

File No. 140499

Committee Item No. 2

Board Item No. \_\_\_\_\_

### COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

#### AGENDA PACKET CONTENTS LIST

Committee: Rules

Date May 15, 2014

Board of Supervisors Meeting

Date \_\_\_\_\_

#### Cmte Board

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- Youth Commission Report
- Introduction Form
- Department/Agency Cover Letter and/or Report
- MOU
- Grant Information Form
- Grant Budget
- Subcontract Budget
- Contract/Agreement
- Form 126 – Ethics Commission
- Award Letter
- Application
- Public Correspondence

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Completed by: Alisa Miller Date May 9, 2014

Completed by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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Board of Supervisors  
City and County of San Francisco  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244  
(415) 554-5184 FAX (415) 554-7714

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**Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces**

Name of Board, Commission, Committee, or Task Force: Commission on Animal Control

Seat # or Category (If applicable): 1, 2, 3 District: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Amy Van Nest

Home Address: — Powell St # — SF, CA Zip: 94108

Home Phone: 925 ——— Occupation: Legal Secretary

Work Phone: 415-543-4800 Employer: Ropers Majeski Kohn & Bentley

Business Address: 150 Spear St # 850, SF, CA Zip: 94105

Business E-Mail: avannest@rmkb.com Home E-Mail: amyvn1@ ———

**Pursuant to Charter Section 4.101 (a)2, Boards and Commissions established by the Charter must consist of electors (registered voters) of the City and County of San Francisco. For certain other bodies, the Board of Supervisors can waive the residency requirement.**

Check All That Apply:

Registered voter in San Francisco: Yes  No  If No, where registered: \_\_\_\_\_

Resident of San Francisco  Yes  No If No, place of residence: \_\_\_\_\_

**Pursuant to Charter section 4.101 (a)1, please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:**

I am a pet owner in San Francisco that wants to keep humane conditions for animals, affordable veterinary care, & keep apartments from being well-cared for pets.

**Business and/or professional experience:**


I am a legal secretary so I have office experience. I have volunteered in the past for the SPCA, ARC & Zoological Society.

**Civic Activities:**

Volunteered for various animal causes like SPCA, ARC, P+ Bull Society, etc

Have you attended any meetings of the Board/Commission to which you wish appointment? Yes  No

For appointments by the Board of Supervisors, appearance before the RULES COMMITTEE is a requirement before any appointment can be made. (Applications must be received 10 days before the scheduled hearing.)

Date: 4/8/14 Applicant's Signature: (required) 

(Manually sign or type your complete name.  
NOTE: By typing your complete name, you are hereby consenting to use of electronic signature.)

**Please Note:** Your application will be retained for one year. Once Completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:  
Appointed to Seat #: \_\_\_\_\_ Term Expires: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Seat was Vacated: \_\_\_\_\_



**Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces**

Name of Board, Commission, Committee, or Task Force: Annual Control + Welfare

Seat # or Category (If applicable): 1, 2, 3 District: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: NANCI HAINES

Home Address: ALABAMA ST. Zip: 94116

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: 707 849 8021 Employer: SPORTS CLUB L.A.

Business Address: 747 MARKET ST. Zip: 94108

Business E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Home E-Mail: NANCIWINECO@

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**Pursuant to Charter Section 4.101 (a)2, Boards and Commissions established by the Charter must consist of electors (registered voters) of the City and County of San Francisco. For certain other bodies, the Board of Supervisors can waive the residency requirement.**

Check All That Apply:

Registered voter in San Francisco: Yes  No  If No, where registered: \_\_\_\_\_

Resident of San Francisco  Yes  No If No, place of residence: \_\_\_\_\_

**Pursuant to Charter section 4.101 (a)1, please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:**

SEE ATTACHED




**Business and/or professional experience:**

**Civic Activities:**

Have you attended any meetings of the Board/Commission to which you wish appointment?    Yes  No

---

For appointments by the Board of Supervisors, appearance before the RULES COMMITTEE is a requirement before any appointment can be made. *(Applications must be received 10 days before the scheduled hearing.)*

Date: 11/26/13    Applicant's Signature: (required) 

**Please Note:** Your application will be retained for one year. Once Completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record.

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FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:  
Appointed to Seat #: \_\_\_\_\_ Term Expires: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Seat was Vacated: \_\_\_\_\_

Addendum to Application for San Francisco Task Force/Commission Member

Nanci Haines

I am a native Californian, and I have lived in the San Francisco bay area most of my life. I have experienced a number of diverse cultures and communities, all the way from Sonoma County to Santa Clara County. I have lived in San Francisco for the last three years and I currently reside in the Mission District with my fiancé.

I have performed in a number of careers, including my current career in sales and in the fitness industry here in San Francisco. I have been a small business owner, as well as working for large local companies in California. I am an effective communicator, both with the written word and verbally, and my degrees (B.A. in English and M.A. in Psychology) have served me well while interacting with others.

I am an avid volunteer: I have volunteered myself as a yoga teacher to students of many ages and backgrounds, including young children, teenagers, and adults with disabilities. I currently donate my time to animals at the San Francisco SPCA, and am enrolled with the Boys and Girls Club of San Francisco.

I believe that the experience and skills that I possess will make me an asset to the city as a taskforce member, and I appreciate your consideration on this matter.

COVER PAGE

Please type or print in ink.

NAME OF FILER (LAST) (FIRST) (MIDDLE)  
HAINES NANJI LYNN

1. Office, Agency, or Court

Agency Name  
Multiple (see below)  
Division, Board, Department, District, if applicable  
Your Position  
Commission or Task Force Member

▶ If filing for multiple positions, list below or on an attachment

Agency: \_\_\_\_\_ Position: TBD

2. Jurisdiction of Office (Check at least one box)

- State
- Multi-County \_\_\_\_\_
- City of San Francisco
- Judge or Court Commissioner (Statewide Jurisdiction)
- County of \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

3. Type of Statement (Check at least one box)

- Annual: The period covered is January 1, 2012, through December 31, 2012.
- or-  
The period covered is \_\_\_\_\_ through December 31, 2012.
- Assuming Office: Date assumed \_\_\_\_\_
- Candidate: Election year \_\_\_\_\_ and office sought, if different than Part 1: \_\_\_\_\_
- Leaving Office: Date Left \_\_\_\_\_ (Check one)
- The period covered is January 1, 2012, through the date of leaving office.
- The period covered is \_\_\_\_\_ through the date of leaving office.

4. Schedule Summary

Check applicable schedules or "None."

▶ Total number of pages including this cover page: \_\_\_\_\_

- Schedule A-1 - Investments - schedule attached
- Schedule A-2 - Investments - schedule attached
- Schedule B - Real Property - schedule attached
- Schedule C - Income, Loans, & Business Positions - schedule attached
- Schedule D - Income - Gifts - schedule attached
- Schedule E - Income - Gifts - Travel Payments - schedule attached

-or-

None - No reportable interests on any schedule

5. Verification

MAILING ADDRESS STREET CITY STATE ZIP CODE  
 (Business or Agency Address Recommended - Public Document)  
 Alabama St, San Francisco CA 94123

DAYTIME TELEPHONE NUMBER E-MAIL ADDRESS (OPTIONAL)  
 ( 707 ) 849-8021 Nanciwineco@ \_\_\_\_\_

I have used all reasonable diligence in preparing this statement. I have reviewed this statement and to the best of my knowledge the information contained herein and in any attached schedules is true and complete. I acknowledge this is a public document.

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Date Signed 11/26/13  
(month, day, year)

Signature [Handwritten Signature]  
(File the originally signed statement with your filing official.)



**Board of Supervisors  
City and County of San Francisco  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244  
(415) 554-5184 FAX (415) 554-7714**

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2013 JUN 29 PM 1:47

**Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces**

Name of Board, Commission, Committee, or Task Force: Animal Control + Welfare

Seat # or Category (If applicable): Any + all District: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: James York

Home Address: ██████████ 2320 SW Zip: 94107

Home Phone: 415 ██████████ Occupation: Animal Maintenance

Work Phone: 415 824 3594 Employer: self

Business Address: 1920 2300 SW Zip: 94107

Business E-Mail: j.york@astown.com Home E-Mail: j.york@a ██████████

Pursuant to Charter Section 4.101 (a)2, Boards and Commissions established by the Charter must consist of electors (registered voters) of the City and County of San Francisco. For certain other bodies, the Board of Supervisors can waive the residency requirement.

Check All That Apply:

Registered voter in San Francisco: Yes  No  If No, where registered: \_\_\_\_\_

Resident of San Francisco  Yes  No If No, place of residence: \_\_\_\_\_

Pursuant to Charter section 4.101 (a)1, please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:

see attachments

**Business and/or professional experience:**

See Attachments

**Civic Activities:**

See Attachments

Have you attended any meetings of the Board/Commission to which you wish appointment? Yes  No

For appointments by the Board of Supervisors, appearance before the RULES COMMITTEE is a requirement before any appointment can be made. (Applications must be received 10 days before the scheduled hearing.)

Date: 5/28/13 Applicant's Signature: (required)

*James P. Ford*

**Please Note:** Your application will be retained for one year. Once Completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record.

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:**

Appointed to Seat #: \_\_\_\_\_ Term Expires: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Seat was Vacated: \_\_\_\_\_

# James Yorck

— 23rd St., San Francisco, CA 94107

415. —

jyorck@: —

## Objective

Seeking appointment to The San Francisco Animal Control & Welfare Commission.

## Profile

Maintain Aviaries for Managed Care Facilities Self Employed, San Francisco, CA 2001 to present

Avian Boarding, Grooming, Consultation Self Employed, San Francisco, CA, 2001 to present

Spectrum Exotic Birds Owner/Chief Bottle Washer, Fillmore St., San Francisco, CA 1978 - 2000

## Education

B.A. Upsala College East Orange, NJ 1975

## Summary of Qualifications

Small Business Owner in San Francisco, Retail Store, 23 years

Resident of San Francisco, 36 years

Experience caring for exotic birds, 35 years

Working with the public regarding exotic birds, 35 years

Customer support with caring for their pet birds

**Rehoming** of pet birds – When I opened my store my first sale was a rehomed African Grey Parrot. He came with the name Moses. Moses led the way and over the years I became a major resource for finding new homes for pet birds within the city. For example from January to April 8<sup>th</sup> of this year I have rehomed 100 pet birds.

## Membership / Affiliations

NFSS – National Finch and Softbill Society

AFOHG – American Federation of Human Gadflies, founder, chairman and sole member

DCCC – Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee

## **2013/ Rules Committee/ My Objective**

My name is Jamie Yorck and I want to thank you for considering me for the Animal Welfare & Control Commission. This is my third year to seek appointment to the Commission. I don't expect to ever be appointed to this Commission even though I'll keep applying. I do think by reapplying my voice might be heard by the Board of Supervisors. It's become clear to me that appointment is all about politics and the Commissioners are completely in control of who makes the team.

For example, last year at this Rules Committee meeting, one of the Supervisors retold a rumor that strongly indicated that my store had been investigated for animal cruelty. News to me! I left the meeting and went to ACC only to find out that my records had been hot reading for the day. I now have copies of my records which I'd be happy to show to any Supervisor who is interested and no, I never was investigated for animal cruelty.

For more than 35 years, I've lived and worked in San Francisco. From 1978 to the end of 2000, I owned a small exotic bird store on Fillmore Street. I think my experience in the pet business uniquely qualifies me with an expertise and a perspective that few others in this room have regarding pets and the rehoming of them.

In attempt to add another perspective to the viewpoints of the Commissioners, I regularly speak at the meetings and as, you'll learn, I'm passionate about finding practical solutions to how we can implement positive change. Last year and the year before, I presented to the Rules Committee a petition with over 300 signatures that both condemned the one-sidedness of the Animal Welfare Commission and also supported my appointment.

I began attending the commission meetings several years ago, when the Animal Welfare Commission was considering a ban on the sale of pets in San Francisco. A few months later the Commission was seriously deliberating upon another ban- the banning of the Blue Grass Festival from Golden Gate Park because it interfered with the feeding habits of the feral cat population. This definitely was more fun than the cooking channel; I was hooked! Ever since then, I have piously attended all except one of their meetings.

This Commission is supposed to be the eyes and ears of San Francisco and to serve the community. Unfortunately, the Commission is an exclusive club for paternalistic ideologues who refuse to work with people with differing view points.

Again, I don't expect to be appointed to the Commission because I'm not a representative of one of the various animal non profits. I'm not the politically correct choice for you, but isn't it time that the members of this Commission reflect the diversity of ideas which are so very present in our city. Isn't it time the Commission take an inclusive view to new ideas and new people and use all the

many options available to help rehome unwanted pets and find solutions to other animal related issues.

Thank you.

Addendum:

I would personally like to thank Ms. Rebecca Katz, the Director of the ACC, for her open mindedness to suggestions and ideas and her willingness to tackle projects in new and creative ways. In 2010 I and others told her and other rescues to lower their adoption fees so that they could stay competitive: she did!

Then we put forward the not so new idea that pet shops could be utilized by ACC and the SFASPCA to help in the rehoming of unwanted pets. Well there has been a long standing bias against working with pet shops (those with pets) held by the San Francisco animal activist. Ms Katz pursued a different tack; she enlisted the help of a small local pet supply chain which was deemed political correct to help in the rehoming of these pets. The result can be seen the next time you visit ACC, plenty of empty cages.



## **Animal Control and Welfare Commission: May 2013**

My Parrot is a Vegan is your Dog One?

In the past few years there has been a great **nationwide outcry by environmentalists**- over the deaths of ½ million native birds caused by wind turbines within this country. Billions of dollars have been spent on trying to improve things. But if you compare morality rates of wind turbines versus cats: it's a ratio of 1 bird for renewable energy to 7000 birds for the feral cats' lunch. For me the most frightening thing of all was that there has been barely a peep media over the massacre.

I believe that this Commission's proposal to discourage humans from feeding wild animals on city land is a good and important one. I believe environmental problems trump the sometimes petty concerns of pet enthusiasts. I purposely brought up the topic of the feral cat dilemma again and again because if you don't deal with it within this Commission, there never will be any legislation.

By making the goals of this proposal modest it should be an easy slam dunk for the Board of Supervisors.

Nowadays, we shop with our own bags, we recycle our trash and we buy fuel efficient cars. If this proposal is passed by the Board of Supervisors, it will serve as another ecological statement. It sends a good message by reminding us, in yet another way that we should be more careful in what we do on our planet.

If this Commission recommends a reasonable ecological proposal it might also help to thaw its relations with the Board of Supervisors. In the recent past, the environmental record of this Commission has been lacking. For example, doggie walking versus the breeding grounds of the Snowy Plover; this Commission's ecological creditability can be viewed as to serve the little principalities within it self.

To be *A Progressive* means that sometimes we all have to give up a little something to move forward. Since 1997 there are 9 sanctioned feral cat feeding areas within Golden Gate Park. There are an additional 80 unsanctioned covert feeding sites. Do you think that it is possible to embrace the "Yes We Can" spirit? Can we show the nation tangible results of the Spray, Neuter and Release program? By voluntarily reducing the number the sanctioned feeding areas within Golden Gate Park, even by one, it will show the nation the beginning of success of one program and on the other hand solidarity with another important and progressive idea.

On occasion I do miss having my free paper bags but I know we are on a better path without them.

