

Village of Stamford, NY
Local Law No. 1 of the Year 2006
DOG CONTROL LAW

SECTION 1: PURPOSE

The Village Board of the Village of Stamford finds that the uncontrolled behavior of licensed and unlicensed dogs has caused physical harm to persons, damage to property and has created nuisances within the Village. The purpose of this Local Law is to protect the health, safety, and well-being of persons and property by imposing restrictions on the keeping of dogs within the Village and to set forth penalties for violations.

SECTION 2: AUTHORITY

This Local Law is enacted pursuant to the provisions of Section 124 of Article 7 of the New York State Agriculture and Markets Law.

SECTION 3: DEFINITIONS

DOG: Any member of the species *Canis Familiaris*.

DOG CONTROL OFFICER: Any individual appointed by the Village of Stamford Board of Trustees to assist in the enforcement of this Local Law and Article 7 of the New York State Agriculture and Markets Law.

HARBOR: To provide food or shelter to a dog.

IDENTIFICATION TAG: A tag that sets forth an official identification number as required by the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets.

IDENTIFIED DOG: Any dog carrying an identification tag as provided by the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets.

OWNER: Any person who owns, harbors or has custody and control of a dog.

OWNER OF RECORD: Any person in whose name any dog was first licensed pursuant to either Subdivision One or Subdivision Two of Section 109, of the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets Law, except, however, that if any license is issued to a person under sixteen years of age, the owner of record shall be deemed to be a parent or guardian of such person.

PERSON: Any individual, corporation, partnership, association, or other organized group of persons, or other legal entity.

VICIOUS DOG: Any dog that constitutes a physical threat to human beings or other animals.

SECTION 4: PROHIBITIONS

It shall be unlawful for an owner of any dog to allow or permit such dog to:

1. Go or be upon any private property, other than the property owned or occupied by the owner or other person having the

- care, custody, or charge of such dog, without the knowledge and consent of the owner or occupant of such private property; or
2. Be permitted in any of the streets or public places of the Village of Stamford unless it is effectively restrained by a chain or leash not exceeding six (6) feet in length and is attended by a person of adequate age and discretion to control its actions; or
 3. Engage in howling, barking or crying, for more than 30 minutes, in such a manner and to such an extent as to be annoying or disturbing to any person or persons other than the owner or harbinger of such dog; or
 4. Cause damage or destruction to property or to commit a nuisance upon the premises of any person other than the owner or harbinger of such dog; or
 5. While off the owner's property, chase, jump upon or at, or otherwise harass any person in such a manner as to reasonably cause intimidation or fear or to put such person in reasonable apprehension of bodily harm or injury; or
 6. Be left out of doors before 7:00 AM or after 9:00 PM, without the direct supervision of its owner, or an agent of its owner; or
 7. Defecate on any sidewalk, street, park, public area or private property of another person. It shall be the duty of the owner or harbinger of such dog to remove and dispose of any feces left by the dog.

SECTION 5: ENFORCEMENT

This Local Law shall be enforced by any Dog Control Officer, or peace officer, when acting pursuant to his special duties, or member of the sheriff's department or state police.

SECTION 6: APPEARANCE TICKETS

Any Dog Control Officer, or peace officer, when acting pursuant to his special duties, in the employment or under contract with the Village of Stamford, or any police officer, observing a violation hereof in his presence shall issue and serve an appearance ticket for such violation.

SECTION 7: PENALTIES

Any person convicted of a violation of this Local Law shall be liable to a penalty of \$50.00 for the first offense; \$100.00 for the second offense of this law within a five-year period; and \$150.00 for the third violation of this law within a five-year period, and for any subsequent violations within a five-year period, the fine shall not be less than \$100.00.

SECTION 8: LIABILITY

No officer, agent or employee of the Village of Stamford shall render himself personally liable for any damage that may accrue to persons or property as a result of any act required or permitted in the discharge of his duties under this Article. Any suit brought against any officer, agent or employee of the Village of Stamford, as the result of any act required or permitted in the discharge of his duties under this Article, shall be defended by the Village Attorney until the final determination of the proceedings thereon.

SECTION 9: SEPARABILITY

This Local Law shall supercede all prior local laws, rules and regulations relative to the control of dogs within the Village of Stamford, and they shall be, upon the effective date of this law, null and void.

SECTION 10: EFFECTIVE DATE

This Local Law shall go into effect as soon as it is filed with the Secretary of State of the State of New York.