

Revised  
1/29/10

ORDINANCE NO.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF RANCHO VIEJO, TEXAS ESTABLISHING THE REGISTRATION AND LICENSING OF CATS, SETTING UP FEES, ESTABLISHING HOUSING FEES, ESTABLISHING FINES FOR VIOLATION, STRAY CAT PROCEDURES, PROVIDING FOR A PENALTY, PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND PUBLICATION IN CAPTION FORM

WHEREAS, for the health, safety and welfare of the residents of Rancho Viejo, dog and/or cat regulations are deemed to be in the best interest of the Town of Rancho Viejo.

Section 1. The owner of any dog or cat shall license and register such owner's dogs and cats yearly. Dog and cat licenses shall be issued by the Town Office upon payment of a yearly license fee of five (\$5.00) dollars for each dog and/or cat. At the time the application is made for such license and upon forms provided for such purposes the owner shall state the owner's name, address and telephone number, and the name, breed, color and sex of each dog and/or cat. Proof of rabies vaccination by a licensed veterinarian must be presented annually.

Every owner shall be required to provide each dog and/or cat with a collar and identification tag or an "RFID" chip that shall be always worn while outdoors. In case a dog and/or cat tag is lost or destroyed, a duplicate tag shall be issued with a receipt showing the payment of the license fee for the current year. Dog and/or cat tags shall not be transferable from one dog and/or cat to another and no refund shall be made on any dog and/or cat license fee even in the event of the death of the dog and/or cat or because of an owner's relocation from the town.

Section 2. An owner of a dog and/or cat must have the animal vaccinated against rabies in a manner that satisfies the requirements of the state law. A rabies vaccination tag issued for a cat must be attached to the collar of the animal and must be worn at all times when outdoors. Rabies tags are not transferable.

Section 3. It shall be unlawful for any person owning a cat to permit it to be outside of such owner's premises, unless the cat shall be at all times under control of the owner.

Any dog and/or cat found roaming at large contrary to this ordinance will be apprehended and impounded at the Town Hall. If the dog and/or cat has a tag, the owner will be notified to pick up the dog and/or cat and a housing fee of \$25.00 will be

charged at that time, in addition to any other fines imposed by this Ordinance. If the dog and/or cat is not picked up by its owner by the end of the day, it will be turned over to the county animal control. On the second offense a housing fee of \$50.00 will be charged, in addition to any other fines imposed by this Ordinance. A dog and/or cat found roaming at large and without tags will be apprehended and PAWS will be called immediately. If they do not respond the dog and/or cat will be turned over to the county animal control for disposition in accordance with its policies.

Section 4. Any person violating any provision of this ordinance shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined up to \$150.00 for the first violation and up to \$200.00 for any subsequent violations. Each day that a violation of this ordinance continues is a separate offense.

Section 5. If any section, paragraph, subdivision, clause, phrase or provision of this Ordinance shall be adjudged, invalid or held unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity of this Ordinance as a whole or any part or provision thereof other than the part so decided to be invalid or unconstitutional.

Section 6. This Ordinance shall become effective when published in summary form according to law.

PASSED, ADOPTED, AND APPROVED on this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2010.

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Roberto Medrano, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Cheryl J. Kretz, Town Secretary