs. 14-40 – 14-45. – Reserved.**

**Section 2. Severability.**

In the event that any court having jurisdiction over any case arising under this section determines that any subsection or other provision of this section is invalid for any reason, the remaining subsections or other provisions shall continue to be in full force and effect, and towards that end the Board of County Commissioners declares this section and its subsections and other provisions to be severable.

**Section 3. Codification.**

It is the intention of the Board of County Commissioners that the provisions of this Ordinance shall become and be made a part of the Pinellas County Code; and that the sections of this Ordinance may be renumbered or re-lettered to conform to the uniform system of the Code, and the word “ordinance” may be changed to “section”, “article”, or such other appropriate word or phrase in order to accomplish such intentions.

**Section 4. Areas Embraced.**

Pursuant to Section 2.01 of the Pinellas County Charter, this Ordinance shall be effective in the incorporated as well as unincorporated areas of the County.

**Section 5. Filing of Ordinance; Effective Date.**

Pursuant to Section 125.66(2), Florida Statutes, a certified copy of this Ordinance shall be filed with the Department of State by the Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners within ten (10) days after enactment by the Board of County Commissioners. This Ordinance shall become effective upon filing of the Ordinance with the Department of State.

APPROVED AS TO FORM

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Office of County Attorney