## **Animal Control and Welfare Commission: February 2013**

February 4<sup>th</sup> article in The Chronicle; No. 1 Bird Killer is Outdoor Cats

“Wildlife experts were stunned by a new report last week that as many as 3.7 billion birds were killed by outdoor cats in the ... U.S. last year. That’s far more than the 1 billion that previously had been estimated and more than are killed by any other single source....” Looking at the data from Mother Jones Magazine, the other major causes of bird deaths are: flying into buildings and power lines also flying into communication and wind towers and death by pesticides. If you combine the totals of all these other factors you only get 1.3 billion in opposition to the 3.7 billion attributed to cats.

The Chronicle article goes on to “indicate that unowned cats are responsible for the vast majority of bird deaths- 70%. Yet policies in cities like San Francisco do little to address the gruesome toll of feral cats on wildlife.” Further on it says that “feeding and maintaining large feral cat populations may seem humane for cats- but it a death warrant for birds and other wildlife.”

All our Fluffys and Rovers can be considered as causing ecological damage. We **all** have to give something up to make things a little better for **the whole**.

## **Animal Control and Welfare Commission: March 2013**

Again at the SFAWC meeting in March I hit home the point of this hypocrisy but in a different way. The particulars were the Animal Rights Naturalists big squawk over the deaths of ½ million native birds by wind turbines. Put in relationship to cats; 1 native bird sacrificed to provide us with clean energy versus 7,000 birds (not even a peep) in providing feral cats lunch; the whole argument is absurd!!!

### **Addendum:**

Here in San Francisco it is not only that the cat people have weird ideas; the doggie activists have their own egocentric ecological eccentricities revolving around dog walking versus the breeding ground for a threatened bird species named the Snowy Plover. The doggie people won and the population of the Plover will diminish. These people only give lip service to the ecology.

## **Animal Control and Welfare Commission: January 2013**

We live in the city named after Saint Francis with the ensuing myth of his great kindness and love of all animals. Unfortunately, in their zeal for a greater good, many of our home-grown Franciscan pet activists feel entitled to disregard some of the other biblical teachings.... especially the one about "Thou shall not bare false witness."

Front page October 2010 edition of the S.F. Weekly- "ACC rescues 35 cockatiels" the article stated that the birds were from an unknown source from within San Francisco and the onus was directed at our local pet stores. But just only a month before, at a meeting, a member of Mickaboo bird rescue stood up and bemoaned the fate of **exactly** 35 cockatiels but these birds were located in Lake County. Clearly these 35 cockatiels had been smuggled from Lake County to San Francisco County and clearly this was another attempt by our Evangelical pet activists to vilify our local stores. Commissioners Stephens, Gerrie and Hemphill attended this meeting and also present was Kat Brown\*\*\* the assistant director of ACC. Is there improper collusion to deceive the citizens of San Francisco between the rescues, the Commissioners and a rogue staff member of ACC?

How many pets per year are smuggled from outside of the city into ACC to inflate a crisis? Is it 35 or is it 350? I do support helping our neighbors but I do think that the people of this city deserve an honest accounting!

Is there any moral difference between manipulating an increase in the totals at ACC versus the recent manipulations by Republican officials to decrease voter participation, as in Ohio and Florida?

I don't understand; in terms of causes and ideals, this Commission holds the moral higher ground but in terms of action; they always stoop to the low road approach... This Commission is suppose to be the eyes and ears of San Francisco and to serve the community. Unfortunately, the present Commission is an exclusive little club of ideologues that are so dogmatic that they refuse to work with people with differing points of view.

## October, 2012 Rules Committee

Priorities: During last year's Rules Committee Commissioner nominations, the Animal Welfare Commission had took up nearly 1 1/2 hrs. of the City's time while the Children and Families First Commission had only 1/2 hr... priorities?

In these dismal financial times I am bearing good news. 40 years ago 20,000,000 dogs and cats in shelters were euthanized every year in the United States. That worked out to 1 dog or cat that was put down yearly for every 10 humans. Our forefathers; the so called "greatest generation", were not so great when it came to Fluffy and Rover.

Nowadays, we should all take pride in the fact that nationally the annual shelter euthanasia rate has dropped to nearly 1 dog or cat per 100 humans and furthermore within the City of San Francisco we should celebrate the fact that there are only 1.2 deaths per 1,000 San Franciscans.

In 2009, New York's Mayor Bloomberg declared a victory over the unnecessary slaughter of adoptable dogs and cats. N.Y.C. government services were very effective in their efforts of rehoming by coordinating with the Animal Rescues and with the local Pet Stores throughout the 5 boroughs; thus reducing the number of needless euthanasia. By proclaiming a victory and embodying the "Yes We Can" spirit, New Yorkers were uplifted and reenergized; demonstrating that with time, effort and money almost anything can be fixed in this society of ours. Yes we can... make the world better!

On the other hand, starting in 2009, the San Francisco Animal Control Welfare Commission went negative. Citing an excessive euthanasia rate and overpopulation in our city's shelters and rescues they wanted to mandate a citywide ban of the sale of pets from pet stores. Unfortunately their premises were absolute fabrications. If one looks at ACC statistics for 2009 under the category of "available" meaning "adoptable without defect", not one dog or cat was euthanized. In fact for that year under the category of "available" the only pets euthanized in the City and County of San Francisco were 10 mice and 2 hamsters. As for overpopulation in our local shelters and rescues; if that is the case why is that Pets Unlimited and the SFSPCA are bussing in several thousand dogs and cats from the Central Valley or flying them in from Taiwan?

Don't get me wrong, I thoroughly support bringing in pets from other locals and rehoming here where we have the demand and resources. I think this program could be vastly expanded without spending another dime. Unfortunately, in the last 25 years, because of a "holier than thou" attitude and an uncompromising ideological agenda, animal rights activist refuse to work together with pet shops (those that sell live animals) or pet supply stores to create additional

opportunities to find homes for shelter animals. I'm familiar with a pet shop near Santa Rosa that works with the local Humane Society to rehome cats. The store averages 300 cat adoptions a year. The Basic Bird pet store in Berkeley rehomes (in house) 75 cats a year and also frequently sponsors a rescue group which displays cats for adoption in front of its store on weekends. With some prodding over the last two years, I'm finally starting to see a slight change in attitude from the ACC and ASPCA but we still aren't utilizing one of our very best avenues for pet adoption. Just think of how many more pets could be rehomed in San Francisco if pet shops and pet supply stores would be allowed to fully participate.

I've been going to the meetings of the Animal Welfare Commission for the past two years. Originally I began attending because of the pet ban consideration. I was amazed that in our incredibly creative, fair and open city that this was the best solution that they could dig up. I have continued to attend because I think a different voice should be heard other than the "fringe" and a commission that is stuck on one note. What has struck me most about the present commission is how suffocating ideologically oriented they are; completely closed to practical or new ideas in resolving issues. I feel that with my voiced added to the Animal Welfare Commission there could be a more pragmatic approach in dealing with the future.

#### **4/8/12 SPCA Statistics should be in Pinocchio's Doghouse!**

I was very impressed with the size and scope of the survey conducted by Dr. Scarlett and the SFSPCA. Getting 426 San Franciscans to respond to a phone survey must have meant thousands of calls and hundreds of people-hours of work. What I found of particular interest was the great disparity between the National Statistics and the San Francisco SPCA survey in nearly every category of question. For example, San Franciscans acquire dogs from shelters 3 times higher than the national average.

As I said, all of Dr. Scarlett's categories showed significant difference between National and Local statistics. All categories except for the category called "Acquisition of Dogs from Pet Stores". Nationally that total is 7% and the SFSPCA's survey matched with 7%. Armed with this statistic, Dr. S went on to espouse her personal support of this Commissioner proposed "PET BAN" of 2010.

Using Dr. Scarlett's own calculations, that San Franciscans acquire 8-10 thousand new dogs every year would mean that the local pet stores who sell dogs must churn them out at a rate of 560 to 700 dogs per year. Those figures didn't strike me as right so I decided to do my own survey. State law requires pet stores to keep records of all dog sales which made my job easy. I visited the dog-selling pet stores who were happy to share their numbers, these totaled to about 130 dog sales (not 5-7 hundred) to San Francisco residents. Adding a margin of error of 33% you still only reach 175 dogs sold by local pet stores. This is only 2% - I wonder why this statistic needed to be inflated to 7%?

I am vexed, and also saddened, but most of all totally FATOOTSED AT THE LEVEL OF dishonesty of this Commission and Animal Rights Activists within San Francisco. Starting nearly 2 years ago with Ms Katz proclaiming on television that ACC receives 300 pet birds a year; when in reality her own statistics clearly shows an intake of 109 birds... to this Commission's Pinocchio episode with the Examiner and members of the Board of Supervisors where you claim that there are 4 pet stores in SF selling dogs instead of the correct number which is 1.... and now this; the head of the SPCA artistically fabricating the empirical data of a survey to help support her cause. I think this Commission and the Animal Rights activists who grace this hall's new motto should be.... "If the statistics don't fit; we'll make our own shit."

#### **4/23/12 Addendum**

At the March 8th meeting of the Animal Welfare Commission, Dr. Scarlett made public the S.P.C.A.'s findings from a 2011 phone survey to learn were and

how San Francisco residents acquire dogs. We were told that 426 S.F. residents responded to this phone survey. By April 18th, a different version of the survey was published in the Chronicle. The number of S.F. residents responding to the new survey had now dropped to only 300 and somehow another "408 Bay Area" residents from outside the city were added to this survey. The most incredible thing about these 2 surveys was that the statistical results were absolutely.... exactly..... identical.

So, how many surveys did the SPCA conduct or maybe the better question is how many versions of the survey are out there? Why can't they do a survey and stick to empirical fact. What are they trying to gain or hide from this smoke and mirrors charade?

## 1/12/12 Animal Welfare Commission Greet Pinocchio

In June of 2011, 4 of the current members of this Animal Welfare Commission stood before the Rules Committee. They presented the Supervisors with a fact sheet. This "**fact sheet**" stated "**as fact**" that there are 4 pet shops in the City of San Francisco that sell dogs. This Fact was an intentional lie!

Commissioner Gerrie clarified when asked in July of 2009 that there was only one pet store in SF which sells 50 to 75 dogs per year. A month and a half later, another meeting included Commissioners Stephens, Hemphill and Gerrie and the owner of Pet Central, the single dog-selling establishment. It was known and mentioned before the meeting that this was the only store that sells dogs in the city.

It is interesting to see how a lie takes on its own life. First the lie was put before the Members of the Board of Supervisors. Then, the next month the lie, still alive and well, shows up in this chamber, over on that table, next to the copies of the minutes and agenda. Still not a peep about the lie and I'm sorry to say neither complicity nor ignorance are good excuses! Finally it hits the Examiner; "Let's lie to the public." We all know that once a lie is published, it becomes our new truth.

So why lie to the Supervisors and the Public? Could it be "the ends justify the means?" For the last year and a half that I have been coming here, I feel that most of the commissioners and their allies, care more about their political agenda than they care about lowering the euthanasia rate. They care more about their ideology than increasing the opportunities for rehoming of companion pets. This commission and its allies don't care if they tell the truth; they'll do what it takes to get what they want.

Members of this commission and its allies continuously speak for the moral high road. But if they continue being disingenuous and /or lie; they will end up sounding like self righteous sanctimonious hypocrites, worse, they will be letting down the People of San Francisco.



## **August 2010- AWC Meeting**

Last month was the first meeting to include opponents of the proposed ban at this Commission. At the beginning of the meeting the commissioners presented themselves with a little bio and a short synopsis of their views. When they finished my partner passed me a note.....it said..."the Commissioners have already decided."

Before the meeting a group of us had informally met with the commissioners to be advised on how the meeting would be conducted, during this meeting I realized that the commissioners had at the last minute altered the venue. The group against the ban had the floor for the first 2.5 hours. We all listened in amazement as the Commissioners lobbed softball questions to their friends in the rescues and fired cannon at the people who were against the ban. The Commissioners..... had already decided.

In the newspaper, a commissioner stated that she had been working on this proposed ban for over 2 years. As it turns out, the groups pushing this ban have had the ear of the commission for 2 years, the general public has only known about this proposal for 2 months. I also noticed that her article was in lockstep with two other articles written by animal rescue groups....The Commissioners.... had already decided.

In the last month there have been meetings with the local Pet stores owners and several of the Commissioners. The stores offered solutions ranging from helping with re-homing of pets, to suggestions that Animal Control and the rescues lower some of their adoption fees, to a moratorium on opening any new pet stores. These suggestions were blown off. The Commissioners... had already decided.

It seems that now, instead of touting the big ban.....the Commissioners are feeling the political winds blowing against them.... They have come up with a new proposal..... under the guise of pet owner education. Instead of an outright ban to close pet stores ....they intend to strangle them to death. This proposal is a wolf in sheep's clothing.

I say that this Commission's 15 minutes of fame is over and ask the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors to dismiss this one sided Commission and to replace them with citizens who are willing to be impartial and open minded in finding solutions that will work for all of us.



Board of Supervisors
City and County of San Francisco
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
(415) 554-5184 FAX (415) 554-7714

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
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Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board, Commission, Committee, or Task Force: Animal Control and Welfare

Seat # or Category (If applicable): 1 or 2, 3 District: N/A

Name: Davi Lang

Home Address: Channel Street San Francisco, CA 94158

Home Phone: (415) Occupation: Campaign Coordinator

Work Phone: (415) 685-3154 Employer: Jane Kim for Supervisor, 2014

Business Address: 901 Market Street, Suite 480, San Francisco, CA 94103

Business E-Mail: davi@janekim.org Home E-Mail: idavilang@

Pursuant to Charter Section 4.101 (a)2, Boards and Commissions established by the Charter must consist of electors (registered voters) of the City and County of San Francisco. For certain other bodies, the Board of Supervisors can waive the residency requirement.

Check All That Apply:

Registered voter in San Francisco: Yes [checked] No [ ] If No, where registered:

Resident of San Francisco [checked] Yes [ ] No [ ] If No, place of residence:

Pursuant to Charter section 4.101 (a)1, please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:

As a mixed Cambodian-American woman, whose mother and family immigrated to San Francisco in 1980, I've grown up in both the immigrant community, as well as the American-born community. Born, raised, and currently residing in Mission Bay, in the middle of Mission Bay development, I have watched the area develop into a neighborhood. I have also attended school and worked with people from all over the city. For the past year, I have interned in Supervisor Jane Kim's office, and I am currently working for her re-election campaign, where I work with some of the most marginalized members of the community, including people of all ethnic and religious backgrounds, ages, disabilities, and sexual orientations, on a daily basis.

**Business and/or professional experience:**

I have more than 5 years of experience in animal welfare in the legal field, public policy, campaigns, public outreach/education, and direct service. For a year I worked in the legal department at the Foundation to Support Animal Protection (PETA Foundation) and also in the Farm Animal Welfare division of the Humane Society of the United States for a semester. For my Master's thesis project at USF's Master of Public Affairs program, I conducted a policy analysis of mandatory spay/neuter laws. And at PETA, I completed their companion animal (dogs and cats) cruelty investigation training, where I learned to recognize the various signs of animal abuse, such as neglect, dehydration, and dog fighting.

**Civic Activities:**

I have volunteered with companion animals as a dog walker with Animal Care & Control in the former "Green Dog" program working with dogs who need extra training while they are awaiting adoption, as well as regular "Blue Dogs" awaiting adoption. And when I lived in Washington, D.C., I volunteered for PETA's Community Animal Project, working with dogs living in backyards in impoverished areas of southeastern Virginia and educating their guardians on how to properly care for their dogs. And for over the past 5 years, I have done public outreach/education on animal welfare issues, including companion animal overpopulation, spaying/neutering, circus animals, and many more animal welfare issues.

