Omaha, Nebraska

Sec. 6-157. - Proof of insurance for dangerous animals, potentially dangerous animals and pit bulls.

It shall be unlawful for any person to own, possess, or license any animal designated as a dangerous animal by a court, designated as a potentially dangerous animal by any animal control authority, or any pit bull as defined in section 6-163 without having evidence of a current and effective minimum $100,000.00 public liability insurance policy to be maintained for the period of such designation or throughout the life of the pit bull.

(Ord. No. 36463, § 2, 12-16-03; Ord. No. 38257, § 13, 9-30-08; Ord. No. 39705, § 2, 6-18-13)

Sec. 6-163. - Pit bulls—Leash and muzzle required.

It shall be unlawful for any person owning, harboring or having the care of a pit bull to permit such animal to be outdoors unless confined in a securely fenced yard or unless the animal is under the control of a person 19 years of age or older, restrained securely by a harness and leash no longer than six feet and properly muzzled to reasonably prevent the animal from biting, provided that the harness and muzzle requirements apply only to those pit bulls six months of age or older.

For purposes of this section, pit bull shall be defined as any dog that is an American Pit Bull Terrier, American Staffordshire Terrier, Staffordshire Bull Terrier, Dogo Argentina, Presa Canario, Cane Corso, American Bulldog, or any dog displaying the majority of physical traits of any one or more of the above breeds (more so than any other breed), or any dog exhibiting those distinguishing characteristics which substantially conform to the standards established by the American Kennel Club or United Kennel Club for any of the above breeds. The A.K.C. and U.K.C. standards for the above breeds are on file in the office of the animal control authority.

Provided that a pit bull which is a participant in an organized dog event approved by the authority shall not be required to be leashed and muzzled while outdoors and being shown or otherwise actively competing in such event.

(Ord. No. 38257, § 17, 9-30-08; Ord. No. 38867, § 2, 11-2-10)

Editor's note—Section 22 of Ord. No. 38257 states that § 17 of the ordinance, entitled "Pit bulls—Leash and muzzle required," and codified herein as § 6-163, shall not be effective until January 1, 2009.

Sec. 6-165. - Breed ambassador.

An owner of a pit bull as defined in section 6-163 may obtain a designation of "breed ambassador" for such pit bull from the animal control authority by (a) completing an application form, (b) payment of a fee of $25.00, (c) providing proof of (i) sterilization, (ii) micro-chipping, including microchip number, (iii) insurance in compliance with section 6-
157, (iv) vaccination and license in compliance with sections 6-201 and 6-103, and (v) successful completion of a responsible pet ownership class approved by the animal control authority and an American Kennel Club Canine Good Citizenship test administered by the animal control authority, and (d) demonstrating no history of violations of chapter 6 by the owner involving such pit bull. Any expense associated with compliance with (c) shall be borne by the owner.

Such designation shall be in effect for one year and may be renewed annually upon meeting each of the foregoing requirements, except that the responsible pet ownership class shall be required only once in any five-year period, and provided, that conviction of the owner of such a pit bull for a violation of chapter 6 involving such pit bull shall result in termination of the designation effective upon the date of conviction.

The owner of a pit bull which has been designated a "breed ambassador" shall ensure, when such pit bull is not confined in a securely fenced yard, that such pit bull (a) wears a vest provided by the animal control authority, at the owner’s expense, with the words "breed ambassador" and the breed ambassador number assigned to such pit bull by the animal control authority affixed on the vest and (b) is under the control of a person 19 years of age or older and is restrained by a leash no longer than six feet and by a harness and a collar joined with a connector attached to the leash in such a way as to provide a redundant restraint system, but such owner shall not be required to comply with the muzzle requirement of section 6-163 for such pit bull.

(Ord. No. 38257, § 19, 9-30-08)

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