



# Pinellas County

## Staff Report

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File #: 16-1510A, Version: 1

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### **Subject:**

Ordinance amending Chapter 14 of the County Code relating to animals.

### **Recommended Action:**

Adopt an ordinance amending Chapter 14 of the Pinellas County Code (code) relating to animals.

### **Strategic Plan:**

Ensure Public Health, Safety, and Welfare

2.1 Provide planning, coordination, prevention, and protective services to ensure a safe and secure community

Deliver First Class Services to the Public and Our Customers

5.3 Ensure effective and efficient delivery of county services and support

### **Summary:**

The proposed changes to Chapter 14 are brought forth to address sections of the code that are in need of clarification, augmentation, or standardization with other sections within the code itself or with state statutes.

The current code is in need of clarification in regards to public nuisance barking, dangerous animal classification, definitions, and fees and charges administration. Sec. 14-64 guard dog registration will be standardized in line with other registrations required on an annual basis. The proposed changes will augment Sec. 14-29 - Pet Dealerships and Kennels; and Sec. 14-61 - Rabies Vaccinations and Licensing.

The change to the definition of a Pet Dealer as it applies to Section 14-29 will require an annual inspection and permit for any person who advertises or sells one litter of animals or more per year. After careful consideration of dialogue with Commissioners during the August 23, 2016 BCC meeting, the proposed change has been amended to give citizens with unintended litters options. Citizens with one-time litter sales may choose to have their female animal sterilized in lieu of getting a pet dealer permit and/or citation. The change to Sec. 14-61 will codify the requirement for veterinarians to submit licensure and rabies certificates to Animal Services within 30 days.

If approved, the ordinances will be in effect countywide.

### **Background Information:**

On August 23, 2016, the Board granted authority to advertise and schedule a public hearing regarding the attached proposed ordinance.

### **Fiscal Impact:**

Sec. 14-29 - Pet Dealerships and Kennels: The proposed change will increase revenue by an undetermined amount due to permitting requirements expanded to breeders who sell one litter or more annually.

Sec. 14-64 - Guard Dogs: The proposed change to an annual registration will increase revenue by \$1,800 annually. This change affects 18 guard dogs with an annual registration fee of \$100.

All other sections have no fiscal impact.

**Staff Member Responsible:**

Doug Brightwell, Director, Animal Services

**Partners:**

License Resellers  
Community Veterinarians  
SPCA Tampa Bay  
Humane Society of Pinellas  
Pet Pal  
MEOW Now

**Attachments:**

Ordinance Updates Redline Version  
Ordinance Updates Clean Copy  
Animal Ordinance Advertisement  
Ordinance Support Email from SPCA Tampa Bay  
Ordinance Support Email from Humane Society of Pinellas  
Ordinance Support Email from MEOW Now Board Member  
Ordinance Support Email from MEOW Now Board President