Have you attended any meetings of the Board/Commission to which you wish appointment? Yes  No

For appointments by the Board of Supervisors, appearance before the RULES COMMITTEE is a requirement before any appointment can be made. (*Applications must be received 10 days before the scheduled hearing.*)

Date: 4/17/14 Applicant's Signature: (required)



(Manually sign or type your complete name.  
NOTE: By typing your complete name, you are hereby consenting to use of electronic signature.)

**Please Note:** Your application will be retained for one year. Once Completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record.

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:**

Appointed to Seat #: \_\_\_\_\_ Term Expires: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Seat was Vacated: \_\_\_\_\_

# Davi Lang

Channel Street, San Francisco, CA 94158 • (415) • idavilang@

## Education

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### University of San Francisco

*Master of Public Affairs*, 2013, GPA 3.94

**Master's Capstone Thesis:** A Mandatory Spay/Neuter Ordinance in San Francisco: The Solution to San Francisco's Other Homeless Problem

### University of California, Berkeley

*Bachelor of Arts, American Studies* (American Government and Politics), 2010, GPA 3.77

**Honors:** Highest Honors in American Studies, Distinction in General Scholarship

## Work Experience

---

### Jane Kim for Supervisor, 2014, San Francisco, CA

Jan. 2014 – present

*Campaign Coordinator/Treasurer*

- Represent the Supervisor at community meetings and events.
- Supervise campaign volunteers and plan campaign events and fundraisers.
- Write copy for email newsletters and campaign website.
- Process campaign contributions and manage finances.

### City & County of San Francisco, Office of Supervisor Jane Kim

Aug. 2013 – present

*Legislative and Policy Intern*

- Work with government agencies, community based organizations, and constituents.
- Represent the Supervisor at community meetings and events.
- Handle media calls and requests.
- Research and analyze various policy issues.

### Foundation to Support Animal Protection (PETA Foundation), Washington, D.C.

*Legal Assistant to the General Counsel*

July 2010 – June 2011

- Managed corporate governance of 11 international PETA affiliates.
- Ensured compliance with New York City and State lobbying regulations.
- Prepared correspondence and exhibits for requests to government agencies, including the USDA, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and various state attorneys general, to enforce animal welfare and cruelty laws.
- Wrote PETA's Performance and Effectiveness Assessment Report in compliance with Better Business Bureau Standards for Charity Accountability.

### The Humane Society of the United States, Farm Animal Welfare, Washington, D.C. Sept. – Dec. 2009

*Intern*

- Worked directly under Michael Greger, M.D., and assisted in direct mail campaigns.
- Fact-checked cited sources in publications on farm animals, factory farms, food safety, and public health.

## Volunteer Work

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### Advanced "Green Dog" Volunteer, San Francisco Animal Care & Control

2012

- Provided exercise, training, enrichment, and love to dogs while they are awaiting adoption.
- Educated San Francisco residents about the importance of spaying/neutering their companion animals.

### Straw Delivery Volunteer, PETA's Community Animal Project

2010-2011

- Delivered straw bedding, toys, treats, water, and love to forgotten dogs in deeply impoverished areas of southeastern Virginia and improved their quality of life by cleaning trash and animal waste from their yards and fenced-in enclosures.

ANALYTICAL PAPER

An Analytic Paper Presented to the Faculty of the College of Arts and Sciences  
University of San Francisco

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements of the Degree of  
MASTER OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

by

Davi Lang

November 22, 2013

A Mandatory Spay/Neuter Ordinance in San Francisco:  
The Solution to San Francisco's Other Homeless Problem

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements of the  
MASTERS OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

by

Davi Lang

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES  
UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO

November 22, 2013

Under the guidance and approval of the committee, and approval by all the members, this analytic paper has been accepted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree.

Approved:

FIRST ADVISOR \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

SECOND ADVISOR \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

THIRD ADVISOR \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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# A MANDATORY SPAY/NEUTER ORDINANCE IN SAN FRANCISCO

A Mandatory Spay/Neuter Ordinance in San Francisco:

The Solution to San Francisco's Other Homeless Problem

## **Executive Summary**

The dog overpopulation in San Francisco has been straining San Francisco's Department of Animal Care & Control's already limited resources with the increase in dog impoundments and animal cruelty cases, particularly ones involving dogs. At least 33 local governments around the United States have implemented mandatory spay/neuter laws for all dogs as a way to curb the companion animal<sup>1</sup> overpopulation. San Francisco should adopt a similar mandatory spay/neuter law, in which all dogs over the age of six months, with certain exceptions, must be spayed or neutered. This will relieve the strain on Animal Care & Control, will save the City money, and will decrease pain, suffering, and even death among San Francisco's dog population.

Humans have a responsibility to care for companion animals because we domesticated them and allow them to breed in a world where there are not enough homes for them. So humans should take action to decrease breeding, especially accidental breeding, so as to decrease the population of unwanted dogs. This human action should be in the form of implementing a mandatory spay/neuter law, so the majority of dogs will be unable to reproduce and so that breeders are restricted to one litter per year to minimize their contribution to the companion animal overpopulation. Not only is spaying and neutering crucial to reducing the population of unwanted dogs, but it also has many health, behavioral, and societal benefits. Spaying and neutering will increase the health of dogs by reducing their chances of developing certain cancers; it will increase their life span; and it will increase public safety and public health by

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<sup>1</sup> The use of companion animals in this paper refers to domesticated cats and dogs.

reducing aggression, making them less likely to bite, and reducing the number of stray dogs wandering the streets.

Even though most veterinarians, most members of the animal shelter community, and most animal welfare/rights activists agree that spaying/neutering is vital to decreasing the companion animal overpopulation, they disagree on whether spaying/neutering should be mandatory or simply encouraged. Proponents of mandatory spay/neuter laws argue that they will save local governments money, produce more revenue, and improve public safety and public health. On the other hand, opponents argue that low-cost spay/neuter programs are more effective at decreasing the companion animal overpopulation, mandatory spay/neuter laws punish poor people and will result in more companion animals being abandoned in shelters, they discourage people from taking their animals to the vet or to the animal shelter for fear of being reported to authorities for having an unaltered animal, they punish responsible companion animal guardians<sup>2</sup> and breeders, they waste public resources, and they are difficult to enforce.

An analysis of shelter data from two municipalities—Clark County, Nevada, and Los Angeles County, California—that have implemented mandatory spay/neuter laws reveals that recent dog intake and euthanasia rates are the lowest they have been in the past two decades, indicating that these laws are successful at reducing the unwanted dog population. In 2005, San Francisco’s Commission of Animal Control and Welfare considered implementing a mandatory spay/neuter ordinance for all dogs, but it never went past Commission meetings. However, in 2006, San Francisco implemented a mandatory spay/neuter law for Pit Bulls, which resulted in a decrease in Pit Bull euthanasia rates. The success of this law can be partly attributed to the free spay/neuter services for Pit Bulls offered by the San Francisco Society for the Prevention of

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<sup>2</sup> I will refer to people as “guardians” rather than “owners” because companion animals are individuals with their own distinct personalities, despite their legal status as property.

Cruelty to Animals (SF SPCA). Other free spay/neuter services for any breed of dog are also offered in various locations in San Francisco, which would help ensure the success of a mandatory spay/neuter ordinance for all dogs.

San Francisco should implement a mandatory spay/neuter ordinance that requires that all dogs six months or older must be spayed or neutered, with exemptions for dogs who are too old or sick to undergo the spay/neuter surgery and dogs whose health would be threatened by the spay/neuter surgery. In addition, guardians who do not want to spay or neuter their dogs must obtain an intact dog license or a breeding license. Animal Care & Control can enforce the mandatory spay/neuter law by modifying its dog licensing system to assign different colored tags for different licenses—regular dog licenses, intake dog license, and breeding license. Furthermore, breeders must show proof that they have a breeding license by putting the license number on their advertisements or sales receipts, and they must be restricted to one litter per year and the number of unaltered animals they are allowed to have should be limited, as well, so as to not further contribute to the companion animal overpopulation problem. And finally, penalties for violations of the mandatory spay/neuter law should be civil, rather than criminal.

### **Background**

#### **Companion Animal Overpopulation or Unwanted Companion Animals**

**United States.** An estimated 70,000 puppies and kittens are born everyday in the U.S. (about 25.5 million per year) (City & County of San Francisco Department of Animal Care & Control, 2013c, para. 1), “yet millions are euthanized in shelters every year, costing shelters \$1 [to \$2] billion annually—a waste of money and life ([citation omitted] Frank, 2004, p. 108)” (Lang, 2012, p. 5; Zanowski, 2012, p. E24). With only 10,000 human babies born each day, seven puppies and kittens are born for every one human baby born (City & County of San

Francisco Department of Animal Care & Control, 2013c, para. 1; Coleman, Veleanu, & Wolkov, 2011, p. 397). So even if every human on Earth adopted a companion animal, there still would be a significant shortage of homes for companion animals (City & County of San Francisco Department of Animal Care & Control, 2013c, para. 1; Coleman, Veleanu, & Wolkov, 2011, p. 397). In the U.S. alone, an estimated 7.5 million plus companion animals are homeless (City & County of San Francisco Department of Animal Care & Control, 2013c, para. 2). “Many of these [unwanted] animals lead lives of misery, privation, disease[,] and neglect,” San Francisco’s Department of Animal Care & Control (2013) explains, “[t]he others are spared this torture only by being killed in animal shelters throughout the country. Ironically, the source of all this misery is very often people who supposedly care for animals. Blissfully ignorant of the consequences, owners allow their pets to breed, causing mass population explosions. By allowing their pet to have even one litter, they are sentencing these animals and their offspring to lives of misery and almost certain death. And it is all so unnecessary” (City & County of San Francisco Department of Animal Care & Control, 2013c, paras. 2-3). Although no uniform reporting system for animal shelters exists, the Humane Society of the United States (2009) estimates that approximately 2.7 million adoptable cats and dogs are euthanized in U.S. shelters every year (Humane Society of the United States, 2009, “U.S. shelter and adoption estimates”).

The companion animal overpopulation problem, which Mark Lawrie, Margaret Gaal, Ann Margaret Withers, Isabelle Widdison, and Magdoline Awad (1996) dub the “unwanted companion animals (UCA)” problem (Lawrie, Gaal, Withers, Widdison, & Awad, 1996, p. 87), began in the 1940s when post-World War II urbanization concentrated companion animals in cities and when advances in veterinary medicine improved the health and fertility of companion animals, so they lived longer and produced more litters (Moulton, Wright, & Rindy, 1991, para.

1; Zawistowski, Morris, Salman, & Ruch-Gallie, 1998, p. 194; Coleman, Veleanu, & Wolkov, 2011, p. 397). In addition, higher wages and suburbanization subsequently created new housing developments with backyards, which were ideal for families to have companion animals (Coleman, Veleanu, & Wolkov, 2011, p. 397). While some companion animal guardians choose to breed their animals, others fail to get their animals spayed or neutered for various reasons and negligently let them roam free and reproduce with other animals (Coleman, Veleanu, & Wolkov, 2011, p. 398). “The overpopulation problem has only increased since then” (Lang, 2012, p. 4). One of the problems in addressing the companion animal overpopulation problem is the “lack of reliable data” due to the absence of a national or even a statewide standard for maintaining shelter data (Lawrie, Gaal, Withers, Widdison, & Awad, 1996, p. 87).

**California.** The companion animal problem is so severe in California that it prompted action by the state legislature. On February 23, 2007, California Assemblyman Lloyd Levine (D-Rancho Cucamonga & San Bernadino) introduced the California Healthy Pets Act (AB 1634), which would require most dogs and cats over four months old to be spayed/neutered (California Healthy Pets Act of 2007; NPR, June 11, 2009). Although this new law was estimated to cost California about \$250 million annually, it would have saved the State a considerable amount of money, as the California Department of Health Services reported that between 1995 and 2005, California spent about \$2.75 billion taking-in, housing, and euthanizing unwanted companion animals (Holzer, 2008, p. 17; Fiala, April 2007, p. 1). The bill garnered support from the California Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA), the California Animal Control Directors’ Association, and the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) (Fiala, April 2007, pp. 72, 1). Even celebrities such as Lionel Richie, Jane Valez Mitchell, Diane Keaton, Ben Stein, and

former “The Price is Right” host, Bob Barker, lobbied in support of the bill (Barker et al., 2007). Unfortunately, the bill died in Senate committee (California Healthy Pets Act of 2007).

“[A] poll conducted by Zogby International in 2008...[showed that] 80 percent of Californians support a law that would require dogs and cats over the age of six months to be spayed/neutered, 50 percent of which strongly support and 30 percent of which somewhat support (Social Compassion in Legislation, 2009)” (Lang, 2012, p. 7). In addition, guardians of companion animals who were not spayed or neutered were asked “Why is your pet(s) not spayed or neutered?” and 28% responded with “Pet is used for breeding or want to have one litter,” and 11% responded with “Do not see the need,” while 29% responded with “Pet is too old, young or ill,” 14% responded with “Plan to but haven’t done it yet,” 8% responded with “Cannot afford,” and 10% responded with “other” reason (Social Compassion in Legislation, 2009). “In addition, 81 percent of Californians surveyed believed that ‘individuals who sell cats or dogs for profit should obtain a business license, pay sales tax, and report their income (Social Compassion in Legislation, 2009)” (Lang, 2012, p. 7). These poll results show that a majority of Californians support both a state mandatory spay/neuter law and state regulation of the sale of dogs and cats. The poll results also indicate that cost is not a major reason that companion animal guardians have not spayed or neutered their animals in that one of the top two reasons given in the poll was that they used the animal to breed, the other top reason being that the animal was too young, old, or ill to safely undergo the surgery.

### **San Francisco and San Francisco Department of Animal Care & Control**

The San Francisco Department of Animal Care & Control is the city agency responsible for caring for all of San Francisco’s animals, both domestic or wild, including those who are sick, injured, or simply unwanted (City & County of San Francisco Board of Supervisors, September

10, 2013, p. 576). As an open-admission shelter, ACC takes in all animals, regardless of their condition or adoptability and “regardless of budget and operational capacity” (San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Supervisor Scott Wiener, 2013, para. 2). In addition to providing shelter services, selling dog licenses, and informing the public about responsible companion animal guardianship (City & County of Department of San Francisco Animal Care & Control, 2013a), Animal Care & Control also dispatches Animal Control Officers to patrol San Francisco and “[r]espond[] to animal-related emergencies,” “rescu[ing] animals in distress,” impounding stray dogs, “enforce[ing] all [state and local] animal control [and welfare] laws, and investigating animal cruelty cases (City & County of San Francisco Department of Animal Care & Control, 2013b, “Deputy Animal Control Officers”). Animal Care & Control also adopts out animals and has an adoption agreement with the San Francisco SPCA that Animal Care & Control will not euthanize any adoptable animal and that the SPCA will take any adoptable animal offered to it by the Department (City & County of San Francisco Department of Animal Care & Control, April 1, 1994). Partly because of this Agreement, Kat Brown, Deputy Director of Animal Care & Control, says, “ACC does not euthanize for space” (City & County of San Francisco Commission of Animal Control and Welfare, January 8, 2009, “6A Discussion only of no-kill policies,” para. 9).

