

ORDINANCE 2009-_____

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF PIMA COUNTY, ARIZONA, RELATING TO ANIMALS; AMENDING THE PIMA COUNTY CODE BY AMENDING CHAPTER 6.04 AMENDING SECTION 6.04.090 AUTHORITY TO ALTER DOGS AND CATS RELEASED FROM A SHELTER

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF PIMA COUNTY, ARIZONA:

SECTION 1: Chapter 6.04, Section 6.04.090 is amended to require alteration of all dogs and cats released from a shelter unless exempted as specified:

CHAPTER 6.04

ANIMAL CONTROL REGULATIONS

6.04.090 Mandatory spay/neuter program for dogs and cats.

The following standards are **established** for the adoption **or redemption by the owner** of any dog or cat **from a shelter, as defined by Arizona Revised Statute 11-1022.H, in Pima County.**

A. **Subject to the following conditions, any dog or cat may be redeemed by its owner from a shelter in Pima County and any dog or cat held for the period required by law and not reclaimed by its owner from a shelter in Pima County may be released for adoption:**

1. The **adopter or redeeming owner must pay applicable fees pursuant to the shelter's pricing policies and fee tables.**

2. **The shelter will insure that all such animals are spayed or neutered and micro chipped prior to release to the adopter or redeeming owner unless a veterinarian determines that the animal has medical contraindications that would prevent or require postponement of surgery. For animals**

redeemed or adopted from Pima Animal Care Center, the adopter or redeeming owner may request to have the animal altered at a veterinarian of their choice and at the owner's expense.

Should the adopter or owner request to have the animal transported to a veterinarian of the owner's choice, the adopter or owner will schedule the surgery, make surgery payment arrangements with the veterinarian and have the veterinarian advise the Pima Animal Care Center of when to transport the animal to the veterinarian's clinic. After consult with the veterinarian and the request is approved by Pima Animal Care Center, the Pima Animal Care

Center will transport the animal to the veterinarian and the Pima Animal Care Center may charge the adopter or owner a transportation fee of no more than fifteen dollars per dog or cat transported.

3. **Owned animals may be redeemed unaltered from any shelter in Pima County;**

a. after a first impoundment for each dog in any twelve month period if the dog is currently

licensed at the time of impoundment, or

b. after a first impoundment for each cat in any twelve month, or

c. if the owner pays a \$250 recovery fee or

d. if a veterinarian determines that medical contraindications for surgery exist that would require postponement of surgery, a spay/neuter certificate will authorize postponement of the surgery until such time that a veterinarian determines that surgery can be performed in a safe, humane manner.

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4. ~~If a veterinarian determines that medical contraindications for surgery exist in an adopted animal that would require postponement of surgery, a spay/neuter certificate will authorize postponement of the surgery until such time that a veterinarian determines that surgery can be performed in a safe, humane manner.~~ If a veterinarian determines ~~an adopted~~ animal is permanently disqualified for surgery and would be capable of reproduction the ~~adopted~~ animal ~~may be required to~~ be returned to ~~the shelter~~, the adoption will be cancelled, and the ~~adopter~~ will be refunded all applicable fees.

5. The adopting ~~or redeeming~~ party shall reclaim the animal following surgery as directed by the veterinarian. Failure to comply will result in a charge for extra board. ~~Animals unclaimed from a shelter after seven (7) days following the animal's scheduled surgery date~~ may be declared abandoned. ~~B. The agreement to adopt an animal from Pima Animal Care Center shall require the adopting party to agree to hold harmless and defend the county, its officers and employees for loss, injury or damages arising out of or in connection with services of this program. (Ord. 2005-45 § 1 (part), 2005; Ord. 2004-17 § 1 (part), 2004; Ord. 1994-129 § 1, 1994; prior code § 15.04.080)~~

SECTION 2. This ordinance shall become effective _____

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors, Pima County, Arizona, this _____ day of _____, 2009.

Chair, Board of Supervisors Date
(Chairman) **Use current preference**

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Deputy County Attorney

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