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**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY  
TAMPA, FLORIDA 33601**

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**BOARD POLICY - SECTION NUMBER 03.04.08.00**

**SUBJECT: ANIMAL SERVICES FEE SCHEDULE**

**EFFECTIVE DATE: JUNE 1, 2010**

**SUPERSEDES: AUGUST 15, 2001, OCTOBER 1, 2003, OCTOBER 1, 2009**

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**Purpose:**

To establish a schedule of fees charged by Hillsborough County for certain services provided by the Department of Animal Services (Department) and, where not in conflict with state law, fees and costs may be adjusted, deferred, or waived at the discretion of the County Administrator or his or her designee.

**Policy:**

The Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) is authorized to fix fees and charges for certain services provided by the Department involving animals within Hillsborough County, including fees pursuant to Animal Ordinance 00-26 as amended by Ordinance 03-8 within the parameters described below. Pursuant to BOCC Policy 03.02.02.09, USER FEE AND COST RECOVERY, it is the policy of the BOCC that the County may from time to time establish or update fees for services provided by the Department. The BOCC identified a cost recovery goal of 41 percent for the Department.

The County shall allow veterinarians, or other organizations authorized by the Department to sell Pet Registrations (rabies tags), for an administrative fee.

In addition, the BOCC hereby authorizes the County Administrator, or his or her designee, on a case by case basis, to waive in full or in part, fees or costs established by BOCC Policy 03.04.08.00 for certain services provided by the Department, in the following circumstances:

1. Upon a showing of financial hardship by the animal owner and where the County Administrator, or his or her designee, determines such waiver would be in the best interest of the animal;
2. Where the County Administrator, or his or her designee, determines it could help save the life of the animal;
3. Where the County Administrator, or his or her designee, determines it would maintain the human-animal bond between the owner and animal; or
4. Where the County Administrator, or his or her designee, otherwise determines such waiver of fees or costs would be in the best interest of the County or animal.

The BOCC hereby authorizes the County Administrator, or his or her designee, on a case by case basis, to waive, in full or in part, fees or costs established by BOCC Policy 03.04.08.00 for certain services provided by the Department, in the following circumstances:

1. Pet Adoption Fees if it is believed it will encourage pet adoptions and reduce the risk the animal(s) will be humanely euthanized.
2. Rabies Registration Fees if it is believed it will increase the likelihood, the pet owner(s) will continue to vaccinate and register the pet(s) in the future.

### **Responsibility**

It is the responsibility of the Department, under the direction of the County Administrator, to recommend a fee schedule to the BOCC for approval and adoption. Rabies tag and licensure fee changes shall require a public hearing which has been advertised in a newspaper of general circulation in Hillsborough County, Florida. Fees and charges are to be periodically reviewed and recommended changes presented to the BOCC for consideration.

Attachment: Animal Services Fee Schedule

Approved By: **Board of County Commissioners**

Approval Date: May 19, 2010

**HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SERVICES FEE SCHEDULE**

**1. Fees (Fees plus tax, where applicable)**

<b>A. Redemption/Boarding/Vaccination Fees:</b>	
Redemption Fee (1st Offense)	\$50.00
Redemption Fee Not Registered (1st Offense)	\$100.00
Redemption Fee (1st Offense - compliant & sterilized <sup>1</sup> )	None
Redemption Fee (2nd Offense)	\$100.00
Redemption Fee (3rd Offense)	\$150.00
Board Fee per Day	\$12.00
Board Fee - Investigation/Quarantined dogs & cats (paid every 30-days)	\$20.00
Chemical Capture Fee	\$25.00
Rabies Vaccination Fee (Upon Redemption Only)	\$15.00
Micro-chip Fee (Upon Redemption Only)	\$25.00
<b>B. Pet Registration Fees:</b>	
Pet Registration (Sterilized)	\$20.00
Senior Citizen (+62 Years) Pet Registration (Sterilized)	\$5.00
Pet Registration (Intact)	\$40.00
Senior Citizen (+62 Years) Pet Registration (Intact)	\$25.00
Pet Registration Fee (Ferret)	\$5.00
Replacement Pet Registration Tag	\$5.00
Pet Registration Transfer (to new owner)	None
Dangerous Dog Registration Fee	\$500.00
<b>C. Owner Surrender/Trapper Surrender Fees:</b>	
One Pet with Valid Pet Registration	\$20.00
One Pet with no Valid Pet Registration	\$40.00
One Litter with Pet less than 4-months Old	\$60.00
Out of County Pet Owner	\$100.00
Deceased Pet Cremation Fee	\$25.00
<b>D. Pet Adoption Fees: Does Not Include Tag Fee</b>	
Dog Adoption Fee	\$85.00 - Plus Pet Registration Fee
Puppies under six months & small dogs under 25lbs Adoption Fee.	\$125.00 - Plus Pet Registration Fee
Senior Citizen (+62 Years) Dog Adoption Fee	\$35.00 - Plus Pet Registration Fee
Senior Citizen (+62 Years) Puppies under six months & small dogs under 25lbs Fee	\$65.00 - Plus Pet Registration Fee
Cat Adoption Fee	\$50.00 - Plus Pet Registration Fee
Senior Citizen (+62 Years) Cat Adoption Fee	\$20.00 - Plus Pet Registration Fee
Special Pets In-Need, Exotics & High Value/Interest Pets Adoption Fee	Director's Discretion or Market Value
Dog Sterilization Deposit	\$100.00
Cat Sterilization Deposit	\$70.00
Transfers to Animal Rescue Adoption Organizations	\$10.00
Animal Rescue Adoption Organization Sterilization Deposit	\$5.00
<b>E. Miscellaneous Fees</b>	
Late Fee - Dangerous Dog Registration	\$50.00
Home Quarantine Inspection Fee	\$50.00
Pet Transport Fee (pick-up or delivery)	\$50.00
Pet Tested for Rabies (when outside of normal protocol)	\$125.00
Leash, Pet carrier, or sale of "Pet Pig" sign	At Cost + Tax

2. Special adoption fees for sick or injured animals, not meeting the normal adoption criteria of the Department of Animal Services and for animals other than dogs or cats shall be set at the discretion of the Department Director or his or her designee.

<sup>1</sup> Compliant & sterilized - shall mean an animal in compliance with Sections 3, 4, and 6 of Hillsborough County's Animal Ordinance 00-26, as amended by Ordinance 03-08, and is spayed or neutered.

3. For each rabies tag sold, the veterinarian, or other organizations authorized by the Department to sell tags, shall receive an administrative fee of 10% of the cost of the tag from the Department of Animal Services.