On November 7, 2013, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors Neighborhood Services and Safety Committee held a hearing on the “Operational and Budgetary Needs of Animal Care and Control” (San Francisco Government Television, November 7, 2013). Representatives from Animal Care & Control and the San Francisco City Administrator’s Office stated that the number of dogs that the Department has taken in has steadily increased. The statistics provided on Animal Care & Control’s website show that between 2007 and 2011, the number of dogs it took

in increased by 25% from 1,939 dogs in fiscal year 2007-08 to 2,424 dogs in fiscal year 2010-11 (City & County of San Francisco Department of Animal Care & Control, 2013d). However, at the hearing, Adam Nguyen, Director of Budget and Planning in the City Administrator's Office, reported that between fiscal years 2007-08 and 2012-13, the number of dogs that Animal Care & Control took in has increased by 42% over the past 5 years, (San Francisco Government Television, November 7, 2013). Nevertheless, the number of dogs impounded at Animal Care & Control has increased significantly, yet the Department's roughly \$4 million budget has remained relatively static for at least the past decade, according to Nguyen, with the exception of the current fiscal year (2013-14) wherein it received an additional \$802,000, which is slated for capital improvements, including floor and roof repairs and a plan to determine what other structural improvements the building needs (San Francisco Government Television, November 7, 2013). Animal Care & Control Director Rebecca Katz also noted that dogs require more care and resources, including cleaning, socializing, and veterinary costs (San Francisco Government Television, November 7, 2013).

This substantial increase in the number of dog impoundments is severely impacting the Department, which is overworked, understaffed, underfunded, and has also seen a significant increase in the number of animal cruelty cases over the past few years (San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Supervisor Scott Wiener, September 10, 2013; KTVU, September 12, 2013). According to Nguyen, it is an animal shelter industry best practices standard that each dog receives at least 15 minutes of human interaction, but there are so many dogs at Animal Care & Control that Animal Care Attendants, each of whom is responsible for approximately 50 dogs and must clean kennels, feed dogs, and provide adoption and redemption services, are not able to spend 15 minutes with each dog (San Francisco Government Television, November 7, 2013).



This increase in workload has led to cutbacks. “Services are increasing. Public demand is increasing. And we just don’t have the funds to make the change,” says Animal Care & Control Captain Vicky Guldbeck (KTVU, 2013, para. 5). To compensate, the Department has cut services and hours during which the shelter is open to the public (KTVU, 2013, para. 7), making it difficult for shelter employees to rescue stray and abused animals (KTVU, 2013, para. 1) and care for them in the shelter (KTVU, 2013, para. 4). For example, the shelter is no longer open to the public seven days a week, but closed two days a week, and there are fewer Animal Control Officers on duty at any given time, and they are no longer on duty 24 hours a day (KTVU, 2013, paras. 7, 8, 9). However, Supervisor Wiener reported at the hearing that the shelter is now open seven days a week again (San Francisco Government Television, November 7, 2013). In addition, this shortage in Animal Control Officers means that they are only able to respond to emergency calls and that Animal Care & Control is unable to pursue and investigate animal cruelty cases (San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Supervisor Scott Wiener, September 10, 2013, para. 4). “The number of animal cruelty cases – which require investigations, hearings, and care for the animals – has [increased by 15% over the past decade and had] doubled in the last year” (San Francisco Government Television, November 7, 2013; San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Supervisor Scott Wiener, 2013, para. 5). Nguyen also notes that investigations require more time and field visits than other service calls (San Francisco Government Television, November 7, 2013). In addition, the number of calls for services that Animal Control Officers receive has increased over the past five years, with a significant increase from fiscal year 2011-12 (12,143 calls) to 2012-13 (12,774 calls), according to Nguyen (San Francisco Government Television, November 7, 2013). Medical care is also very expensive, and, combined with the increase in animal abuse, both are draining Animal Care & Control’s resources (KTVU, 2013, para. 11).

This Capstone project analyzes the effectiveness of mandatory spay/neuter laws in various municipalities in the U.S. and the need for such a mandatory spay/neuter ordinance in San Francisco. Mandatory spay/neuter laws restrict and regulate companion animal reproduction, and the specifics of such laws vary. For example, some require companion animals to be spayed/neutered before they are adopted out, some require all dogs of a certain breed to be spayed/neutered, and others require all companion animals over a certain age to be spayed/neutered (Holzer, 2008, p. 21). I will argue for a mandatory spay/neuter law that requires all dogs over a certain age to be spayed/neutered with certain exemptions. I am focusing on dogs because, according to Supervisor Wiener's September 10, 2013 Press Release, "Dogs are the most resource-intensive animals that [the Department] handles" (San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Supervisor Scott Wiener, September 10, 2013), requiring more time, money, space, treatment, and other resources, according to Nguyen (San Francisco Government Television, November 7, 2013), and there has been a dramatic increase in the number of dog impoundments and animal cruelty cases involving dogs at San Francisco's public shelter. At least 33 municipalities in the U.S. have implemented mandatory spay/neuter laws in which dogs over a certain age are required to be spayed/neutered with certain exceptions. See Appendix A for a list of all 33 municipalities and the details of their laws. This Capstone analyzes data from Clark County, Nevada, and Los Angeles County, California, the only municipalities from which I was able to obtain data, to determine whether or not their mandatory spay/neuter laws were effective at decreasing dog intake and euthanasia numbers.

### **Primary Conclusion**

San Francisco should pass a mandatory spay/neuter ordinance that requires that all dogs over a six months or older to be spayed or neutered, with certain exemptions, because it would

not only decrease the number of unwanted dogs in San Francisco who require assistance from Animal Care & Control, saving the City money, but the ordinance would also increase revenue for the agency from fines and licensing fees. Shelter data from Clark County, Nevada, and Los Angeles County, California, reveal that recent dog intake and euthanasia rates are the lowest they have been in the past two decades, indicating that these laws are successful at reducing the unwanted dog population, and thus the shelters have saved taxpayer money.

### **Detailed Examination of Evidence**

#### **Human Responsibility**

Dogs cannot be blamed for the strain they put on city and county resources for they are simply succumbing to their natural instincts to procreate. We, humans, however, domesticated them and allow them to breed uncontrollably, and they cannot survive without our help, so we must come up with a solution. Angela K. Fournier and E. Scott Geller (2004) argue that the companion overpopulation problem is a “societal ‘people problem’” and that human behavior is to blame, thus the solution lies in human action (Fournier & Scott, 2004, p. 51). Similarly, Joshua Frank (2004) argues that humans have a responsibility to address the companion animal overpopulation problem because humans caused it by domesticating animals (Frank, 2004, p. 108). For 8,000 to 10,000 years humans have selfishly bred dogs and cats to fit their needs, transforming wild animals into domesticated animals who depend on humans for survival (Sturla, 1993, p. 928; Frank, 2004, p. 108), “so we are responsible for their welfare, which includes preventing the birth of unwanted companion animals and reducing the[ir]...population (Frank, 2004, p. 107, 108, 128)” (Lang, 2012, p. 6). Furthermore, Carol Moulton, Phyllis Wright, and Kathryn Rindy (1991) argue that “[it] is not a ‘shelter problem’ but a community problem,” therefore, we must work together to solve it (Moulton, Wright, & Rindy, 1991, p. 1176).

In addition, Fournier and Geller (2004) argue that the failure of companion animal guardians to engage in necessary “pet-maintenance behaviors” and “pet sterilization” contributes to companion animal overpopulation (Fournier & Scott, 2004, p. 52). Pet-maintenance behaviors include animal training, such as house or “potty” training and other animal-behavior training, and pre-acquisition behaviors, such as analyzing personal resources and researching the breed before acquiring a companion animals (Fournier & Scott, 2004, p. 52). The failure to engage in these pet-maintenance behaviors often leads to animal relinquishment, and these animals must find new homes. “Therefore,” Frank (2004) writes, “it is human actions and inaction that perpetuate dog overpopulation” (Frank, 2004, p. 108). But “[i]rresponsible animal guardians” who do not spay or neuter their animals are one of the main contributors to the companion animal overpopulation problem (Sturla, 1993, p. 929). And now there are not enough homes for all of the dogs and cats because people do not spay or neuter their companions, and they continue to reproduce (Bryant, 2008, p. 312). We must pass laws to restrict the breeding of companion animals. Moulton, Wright, and Rindy (1991) suggest that passing “[l]aws that force change in human behavior” is key to controlling companion animal overpopulation (Moulton, Wright, & Rindy, 1991, p. 1174; Fournier & Geller, 2004, p. 52). We need to get more people to spay/neuter their dogs in order to stop people from bringing more dogs into a world where there are not enough homes for them, and the best way to do that is to force them to spay/neuter through a mandate. Encouraging people to spay/neuter their companions is not enough to solve the companion overpopulation problem, which is becoming exponentially worse.

### **Spaying/Neutering**

According to Gemma N. Zanowski, in “A Fresh Look at Spay/Neuter Legislation: The Journey to a Middle Ground,” “It is commonly accepted that spaying and neutering pets is the

most effective way to address [the companion animal overpopulation problem]” (Zanowski, 2012, E24; Coleman, Veleanu, & Wolkov, 2011, p. 394, 404; Frank & Carlisle-Frank, 2007, p. 741). John Wenstrup and Alexis Dowidchuk (1999) performed a study of 186 animal shelter and animal control agencies in 42 states, and more than 80% said spaying/neutering—including mandatory spay/neuter laws, low-cost spay/neuter programs, and spay/neuter clinics—was most effective at reducing companion animal overpopulation (Wenstrup & Dowidchuk, 1999, p. 311). “Decreased fertility,” Joshua M. Frank and Pamela L. Carlisle-Frank (2007) argue, “[will] lead to decreased birth rates which will in turn lead to fewer unwanted companion animals. Fewer unwanted animals should lead to reduced animal intake at shelters, which in turn leads to fewer animals killed at shelters” (Frank & Carlisle-Frank, 2007, p. 741). Carol Moulton, Phyllis Wright, and Kathryn Rindy (1991) note, “Animals [who] are neutered cannot add to the problem of overpopulation” (Moulton, Wright, & Rindy, 1991, p. 1174). In addition, Frank (2004) concludes from his human and companion animal dynamics model that spay/neuter campaigns are the most effective method of dog overpopulation reduction over the long term (Frank, 2004, p. 127) and that “the benefits for humans reducing dog overpopulation outweigh the costs to humans of reducing dog overpopulation” (Frank, 2004, p. 128). He argues that birth rates have such a strong effect on overpopulation that even a small change in birth rates can dramatically reduce overpopulation over the long term (Frank, 2004, p. 127). So by preventing companion animals from reproducing, spay/neuter surgery will reduce birth rates and the overall population.

Spaying/neutering also has many health, behavioral, and societal benefits. For example, spaying female dogs and cats “helps prevent uterine infections and breast cancer, which is fatal in about 50 percent of dogs and 90 percent of cats” (American Veterinary Medical Association, 2013, para. 2; American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, 2013, “1. Your female

pet”). And neutering male dogs and cats “prevents testicular cancer, if done before six months of age” (American Veterinary Medical Association, 2013, para. 2; American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, 2013, “2. Neutering provides”). “The surgery also extends the life of dogs by one to three years and three to five years for cats ([Coleman, Veleanu, & Wolkov, 2011, p. 404], People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, n.d., para. 3; Los Angeles Animal Services Department, n.d., para. 8). In addition, spaying prevents females from going into heat, which is stressful and uncomfortable (Los Angeles Animal Services Department, n.d., para.12; People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, n.d., para. 3)” (Lang, 2012, p. 10). And Henry Mark Holzer (2008) argues that it costs less to spay/neuter an animal than it does to treat the diseases spaying/neutering prevents and less than the emotion pain companion animal guardians would experience (Holzer, 2008, p. 12).

“Spaying and neutering also reduce[] undesirable behaviors, such as marking and spraying (Bushby & Griffin, 2011, para. 1; Los Angeles Animal Services Department, n.d., para. 19; Zanowski, 2012, E25)...Sterilization also reduces aggression, fighting, and dog bites by balancing their hormones (Bushby & Griffin, 2011, para. 1; Los Angeles Animal Services Department, n.d., para. 14; Zanowski, 2012, E25; Los Angeles Animal Services Department, n.d., para. 19). According to Coleman, Veleanu, & Wolkov (2011), “unaltered dogs are statistically 2.6 times more likely to bite than sterilized animals” (p. 399). The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention even recommend spaying or neutering to decrease aggression and to help prevent dog bites (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2009, para. 4). The surgery also reduces male roaming in search of a mate, which decreases their chances of being hit with a vehicle (Bushby & Griffin, 2011, para. 1; Zanowski, 2012, E25 American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, 2012, para. 7; Los Angeles Animal Services Department, n.d.; People for the

Ethical Treatment of Animals, n.d., para. 13). So sterilization makes dogs and cats healthier and safer, and thus prolongs their lives” (Lang, 2012, pp. 10-11), and the risk of complications due to spay/neuter surgery or the required anesthesia is very low (American Veterinary Medical Association, 2013, para. 4).

### **Arguments For and Against Mandatory Spay/Neuter Laws**

Though veterinarians, the animal shelter community, and animal welfare/rights advocates agree that spaying/neutering is vital to reducing the companion animal overpopulation (Coleman, Veleanu, & Wolkov, 2011, p. 394, 404; Frank & Carlisle-Frank, 2007, p. 741), there is disagreement over whether spaying/neutering should be mandatory or simply encouraged (Zanowski, 2012, E24). The proponents of mandatory spay/neuter laws argue that they would save local governments money, produce more revenue, and improve public safety and public health. On the other hand, opponents argue that low-cost spay/neuter programs are more effective at decreasing the companion animal overpopulation, that mandatory spay/neuter laws punish poor people and will result in more companion animals being abandoned in shelters, that they discourage people from taking their animals to the vet or to the animal shelter for fear of being reported to authorities for having an unaltered animal, that they punish responsible companion animal guardians and breeders, that they waste public resources, and are difficult to enforce. Below is a discussion of these arguments.

**Arguments for mandatory spay/neuter laws.** Mandatory spay/neuter laws would save local governments money and produce revenue. As discussed earlier, the companion animal overpopulation in San Francisco has overloaded Animal Care & Control’s staff and resources. Jean McNeil and Elisabeth Constandy write, “Pet overpopulation... puts a strain on animal control agencies, which must care for, house, and often euthanize millions of unwanted animals

annually” (McNeil & Constandy, 2006, p. 452). Coleman, Veleanu, and Wolkov (2011) also note the high cost of homeless companion animals on local governments (Coleman, Veleanu, & Wolkov, 2011, p. 400). Mandatory spay/neuter laws would not only reduce the number of animals that Animal Care & Control must care for, adopt out, and euthanize, saving it money, but it would also raise revenue through both citation and licensing payments and through regulating and taxing the birth and sale of puppies.

Mandatory spay/neuter laws would also improve public safety and public health because they would decrease the companion animal overpopulation, resulting in fewer stray dogs wandering the streets and fewer unaltered dogs in general. Stray dogs scare away, injure, or kill wildlife and often “frighten or injure small children” (Zanowski, 2012, E25). Stray dogs also increase the risk of exposure to rabies (McNeil & Constandy, 2006, p. 452). And unaltered dogs tend to be more aggressive (Zanowski, 2012, E25). According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) (September 23, 2013), there are about 4.5 million dog bites every year (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, September 23, 2013, “Why be concerned about dog bites?”). The CDC (September 23, 2013) recommend spaying/neutering animals, which “often reduces aggressive tendencies,” as one way to help prevent dog bites (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, September 23, 2013, “How can dog bites be prevented?”). According to Karen Delise, in *Fatal Dog Attacks: The Stories Behind the Statistics* (as cited in Coleman, Veleanu, & Wolkov, 2011), unaltered dogs are 2.6 times more likely to bite than altered dogs (Coleman, Veleanu, & Wolkov, 2011, p. 399), which creates a public safety problem, especially for children, who “are the most frequent victims” of dog bites (Gershman, Sacks, & Wright, 1994, p. 913). According to Best Friends Animal Society (as cited in Coleman, Veleanu, & Wolkov, 2011), “although unaltered males represent ‘only about 40% of the household dog



population[, they] account for more than 80% of all dog bites and an even higher percentage of serious' injuries and deaths" (Coleman, Veleanu, & Wolkov, 2011, p. 400). One San Francisco Animal Welfare Commissioner stated, "If the public knew the stats on dog bites, there would be support of mandatory spay neuter across the board," and "[m]andatory spay neuter across the board will address [the dog aggression] problem" (City & County of San Francisco Commission of Animal Control and Welfare, July 14, 2005, "5. New Business"). Coleman, Veleanu, and Wolkov (2011) point out that the more unaltered dogs there are, the greater the public safety risk (Coleman, Veleanu, & Wolkov, 2011, p. 400). Unaltered dogs, especially unaltered stray dogs, also pose a public health problem in that they might further the spread of rabies. Coleman, Veleanu, and Wolkov (2011) argue that spay/neuter laws will also "protect[] citizens and their pets" and will "rescu[e] many dogs and cats from horrible lives and deaths" (Coleman, Veleanu, & Wolkov, 2011, p. 424). In addition, stray dogs rummage through garbage and recycling bins and defecate and urinate in public streets and parks and private lawns and gardens (Zanowski, 2012, E25). Making it mandatory for guardians to spay/neuter their companion animals will lead to widespread spaying/neutering, thereby decreasing aggression among the dog population. It will also increase the safety of other companion animals because there would be fewer aggressive dogs or less aggression in dogs.

Lastly, despite the name "mandatory," mandatory spay/neuter laws are not actually mandatory. Coleman, Veleanu, and Wolkov (2011) argue that mandatory spay/neuter laws "typically include exceptions for animals who meet certain criteria, such as old, sick, or service animals, as well as language providing the owner with the option of purchasing an intact permit or a breeding permit. Thus, it appears that the combination of exceptions and the choice of purchasing permits exempting owners from the requirement that their dog or cat be

spay/neutered means that, despite the language and common beliefs, these laws are not truly mandatory” (Coleman, Veleanu, & Wolkov, 2011, p. 408). If someone does not want to spay or neuter his or her companion animal, he may obtain an intact dog license or a breeding license and pay a fee. So mandatory spay/neuter laws do not really force people to spay or neuter their animals.

**Arguments against mandatory spay/neuter laws.** One main argument against mandatory spay/neuter laws is that low-cost spay/neuter programs are more effective, and thus mandatory laws are not necessary. Gemma Zanowski (2012) argues that low-cost spaying/neutering programs are more viable than mandatory spay/neuter laws in terms of reducing the number of animals euthanized (Zanowski, 2012, E25). She cites El Dorado, Mendocino, Monterey, Nevada, Placer, and Ventura counties, which offer low-cost spay/neuter programs, as having substantially greater reductions in euthanasia of dogs than Santa Cruz County, which has a mandatory spay/neuter law (Zanowski, 2012, E25), though she fails to provide numbers indicating such. However, Fournier and Geller (2004) note that low-cost spay/neuter programs are based on the assumption that companion animal guardians fail to spay/neuter their animals because they cannot afford to do so (Fournier & Geller, 2004, p. 53), but a survey of 393 people, 209 of which had dogs, living in four communities in Massachusetts revealed that less than 5.3% of unaltered companion animals were unaltered for this reason (Manning & Rowan, 1992, pp. 192-198). The results indicate that cost was not “a significant barrier to sterilization” in Massachusetts (Manning & Rowan, 1992, pp. 200-201). This “suggest[s] that low-cost spay/neuter programs may not be sufficient to reduce the companion animal overpopulation problem” (Fournier & Geller, 2004, p. 53). The survey results showed that the more common reasons given for not spaying/neutering were that the animal was

confined and therefore had no access to other animals, that the guardians wanted to breed the animal, that the animal was too young, and that spaying/neutering was inconvenient (Manning & Rowan, 1992, p. 198). If cost is not the reason people fail to spay/neuter their companion animals, then low-cost spay/neuter programs alone will not encourage them to do so. Henry Mark Holzer (2008) argues that spay/neuter laws must be mandatory in order to have a significant impact on controlling companion animal overpopulation (Holzer, 2008, p. 18). Nevertheless, “[l]ocalities should [still] offer low-cost spay/neuter vouchers to qualifying low-income residents who are not able to afford the cost of a spay/neuter surgery to help them comply with MSN laws” (Lang, 2012, p. 11).

Another argument against mandatory spay/neuter laws is that they punish poor people and will result in more people surrendering their animals because they do not want to spay or neuter their companion animal or because they do not want to pay for the surgery. San Francisco Animal Welfare Commissioner Pam Hemphill stated, “owning an animal has financial responsibilities. If you can’t afford to spay/neuter, can you afford to have a pet?” (City & County of San Francisco Commission of Animal Control and Welfare, August 13, 2009, “6A. Public Comment”). Companion animal guardians “have certain responsibilities that cost money. The spay/neuter surgery is a one-time cost, unless there are complications. If someone is unable to afford even the low-cost price [of a spay/neuter surgery], how will [he or she] be able to afford the recommended annual visits to the veterinarian and necessary costs of taking care of a [companion animal], such as food, ...training class, pet license, grooming, dental cleanings, vaccinations, and medication such as flea and tick control?...[I]f someone is unable to afford a one-time expenditure at the low-cost price, they will probably not be able to provide adequate care for the[ir companion animal]” (Lang, 2012, p. 11).

Some argue that mandatory spay/neuter laws discourage people from going to the veterinary office or from purchasing a pet license because they are afraid of being reported for having an unaltered dog. For example, the American Veterinary Medical Association “does not support regulations or legislation mandating spay/neuter or privately owned, non-shelter dogs and cats” because they “may contribute to pet owners avoiding licensing” (American Veterinary Medical Association Executive Board, 2009, para. 2). In addition, some of the public comments in the August 11, 2005 Animal Welfare Commission meeting regarding a possible mandatory spay/neuter law were that veterinarians would be required to report unaltered animals, which may scare people from getting their animals vaccinated if they are unaltered, for fear of being reported to Animal Care & Control (City & County of San Francisco Commission of Animal Control and Welfare, July 14, 2005, “5. New Business”). But, as mentioned above, most mandatory spay/neuter laws provide the option to obtain an intact license or breeding license if someone does not want to spay or neuter their companion animal (Lang, 2012, p. 12). “So when people with unaltered [companion animals] go to purchase their pet licenses, they may also purchase an unaltered pet license. In addition, people who do not follow laws governing pet “ownership,” such as failing to spay or neuter their pet when mandatory and failing to obtain an unaltered animal license, are not likely to follow any laws governing pet “ownership,” such as obtaining a pet license. So mandating th[at] people spay or neuter their pets is not likely to...scare people from obtaining pet licenses because they would just as easily be able to obtain an unaltered pet license at the same time, and those who decide not to follow the MSN law are not likely to follow [any other pet-maintenance] law anyway” (Lang, 2012, p. 12). In addition, in September, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors passed the “due process for all ordinance,” which separates the criminal process from the immigration process and prohibits law

enforcement from reporting undocumented immigrants to federal immigration authorities. Local governments could similarly prohibit veterinarians from reporting to animal control agencies that animals are unaltered, so companion animal guardians can take their animals to the vet without fear of being reported.

In addition, some argue that mandatory spay/neuter laws punish responsible companion animal guardians and responsible breeders. For example, “North Carolina Responsible Animal Owners Alliance is against mandatory spay/neuter and breeder licensing laws because they ‘punish[] responsible pet owners and breeders while ignoring irresponsible animal owners’ (North Carolina Responsible Animal Owners Alliance, n.d.a, para. 5)” (Lang, 2012, p. 12). One responsibility of companion animal guardians is to spay or neuter their companion animals (Irwin, 2001, p. 2). So if a person fails to spay or neuter his or her companion animal, he or she is probably an irresponsible companion animal guardian (Lang, 2012, p. 12). Mandatory spay/neuter laws target these irresponsible companion animal guardians who fail to spay or neuter their companion animals by mandating that they either spay/neuter their companion animal or obtain an intact license or breeder license. Thus, responsible companion animal guardians who have already spayed or neutered their companion animals would be unaffected by mandatory spay/neuter laws. In addition, a responsible breeder follows the law, obtaining the proper breeding license and following all companion animal breeding regulations, if there are any. So mandatory spay/neuter laws do not punish responsible breeders because they follow the law anyway. Mandatory spay/neuter laws would force both irresponsible companion animal guardians and irresponsible breeders to become responsible by spaying/neutering their companion animals and obtaining the proper breeding license, respectively (Lang, 2012, p.12).

Finally, some opponents feel that mandatory spay/neuter laws waste public resources and are difficult to enforce. For example, Gemma Zanowski argues that mandatory spay/neuter laws waste public resources on administrative expenses when they would be put to better use in funding spay/neuter programs (Zanowski, 2012, p. E26). There are two main ways to enforce mandatory spay/neuter laws. First, animal control agencies can dispatch officers to knock on doors to inspect whether or not people have spayed or neutered their companion animals and to issue citations or fix-it tickets forcing people to either spay/neuter or obtain the proper intact or breeder license. Though this requires more resources, it would be quite effective at increasing the number of companion animals who are spayed/neutered, raising revenue for the animal control agency and decreasing the number of unwanted dogs the agency would have to care for. And the second method of enforcing mandatory spay/neuter laws is to enforce the law for people who redeem their lost companion animals. Kim Sturla (1993) supports this method of enforcement, explaining that “[w]hen someone comes into a shelter to claim a lost animal, they must show proof that the animal has a license and is altered or has a breeding permit” (Sturla, 1993, p. 932). If their companion animal is unaltered, they will be issued a citation or fix-it ticket forcing them to either spay/neuter or purchase the proper intact dog or breeder license. This second method of enforcement would require minimal additional resources.

### **Shelter Data from Municipalities with Mandatory Spay/Neuter Laws**

As mentioned earlier, at least 33 cities and counties across the U.S. have implemented mandatory spay/neuter laws (see Appendix A). I contacted animal control departments and shelters of 18 of these municipalities to acquire shelter data to show how mandatory spay/neuter laws are at decreasing the number of dogs animal shelters must care for, adopt out, or euthanize. I requested the number of dogs the animal control departments and shelters took in each year (10

years) before the MSN law took effect and how many they took in every year after the law took effect. I also requested the number of dogs whose guardians redeemed them, the number of dogs who were adopted out, and the number of dogs who were euthanized for the same years. Given the time constraints of this Capstone project, i.e. I had about five weeks to obtain shelter data from 33 cities and counties across the U.S., and due to the fact that almost none of them published shelter data on their websites, had them readily available, or even kept such data, I was only able to obtain data from two municipalities—Clark County, Nevada, and Los Angeles County, California. I obtained dog intake, redemption, and euthanasia rates for both cities. Dog impoundment includes dogs who were rescued by animal control officers or who were confiscated from their guardians, dogs who were lost or stray and picked up by animal control officers or citizens, dogs whose guardians surrendered them, and dogs who had passed away on the street. Redemption is when dogs who entered the shelter are redeemed by their guardians.

**Clark County, Nevada.** Section 10.08.130 of Clark County’s Municipal Code states that it is illegal for a person to harbor a dog or cat who is not spayed or neutered, with certain exceptions (Clark County, Nevada, Municipal Code, n.d.), in the unincorporated areas of Clark County (Clark County, Nevada, 2010d; Pope, November 12, 2008, para. 2). Please see Appendix B for the full text of the law, which went into effect on May 19, 2010 (Clark County, Nevada, 2010b). According to Joe Boteilho, Chief of Clark County’s Code Enforcement, which oversees Clark County Animal Control, the mandatory spay/neuter ordinance is a secondary offense, i.e. animal control officers can only cite companion animal guardians for failing to spay or neuter if the officer is “investigating a complaint of a separate offense” or the “animal[ is] roaming unleashed,” but “officers [cannot] not randomly target [guardians] because there are not enough officers to check every home” (Pope, November 12, 2008, para. 22). I obtained dog

impoundment, guardian redemption, and euthanasia rates for fiscal years 1988-89 through 2010-11 from Clark County's government website (Clark County, Nevada, 2010c). I contacted the Lied Animal Shelter, an open-admission shelter that is run by The Animal Foundation (TAF), which Clark County Animal Control (CCAC) contracts with to house and care for all animals animal control officers pick up (Clark County, Nevada, 2010a), to obtain data for fiscal year 2011-12. A Lied Animal Shelter representative provided data for fiscal year 2011-12 (Rosanne (did not provide last name), personal communication, October 24, 2013). Please refer to Appendices D, E, and F for Clark County shelter data and graphs. An analysis of the Clark County data shows the following:

***Dog intake/impoundment rate.*** Please refer to Appendix C while reading this section. Adjusting for population changes, the data show that in the first year (fiscal year 2010-11) after Clark County's mandatory spay/neuter law took effect on May 19, 2010, the rate of dog intake per 1,000 people decreased by 0.17 dogs per 1,000 people. But in the next year (fiscal year 2011-12), the rate of dog intake per 1,000 people increased by 0.43 dogs per 1,000 people. However, when adjusted for effects of the economic recession on dog relinquishment (measured by unemployment rates), in the first year (fiscal year 2010-11), the rate of dog intake per 1,000 people indexed by unemployment decreased by 0.34 dogs per 1,000 people indexed by unemployment. But in the next year (fiscal year 2011-12), the rate of dog intake per 1,000 people indexed by unemployment increased by 0.21 dogs per 1,000 people indexed by unemployment. The dog intake rate of 1.48 dogs per 1,000 people indexed by unemployment in the year (fiscal year 2010-11) after the mandatory spay/neuter law took effect is the lowest rate recorded in Clark County in the past 20 years, and the rate of 1.69 dogs per 1,000 people indexed by



unemployment the next year (fiscal year 2011-12) was the second lowest rate recorded in Clark County in the same time period/in the past 20 years.

*Adjusted dog intake/impoundment rate.* Please refer to Appendix D while reading this section. Adjusted dog impoundment is all dogs included in dog impoundment minus dogs whose guardians redeemed them. So if we are looking at the mandatory spay/neuter law's effectiveness at reducing the number of unwanted dogs that Clark County Animal Control and the Lied Animal Shelter must care for, adopt out, or euthanize, we should look at the adjusted dog intake rate because these are dogs that guardians did not want them, their guardians had passed away and made no arrangements for anyone to take care of them, or they never had a guardian in the first place. So, adjusting for population changes, the data show that in the first year (fiscal year 2010-11) after Clark County's mandatory spay/neuter law took effect on May 19, 2010, the rate of adjusted dog intake per 1,000 people decreased by 0.03 dogs per 1,000 people. But in the next year (fiscal year 2011-12), the rate of adjusted dog intake increased by 0.40 dogs per 1,000 people. However, when adjusted for effects of the economic recession on dog relinquishment (measured by unemployment rates), in the year (fiscal year 2010-11) after the mandatory spay/neuter law was enacted, the rate of adjusted dog intake per 1,000 people indexed by unemployment decreased by 0.44 dogs per 1,000 people indexed by unemployment. But in the next year (fiscal year 2011-12), the rate of adjusted dog intake per 1,000 people indexed by unemployment increased by 0.19 dogs per 1,000 people indexed by unemployment. Nevertheless, as was the case with the unadjusted dog intake rates in the above section, the adjusted dog intake rate of 1.21 dogs per 1,000 people indexed by unemployment in the year (fiscal year 2010-11) after the mandatory spay/neuter law took effect is the lowest rate recorded in Clark County in the past 20 years, and the adjusted dog intake rate of 1.40 dogs per 1,000

people indexed by unemployment in the next year (fiscal year 2011-12) was the second lowest rate recorded in Clark County in the past 20 years.

*Euthanasia rate.* Please refer to Appendix E while reading this section. If one wants a true measure of an mandatory spay/neuter law's effectiveness at reducing Clark County's truly unwanted dog population, i.e. dogs who are not adopted but are euthanized, one must look at euthanasia rates. Adjusting for population changes in looking at euthanasia rates, the data show that in the first year (fiscal year 2010-11) after Clark County's mandatory spay/neuter law went into effect, the euthanasia rate per 1,000 people increased by 0.23 dogs per 1,000 people, but it decreased by 0.15 dogs per 1,000 people in the next year (fiscal year 2011-12). However, when adjusted for effects of the economic recession on dog relinquishment (measured by unemployment rates), the euthanasia rate per 1,000 people indexed by unemployment decreased by 0.07 dogs in the two years (fiscal years 2010-11 and 2011-12) after the mandatory spay/neuter law went into effect. And last year (fiscal year 2011-12), the euthanasia rate of 0.73 dogs per 1,000 people indexed by unemployment was the lowest euthanasia rate recorded in Los Angeles County in the past 21 years.

**Los Angeles County, California.** Section 10.20.350 of Los Angeles County's Municipal Code states that it is illegal for a person to harbor a dog over four months old who is not spayed or neutered, unless that person has an unaltered dog license (Los Angeles County, California, Municipal Code, n.d.), which applies to the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County (County of Los Angeles, Department of Animal Care and Control, 2013, para. 1). Please see Appendix F for the full text of the law, which went into effect in 2006 (records request, personal communication). I obtained dog impoundment, adoption, guardian redemption, and euthanasia rates for 1991 through fiscal year 2012-12 from the Los Angeles County's Department of

Animal and Control after mailing a Records Request letter. Please refer to Appendices G, H, and I for Los Angeles County shelter data and graphs. An analysis of the data shows the following:

***Dog intake/impoundment rate.*** Please refer to Appendix G while reading this section.

Adjusting for population changes, the data show that in the first year (fiscal year 2006-07) after Los Angeles County's mandatory spay/neuter law took effect in 2006, the rate of dog intake per 1,000 people decreased by 0.02 dogs per 1,000 people. Then in the next four years (fiscal years 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10, and 2010-11), the rate of dog intake per 1,000 people increased by 0.85 dogs per 1,000 people. But in the past two years (fiscal years 2011-12 and 2012-13), the rate of dog intake per 1,000 people decreased by 0.71 dogs per 1,000 people. However, when adjusted for effects of the economic recession on dog relinquishment (measured by unemployment rates), in the first two years (fiscal years 2006-07 and 2007-08) after the mandatory spay/neuter law took effect in 2006, the rate of dog intake per 1,000 people indexed by unemployment increased by 0.52 dogs. But in the next four years (fiscal years 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12), the rate of dog intake per 1,000 people indexed by unemployment decreased by 2.44 dogs per 1,000 people indexed by unemployment. The 1.95 rate of dog intake per 1,000 people indexed for unemployment two years ago (fiscal year 2011-12) was the lowest rate recorded in Los Angeles County in the past 21 years. However, in the past year (fiscal year 2012-13), the rate of dog intake per 1,000 people indexed by unemployment increased slightly by only 0.2 dogs per 1,000 people indexed by unemployment.

***Adjusted dog intake/impoundment rate.*** Please refer to Appendix H while reading this section. As described above, the adjusted dog intake is the total dog intake minus the number of dogs whose guardians redeemed them. Adjusting for population changes, the data show that in the five years (fiscal years 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10, and 2010-11) after Los Angeles

County's mandatory spay/neuter law took effect in 2006, the rate of adjusted dog intake per 1,000 people decreased by 0.89 dogs per 1,000 people. But then in the next two years (fiscal years 2011-12 and 2012-13), the rate of adjusted dog intake decreased by 0.65 dogs per 1,000 people. However, when adjusted for effects of the economic recession on dog relinquishment (measured by unemployment rates), in the two years (fiscal years 2006-07 and 2007-08) after the mandatory spay/neuter law took effect in 2006, the rate of adjusted dog intake per 1,000 people indexed by unemployment increased by 0.54 dogs per 1,000 people indexed by unemployment. But in the next four years (fiscal years 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, and 2011-12), the rate of adjusted dog intake per 1,000 people indexed by unemployment decreased by 2.09 dogs per 1,000 people indexed by unemployment, remaining at the same rate (1.74 dogs per 1,000 people indexed by unemployment) in fiscal year 2012-13, which is the lowest rate recorded in Los Angeles County in the past 21 years.

*Euthanasia rate.* Please refer to Appendix I while reading this section. As described above, euthanasia rates are a true measure of unwanted dogs. So when adjusting for population changes in looking at euthanasia rates, the data show that in the first year (fiscal year 2006-07) after Los Angeles County's mandatory spay/neuter law took effect in 2006, the rate of dog intake per 1,000 people decreased by 0.16 dogs per 1,000 people. Then in the next three years (fiscal years 2007-08, 2008-09, and 2009-10), the rate of dog intake per 1,000 people increased by 0.30 dogs per 1,000 people. But in the past three years (fiscal years 2010-11, 2011-12, and 2012-13), the rate has steadily decreased by 0.60 dogs per 1,000 people. The current euthanasia rate of 1.46 dogs per 1,000 people is the lowest the euthanasia rate, adjusting for population change, recorded in Los Angeles County in the past 21 years. However, when adjusting for both population changes and effects of the economic recession (measured by unemployment) on dog

relinquishment, in the first two years (fiscal years 2006-07 and 2007-08) after the law took effect in 2006, the rate of dog intake per 1,000 people indexed by unemployment increased by 0.17 dogs per 1,000 people. But in the five years (fiscal years 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13) after, the rate of dog intake per 1,000 people indexed by unemployment steadily decreased by 1.30 dogs per 1,000 people. And the current euthanasia rate of 0.68 dogs per 1,000 people indexed by unemployment is the lowest rate recorded in Los Angeles County in the past 21 years, and it is 2.7 times lower than the 2005-06 rate of 1.81 dogs per 1,000 people right before the mandatory spay/neuter law took effect.

**Discussion of data analysis.** Los Angeles County has had seven years for the effects of its mandatory spay/neuter law to fully show, whereas, Clark County has had only three years. As with most laws, it is difficult to determine their true effects in the first few years after implementation. In the case of Clark County, I only had data for two years after its mandatory spay/neuter law was implemented. On the other hand, for Los Angeles County, whose mandatory spay/neuter law was implemented in 2006, I had data for seven years after, which is a fairly reasonable amount of time for the true effects of the law to be shown. I will discuss some possible reasons that dog intake and euthanasia numbers increased after implementation of the mandatory spay/neuter laws. First, it can take time for news of the new law to spread to all companion animal guardians in a locality and for people to actually get their animals spayed or neutered. It can also take time for enforcement of the new law to actually compel companion animal guardians to spay or neuter their animals. For example, depending on the specifics of the law, it can take two or three citations or fix-it tickets to compel a person to take action and spay or neuter their companion animal. So it may take a few years to see a decrease in a locality's unwanted dog population. In addition, enforcement of mandatory spay/neuter laws varies. As

described above, Clark County's mandatory spay/neuter law is a "second offense" law, so animal control officers can only cite a companion animal guardian for violating the spay/neuter law if he or she is already under investigation for something else or is being cited for a separate offense (Pope, November 12, 2008, para. 22). If localities have not developed an enforcement plan or do not have the resources to enforce mandatory spay/neuter laws, the effects of the law may not be visible. But if animal control officers check on every companion animal guardian in the locality to make sure they are adhering to the mandatory spay/neuter law, more animals would be spayed/neutered, and you would see a decline in the unwanted dog population. Moreover, as noted earlier, Frank (2004) argues that decreasing birth rates even by a small number can dramatically reduce overpopulation over the long term (Frank, 2004, p. 127). With this logic, in Clark County, whose mandatory spay/neuter law was enacted just three years ago, we are likely to see stronger numbers in the coming years. However, in Los Angeles County, in the seven years since it enacted its mandatory spay/neuter law, its euthanasia and dog intake rates, when adjusted for population change and unemployment, are the lowest they have been in the last 21 years.

I adjusted the shelter data for effects of the economic recession on dog relinquishment, which I measured with unemployment rates, because if people lose their jobs or homes, they may relinquish their dogs because they are unable to afford to care for them. But Hsin-Yi Weng and Lynette A. Hart (2012) analyzed the impact of the current economic recession on "dog and cat relinquishment, adoption, and euthanasia" at a shelter in Chicago (Weng & Hart, 2012, p. 80) and found that the recession had a minimal effect on animal relinquishment, except when it came to relinquishing senior dogs, which increased during the recession, with cost being "the primary reason for relinquishment" (Weng & Hart, 2012, p. 86, 87). They did find that the recession may

have made people less likely to adopt animals, especially dogs (Weng & Hart, 2012, p. 88-89), which increases the number of animals in shelters, increasing the burden on animal control agencies and the euthanasia rate of animals (Weng & Hart, 2012, p. 89). But despite what Weng and Hart (2012) found in their study of Chicago, as noted above, if dog guardians lose their jobs or their homes due to the economic recession and are not longer able to afford to take care of their dogs, they will relinquish them to a shelter. At the November 7, 2013 Board of Supervisors hearing on San Francisco Animal Care & Control, Rebecca Katz noted a spike in guardian-surrendered dogs in fiscal year 2008-09, which she speculated was due to the economic recession, coupled with the lack of pet-friendly housing and the high cost of veterinary care and behavioral training in San Francisco (San Francisco Government Television, November 7, 2013). In addition, Karen Layne, President of the Las Vegas Valley Humane Society, a private non-profit shelter located in Clark County, also noted that foreclosures have increased the number of abandoned companion animals in Nevada (Pope, November 12 2008, para. 29), which may explain the increase in dog intake after the mandatory spay/neuter law was enacted.

### **A Mandatory Spay/Neuter Ordinance in San Francisco**

In 2005, the City and County of San Francisco Commission of Animal Control and Welfare discussed the possibility of mandating spaying/neutering for all dogs in San Francisco, with certain exceptions (City & County of San Francisco Commission of Animal Control and Welfare, June 9, 2005, “8. New Business;” City & County of San Francisco Commission of Animal Control and Welfare, July 14, 2005, “8. New Business;” City & County of San Francisco Commission of Animal Control and Welfare, August 11, 2005, “7. Old Business”), in order to “address aggression and population issues” (City & County of San Francisco Commission of Animal Control and Welfare, July 14, 2005, “5. New Business”). Commissioners noted that the

mandatory spay/neuter proposal faced opposition when it was discussed a few years prior, but they said, “there is no harm in instituting mandatory spay neuter for all dog [sic] as a way to keep the [dog] population down” (City & County of San Francisco Commission of Animal Control and Welfare, July 14, 2005, “5. New Business”). Commissioner Kipnis researched mandatory spay/neuter laws in other localities and found that their goals for such laws were “to reduce the overpopulation of homeless animals and to prevent future births of unwanted animals” (City & County of San Francisco Commission of Animal Control and Welfare, August 11, 2005, “5. Old Business, a. Explore legislation that would require spay/neuter surgery...”). She also found that in those localities that have implemented mandatory spay/neuter laws, “euthanasia rates are down, [and] impounds were drastically reduced as well” (City & County of San Francisco Commission of Animal Control and Welfare, August 11, 2005, “5. Old Business, a. Explore legislation that would require spay/neuter surgery...”). Unfortunately, mandatory spay/neuter for all dogs was not discussed again after the August 11, 2005 meeting. And Kat Brown, Deputy Director of ACC, had said, “The political climate will not allow a mandatory spay neuter ordinance to pass” (City & County of San Francisco Commission of Animal Control and Welfare, August 11, 2005, “5. Old Business, a. Explore legislation that would require spay/neuter surgery...”). I contacted Animal Care & Control and asked for clarification about what specific aspect of the political climate would not allow a mandatory spay/neuter ordinance to pass, but I did not receive a response.

However, in 2006, San Francisco implemented a mandatory spay/neuter ordinance for all Pit Bulls over eight weeks old, with certain exceptions (City & County of San Francisco Health Code, n.d.). See Appendix J for the full text of the ordinance. According to Rebecca Katz, who, at the time, was Interim Director of San Francisco Animal Care & Control, between 2006 and



2009, 400 fewer pit bulls were euthanized (City & County of San Francisco Commission of Animal Control and Welfare, January 8, 2009, “6A Discussion only of no-kill policies,” para. 6). Katz reported that in the two and a half years before the “Pit Bull Ordinance” took effect in 2006, Animal Care & Control euthanized 1,129 pit bulls compared with 760 in the two and a half years after the it took effect (City & County of San Francisco Commission of Animal Control and Welfare, January 8, 2009, “6A Discussion only of no-kill policies,” para. 6). Los Angeles County had a similar law, but for both Pit Bulls and Rottweilers, and simply expanded application to all dog breeds through its current mandatory spay/neuter law (Fiala, May 1, 2006, paras. 2-3), which was analyzed earlier. It is easier to expand a successful existing law than to create a brand-new law. And since San Francisco already requires that all Pit Bulls be spayed/neutered, the City can expand that requirement to all dog breeds.

The success of San Francisco’s mandatory spay/neuter ordinance for Pit Bulls can be partly attributed to the SF SPCA Spay/Neuter Clinic, which offers free spay/neuter services for all Pit Bulls and Pit Bull mixes whose guardians live in San Francisco (San Francisco SPCA, 2013). In addition to the SF SPCA’s free spay/neuter program for Pit Bulls, the Peninsula Humane Society offers free spay/neuter services in its “Go Nuts” mobile spay/neuter van twice a month at various San Francisco locations (City & County of San Francisco Department of Animal Care & Control, n.d.). These free spay/neuter services will help ensure that a mandatory spay/neuter law in San Francisco is successful because, as Animal Welfare Commissioner Sally Stephens stated, without free or low-cost spay/neuter services, mandatory spay/neuter laws will “result in more animals being impounded” (City & County of San Francisco Commission of Animal Control and Welfare, January 8, 2009, “6A Discussion only of no-kill policies,” para. 18). Moreover, despite these free spay/neuter services, the number of unwanted dogs in San

Francisco has increased, and therefore we need to make spaying/neutering mandatory for all dogs in San Francisco, with certain exceptions.

San Francisco should pass the following proposed mandatory spay/neuter ordinance:

**Dogs who are six months or older must be spayed or neutered, with exceptions.** Most municipalities that have mandatory spay/neuter laws require dogs to be spayed or neutered by the time they are six months old. Veterinarians Philip A. Bushby and Brenda Griffin (2011) recommend spaying/neutering dogs and cats before they sexually mature at 5 months of age (Bushby & Griffin, 2011, para. 3). And even the Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) supports spaying/neutering pediatric (8-16 week old) dogs and cats (Bushby & Griffin, 2011, para. 4). The benefits of spaying/neutering pediatric dogs and cats, according to Bushby and Griffin, is that “[t]he surgical procedures are easier, faster, and less expensive than they are in adult animals,” the surgery times and anesthetic episodes are shorter, “the incidence of perioperative complications is low,” and the healing time and recovery from anesthesia is shorter than it is in adults (Bushby & Griffin, 2011, para. 5). Bushby and Griffin (2011) argue, “By spaying and neutering pets at 4 or 5 months of age, two or three weeks after standard vaccinations, practitioners can allow time for the animals to develop immunity through vaccination while ensuring that they are neutered before sexual maturity” (Bushby & Griffin, 2011, para. 45).

**Mandatory spay/neuter exemptions.** Exemptions should be granted for dogs who are too old or sick to undergo the spay/neuter surgery and dogs whose health would be threatened by the spay/neuter surgery. Guardians of all other dogs must purchase either an intact dog license or a dog breeding license if he or she does not want to spay/neuter his or her companion animal, and the fee for the breeding license should be higher than the fee for the intact dog license

because people who do not spay/neuter their animals and allow them to breed, whether accidentally or on purpose, are contributing to the companion animal overpopulation problem, using more tax dollars and more time and resources of Animal Care & Control. As Sturla (1993) put it, they should “[s]pay or pay” (Sturla, 1993, p. 930).

**Enforcement.** As described above, all dogs in San Francisco would be required to be licensed with either a regular dog license, an intact dog license, or a breeding license. So if an animal is unaltered and does not have the proper license, the guardian will be considered not in compliance with the mandatory spay/neuter law (Zanowski, 2012, p. E30) and will be issued a first warning to get their companion animal spayed or neutered within a certain period of time and to provide proof of the spay/neuter surgery within a certain period of time. Enforcement of these different types of licenses—regular “pet license,” intact dog license, and breeding license—can be done by simply color-coding San Francisco’s current dog licensing system. According to Sturla (1993), “A breeding ordinance can easily be incorporated into a licensing program by having a 2-color license-tag system. For example, all altered dogs and cats could have green tags, whereas unaltered animals would have red tags” (Sturla, 1993, p. 932). However, there should be two different colored tags for unaltered dogs—one for unaltered dog licenses and the other for breeding licenses. Since San Francisco already has a companion animal licensing system, this would be an easy conversion.

**Breeding regulations.** As stated above, people who breed their dogs must obtain a breeding license. According to Zanowski (2012), “Breeding licenses regulate by starting with a presumption that all dog or cat sales are illegal, unless the breeder has applied [sic] for a permit to sell his or her litters” (Zanowski, 2012, p. E27). Breeders must show proof that they have a breeding license by putting the license number on their advertisements or sales receipts, similar

to contractors who put their contractor's license number on the side of their construction trucks (Zanowski, 2012, p. E27; ), which "will help with enforcement of the law" (Sturla, 1993, p. 932). Breeders should also be restricted to one litter per year and the number of unaltered animals they are allowed to have should be limited, as well, so as to not further contribute to the companion animal overpopulation problem by bringing more dogs into a world where there are not enough homes for all of them.

**Civil penalties.** The mandatory spay/neuter law should have civil, rather than criminal, penalties. Zanowski (2012) argues that civil penalties are more viable than criminal penalties because the risk of financial loss will encourage people to change their behavior to avoid financial loss, and breeders, whose goal is to make a profit, not lose money, will follow the law, obtaining the proper breeding license and "restrict[ing] their breeding practices," to avoid any financial loss (Zanowski, 2012, p. E29). In addition to the problems with the current criminal justice system (at topic far to extensive to discuss in this paper), violations of mandatory spay/neuter laws are not criminal acts. According to Zanowski (2012), failing to follow a mandatory spay/neuter law does not warrant "the significant social and economic implications" of a criminal sanction, and the purpose of mandatory spay/neuter laws is to reduce companion animal overpopulation and euthanasia rates, "not necessarily to label a lackadaisical pet owners as a criminal" (Zanowski, 2012, p. E29). Furthermore, criminal sanctions are not in the best interest of the animals, who may not have a place to go if their guardian is imprisoned or cannot find work or housing due to a criminal record (Zanowski, 2012, p. E29). Again, the purpose of the mandatory spay/neuter law is to reduce companion animal overpopulation and euthanasia rates, and imprisoning a companion animal guardian does neither.

Zanowski (2012) offers recommendations for civil sanctions: “Regardless of their form, civil sanctions (1) must be low enough that [dog guardians] will not relinquish their animals rather than pay an astronomical fee but high enough to discourage unwanted behavior, (2) should vary depending on the resources of the noncompliant party, and (3) should put the burden of proof of compliance on the [dog guardian]” (Zanowski, 2012, p. E29). There are two options for financial penalties. The first option is to fine the offender a certain amount of money per month until either the dog is spayed/neutered or the guardian obtains the appropriate license, which Zanowski (2012) says “eliminates additional actions—and resources used—to evaluate second and third offenses” (Zanowski, 2012, p. E29). The second option is to charge a “lump sum fine” to offenders and to include higher sanctions for subsequent violations (Zanowski, 2012, p. E29). Because first offenses will likely occur because the guardian was not aware of the mandatory spay/neuter law, the “lump sum fine” for the first offense should be considerably lower than the second offense, in which the violator, who knows about the law, “deliberately break[s it]” (Zanowski, 2012, p. E29).

### **Conclusion**

San Francisco has a serious problem—the City has too many unwanted dogs, and Animal Care & Control is having difficulties caring for all of them. Other municipalities, such as Clark County, Nevada, and Los Angeles County, California, have implemented mandatory spay/neuter laws to solve the same problem, and they worked. They now have the lowest dog intake and euthanasia rates in the last two decades, thanks to these laws. Because mandatory spay/neuter laws will decrease the companion animal overpopulation by essentially forcing most guardians to spay/neuter their animals, it will decrease the population of unwanted companion animals and thus decrease the euthanasia rate of unwanted companion animals. They will prevent dogs from

being born into a world where there are not enough homes for them. San Francisco needs to implement a mandatory spay/neuter law.

Moving forward, I plan to obtain shelter data from the rest of the municipalities with mandatory spay/neuter laws to further analyze the law's effectiveness. After I receive the rest of the data, I plan to suggest to Supervisor Wiener that he introduce mandatory spay/neuter legislation similar to the one outlined in this Capstone and similar to San Francisco's current Pit Bull Ordinance, and I will use my data analysis and conclusion to convince him that San Francisco needs a mandatory spay/neuter law.

Appendix A  
 U.S. Cities and Counties with Mandatory Spay/Neuter Laws

State	City/County	Code #	Code Description
CA	Beaumont (City)	Sec. 6.02.005 & 6.02.080	MSN for dogs and cats over 4 months
CA	Belmont (City)	Sec. 5-27.5	MSN for dogs and cats over 6 months
CA	Lake (County)	Sec. 4-17	MSN for dogs and cats over 4 months
CA	Laguna Woods (City)	Sec. 5.05.010	MSN for dogs and cats 6 months or older
CA	Los Angeles (City)	Sec. 53.15.2(b)(2)	MSN for dogs and cats over 4 months
CA	Los Angeles (County) (unincorporated areas)	Sec. 10.20.350 A	MSN for dogs over 4 months
CA	San Mateo (City)	Sec. 8.02.420	MSN for dogs and cats over 6 months
CA	Santa Cruz (County)	Sec. 6.10.030	MSN for dogs and cats over 6 months
CA	Santa Cruz (City)	Sec. 8.16.030	MSN for dogs and cats over 6 months
CA	Scotts Valley (City)	Sec. 6.10.030	MSN for dogs and cats over 6 months
CA	Watsonville (City)	Sec. 6-1.1001	MSN for dogs and cats over 6 months
CA	Capitola (City)	Sec. 6.16.030	MSN for dogs and cats over 6 months
CO	Aurora (City)	Sec. 14-42	MSN for dogs and cats over 6 months
CO	Denver (City & County)	Sec. 8-71	MSN for dogs and cats over 6 months
FL	Palm Beach (County)	Sec. 4-28	MSN for dogs and cats over 6 months
FL	Volusia (County) (unincorporated areas)	Sec. 14-58	MSN for dogs and cats over 6 months
FL	Daytona Beach (City)	Sec. 14-19	MSN for dogs and cats over 6 months
FL	New Smyrna Beach (City)	Sec. 18-334	MSN for dogs and cats over 10 months
IL	Rock Island (City)	Sec. 7-146	MSN for dogs and cats over 6 months
IN	Hamilton (County)	Sec. 15-2.1-1-23	MSN for dogs and cats 9 months or older
IN	Noblesville (City)	Sec. 90.18	MSN for dogs and cats over 6 months
IN	Fishers (City)	Sec. 91.17	MSN for dogs and cats over 9 months
LA	New Orleans (City)	Sec. 18-306	MSN for dogs over 6 months
NV	Clark (County) (unincorporated areas)	Sec. 10.08.130	MSN for dogs and cats
NV	Las Vegas (City)	Sec. 7.14.010	MSN for dogs and cats over 4 months
NV	North Las Vegas (City)	Sec. 6.16.010	MSN for dogs and cats
NJ	Camden (City)	Sec. 210-39	MSN for dogs and cats over 6 months
NC	Asheville (City)	Sec. 3-5	MSN for dogs and cats over 6 months
NC	Buncombe (County)	Sec. 6-63	MSN for dogs and cats over 6 months
OK	Tulsa (City)	Sec. 101	MSN for dogs and cats over 6 months
TX	Dallas (City)	Sec. 7-4.10	MSN for dogs and cats over 6 months
TX	Fort Worth (City)	Sec. 6-22.1	MSN for female dogs and cats over 6 months and for male dogs and cats over 8 months
WA	King (County)	Sec. 11.04.400	MSN for dogs and cats over 6 months

Appendix B  
Clark County, Nevada, Code of Ordinances  
Title 10 – Animals, Chapter 10.08 Dogs and Cat Licenses and Permits

**Sections.**

- 10.08.030 Reserved.
- 10.08.040 Premises inspection.
- 10.08.070 Tagging dog or cat or ferret—Tag misuse.
- 10.08.100 Vaccination register.
- 10.08.130 Permit to keep dogs and cats.
- 10.08.135 Breeder/show permit.
- 10.08.140 Sale of animals.
- 10.08.150 Breeder/show permit number must be displayed.
- 10.08.160 Pet dog or cat fancier permit.
- 10.08.170 Breeder/show permit compliance with Chapter 10.30.
- 10.08.180 Time for compliance.

**10.08.030 Reserved.***Editor's note—*

Ord. No. 3877, § 3, adopted June 15, 2010, repealed § 10.08.030 which pertained to vaccination certificate exemption permit and derived from Ord. No. 1023, § 3(part), 1987; and Ord. No. 1704, § 3, 1995.

**10.08.040 Premises inspection.**

Every person, firm or corporation, required to obtain any permit under the provisions of this chapter shall permit their premises to be inspected by the animal control officer at all reasonable times.

*(Ord. 1023 § 3 (part), 1987)*

*(Ord. No. 3877, § 3, 6-15-2010)*

**10.08.070 Tagging dog or cat or ferret—Tag misuse.**

(a) The owner of any dog or cat or ferret shall safely and securely fasten about the neck of the dog or cat or ferret a collar with a tag attached thereto bearing the number of such vaccination and a current owner identification tag; or the owner shall have a microchip identification device implanted.

- (b) It is unlawful for any person to remove any vaccination tag issued under the provisions of this title from any dog or cat or ferret not owned by him, or not lawfully in his possession or under his control or care, or for any person to place on any dog or cat or ferret or to permit any dog or cat or ferret in his control or possession, to wear any vaccination tag not issued or provided in this title for that particular dog or cat or ferret or to place on a dog or cat or ferret or to own, keep, or possess, any dog or cat or ferret wearing any counterfeit, imitation, or altered vaccination tag provided for in this title.

*(Ord. 2088 § 16, 1998; Ord. 1704 § 6, 1995; Ord. 1107 § 9, 1988; Ord. 1023 § 3 (part), 1987)*

*(Ord. No. 3877, § 3, 6-15-2010)*

**10.08.100 Vaccination register.**



The county shall maintain an electronic register of all vaccinations issued, showing:

- (a) The name, current address, and telephone number, if any, of the vaccinated dog, cat or ferret;
- (b) Date of vaccination;
- (c) Date of expiration;
- (d) Description of the dog or cat or ferret;
- (e) The number of the tag; and
- (f) The type, lot, date and lot expiration of rabies vaccination.

*(Ord. 2088 § 19, 1998; Ord. 1704 § 8, 1995; Ord. 1023 § 3 (part), 1987)*

*(Ord. No. 3877, § 3, 6-15-2010)*

#### **10.08.130 Permit to keep dogs and cats.**

(a) No person shall keep more than three dogs over four months of age, nor more than three cats over four months of age, at any one place, or on any premises, or in any one residence located within the jurisdiction of the county. Subject to the exceptions provided in this chapter, no person shall harbor any cat or dog unless spayed or neutered. For purposes of this section and chapter, "harbor" means legal ownership, or the providing of regular care or shelter, protection, refuge or nourishment, or medical treatment; provided however that the term shall not include the providing of nourishment to a stray or feral cat or dog. This spay and neuter restriction shall not apply to dogs or cats kept pursuant to a breeder/show permit, or kept on the premises of a business for the sale, breeding, medical treatment or caring for hire of animals which is in compliance with all applicable permits, and other requirements of this code, or dogs and cats kept at an animal shelter or under the care and custody of the animal control officer or a rescue organization.

- (b) This provision shall not apply to dogs in use by any federal, state, or local law enforcement agency or guide dogs specifically trained and used to guide a person who is blind or a person with a disability.
- (c) The spay/neuter requirement set forth in Section 10.08.130(a) shall not apply if a licensed veterinarian certifies in writing that a specific dog or cat is temporarily or permanently medically unfit to undergo the required spay or neuter procedure because of a physical condition that would be substantially aggravated by such procedure or would likely cause the animal's death. If temporary, the certificate shall indicate the period of time anticipated that the unsuitability will last. For an exemption to apply beyond that period, a new certificate must be obtained from a veterinarian. The certification may be transmitted electronically.
- (d) The spay/neuter requirement set forth in Section 10.08.130(a) shall not apply to animals harbored by a pound, shelter, humane society or similar organization, whether public or private, the principal purpose of which is securing the adoption of dogs or cats provided that such organization requires the spaying or neutering of all dogs and cats prior to placement of such animal for adoption by such organization.
- (e) Kittens and puppies born to cats and dogs not spayed or neutered in violation of this chapter shall be forfeited and given to the care of a local shelter for adoption.

*(Ord. 3318 § 1, 2005; Ord. 2088 § 22, 1998; Ord. 1107 § 12, 1988; Ord. 1023 § 3 (part), 1987)*

*(Ord. No. 3771, § 1, 5-20-2009; Ord. No. 3840, § 1, 1-5-2010; Ord. No. 3877, § 3, 6-15-2010)*

#### **10.08.135 Breeder/show permit.**

A person with a breeder/show permit is allowed to keep and maintain, in a clean, healthy, and

safe environment, not to exceed eight intact purebred or sterilized pet dogs, one year of age or older, or eight intact purebred or sterilized pet cats, eight months of age or older, provided that the person is registered with a nationally licensed registry for the purpose of showing at a licensed event where they can earn a championship title. With the exception of sterilized pets titled dogs or cats, each animal must be shown at least once a year, at a show recognized by a national association, such as the American Kennel Club, United Kennel Club, United Schutzhund Clubs of America, or the American Cat Fanciers Association, which requires a fee to participate and which awards certificates. Each animal must have a registered microchip identification device and be up-to-date on rabies vaccination. A dog breeder cannot breed a female dog until she is eighteen months old and shall only allow a female dog to have one litter per year and must provide a written sales contract to the purchaser. A breeder must pay an annual service charge of fifty dollars per permit for inspection of the premises by the animal control officer.

In the event that all intact dogs or cats on the property are under the age of one year the owner shall obtain a temporary show dog/show cat permit. The expiration date of a temporary permit shall be six months from the date of issue. No breeding or sale of animals is permitted on a temporary show permit.

*(Ord. No. 3877, § 3, 6-15-2010; Ord. No. 3942, § 1, 3-15-2011)*

#### **10.08.140 Sale of animals.**

No person shall sell or offer for sale a dog or cat without first obtaining a breeder/show permit. Dealers, operators and retailers must obtain a commercial sales permit and a business license and must designate all information required by the Nevada Revised Statutes, including where the animal has been purchased. The sale of animals at swap meets is prohibited.

*(Ord. 3318 § 2, 2005)*

*(Ord. No. 3877, § 3, 6-15-2010)*

#### **10.08.150 Breeder/show permit number must be displayed.**

Any currently approved breeder/show permit holder shall not place an advertisement to sell or offer for sale a dog or cat without the current breeder/show permit number being displayed in all advertising and appearing on the receipt of the animal at the time of sale.

*(Ord. 3318 § 3, 2005)*

*(Ord. No. 3877, § 3, 6-15-2010)*

#### **10.08.160 Pet dog or cat fancier permit.**

A pet dog or cat fancier permit allows a person to keep or possess on his property, at one location, safely confined in a completely enclosed building, residence or enclosed lot, more than three but not more than six spayed/neutered dogs or up to ten spayed or neutered cats older than eight months of age, as companion animals. Each animal must have a registered microchip identification device and be up-to-date on rabies vaccination. The owner must pay an annual service charge of fifty dollars for inspection of the premises by the animal control officer.

*(Ord. 3318 § 4, 2005; Ord. 2088 § 25, 1998; Ord. 1107 § 15, 1988)*

*(Ord. No. 3877, § 3, 6-15-2010)*

#### **10.08.170 Breeder/show permit compliance with Chapter 10.30.**

Any currently approved breeder/show permit holder selling or offering for sale a dog or cat must comply with the provisions set forth in Chapter 10.30 of this title.

*(Ord. 3318 § 5, 2005)*

*(Ord. No. 3877, § 3, 6-15-2010)*

**10.08.180 Time for compliance.**

Persons harboring a dog or cat subject to the spay/neuter requirement of Section 10.08.130(a) have one hundred twenty days from the enactment of the ordinance codifying such requirement to comply therewith.

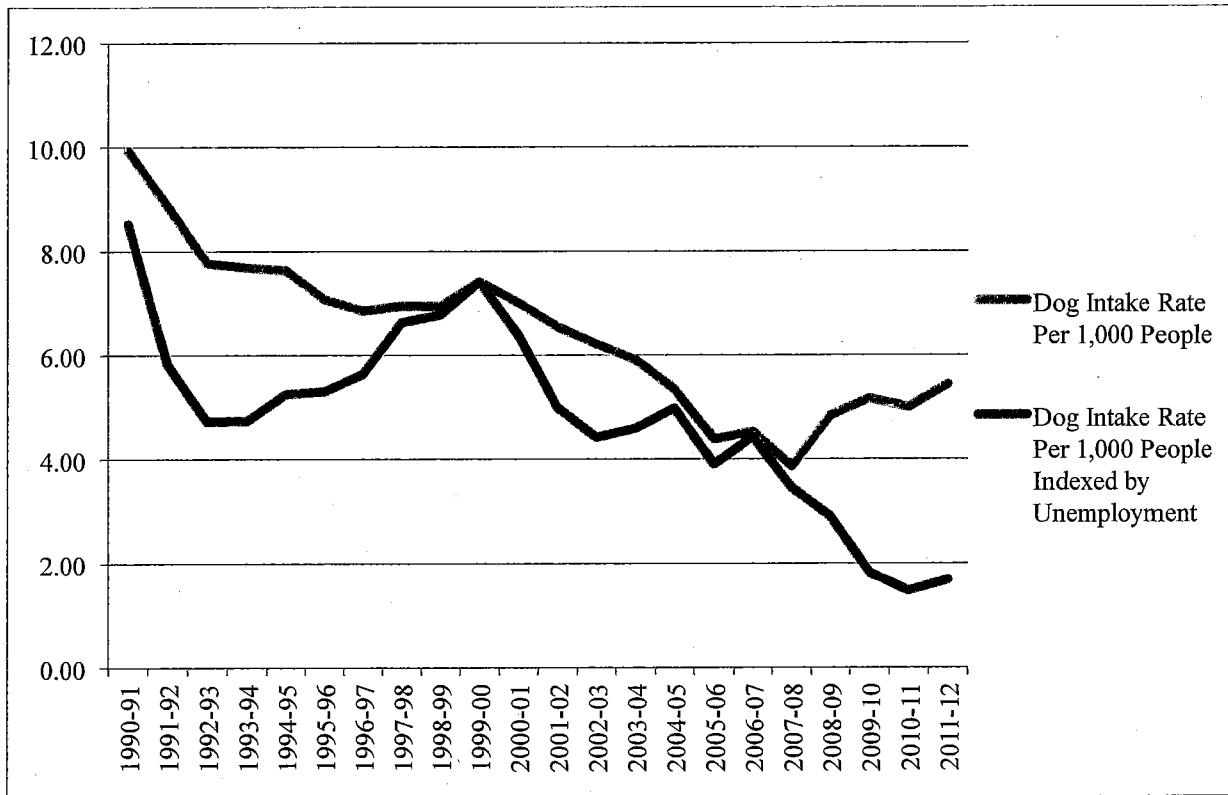
*(Ord. No. 3840, § 2, 1-5-2010)*

(Clark County, Nevada, Municipal Code, n.d.)

Appendix C  
Dog Intake Rates at the Lied Animal Shelter, Clark County, Nevada

<b>Year</b>	<b>Dog Intake Rate Per 1,000 People</b>	<b>Dog Intake Rate Per 1,000 People Indexed by Unemployment</b>
1990-91	9.94	8.52
1991-92	8.86	5.81
1992-93	7.76	4.72
1993-94	7.68	4.74
1994-95	7.62	5.25
1995-96	7.06	5.30
1996-97	6.84	5.63
1997-98	6.94	6.63
1998-99	6.93	6.77
1999-00	7.41	7.41
2000-01	7.00	6.39
2001-02	6.54	5.00
2002-03	6.21	4.42
2003-04	5.91	4.59
2004-05	5.33	4.98
2005-06	4.38	3.91
2006-07	4.53	4.43
2007-08	3.86	3.45
2008-09	4.83	2.90
2009-10	5.17	1.82
2010-11	5.00	1.48
2011-12	5.43	1.69

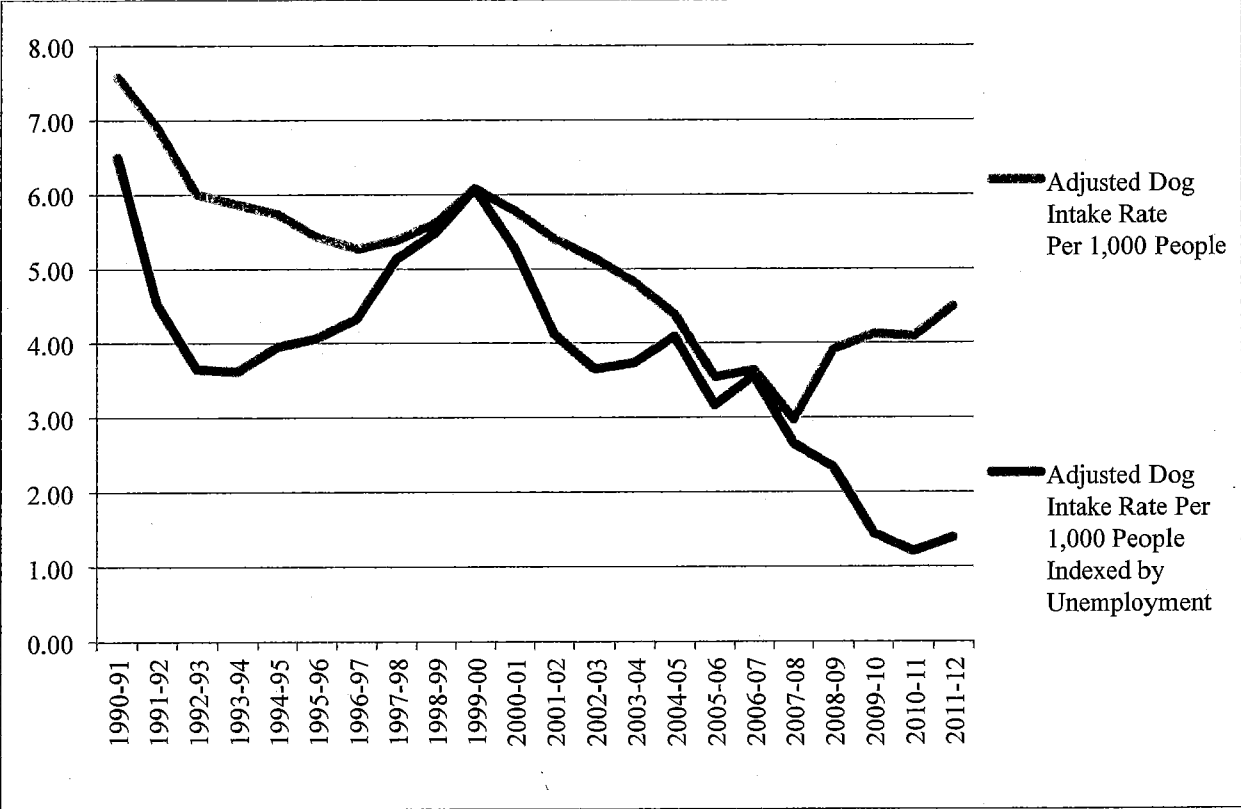
The mandatory spay/neuter law went into effect on May 19, 2010.



Appendix D  
Adjusted Dog Intake Rates at the Lied Animal Shelter, Clark County, Nevada

<b>Year</b>	<b>Adjusted Dog Intake Rate Per 1,000 People</b>	<b>Adjusted Dog Intake Rate Per 1,000 People Indexed by Unemployment</b>
1990-91	7.57	6.49
1991-92	6.90	4.53
1992-93	6.00	3.65
1993-94	5.86	3.62
1994-95	5.73	3.95
1995-96	5.42	4.06
1996-97	5.26	4.33
1997-98	5.38	5.13
1998-99	5.61	5.48
1999-00	6.07	6.07
2000-01	5.77	5.27
2001-02	5.40	4.12
2002-03	5.13	3.65
2003-04	4.81	3.74
2004-05	4.38	4.09
2005-06	3.54	3.17
2006-07	3.64	3.56
2007-08	2.97	2.65
2008-09	3.91	2.34
2009-10	4.12	1.45
2010-11	4.09	1.21
2011-12	4.49	1.40

The mandatory spay/neuter law went into effect on May 19, 2010.

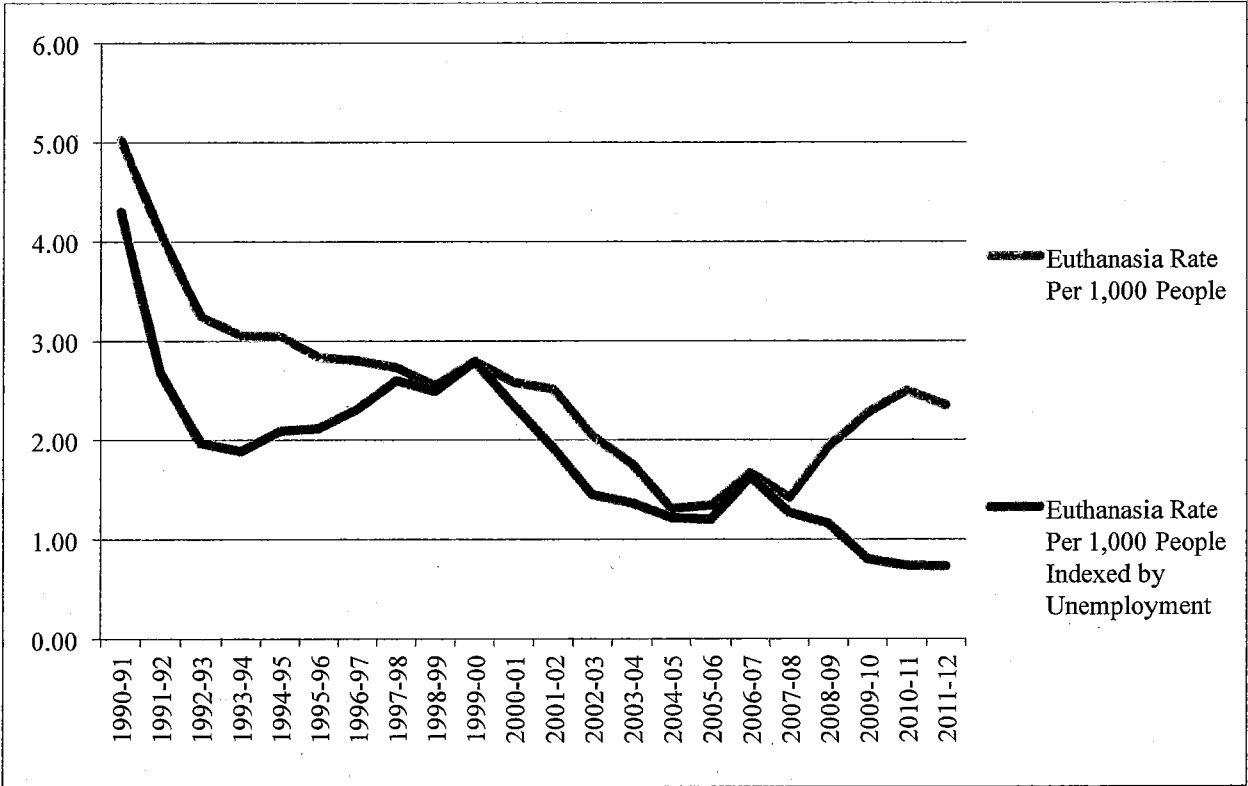


Appendix E  
Dog Euthanasia Rates at the Lied Animal Shelter, Clark County, Nevada

<b>Year</b>	<b>Euthanasia Rate Per 1,000 People</b>	<b>Euthanasia Rate Per 1,000 People Indexed by Unemployment</b>
1990-91	5.02	4.30
1991-92	4.08	2.68
1992-93	3.24	1.97
1993-94	3.05	1.89
1994-95	3.04	2.09
1995-96	2.83	2.12
1996-97	2.80	2.31
1997-98	2.73	2.60
1998-99	2.55	2.49
1999-00	2.79	2.79
2000-01	2.58	2.35
2001-02	2.51	1.92
2002-03	2.04	1.45
2003-04	1.76	1.37
2004-05	1.31	1.22
2005-06	1.34	1.20
2006-07	1.67	1.63
2007-08	1.42	1.27
2008-09	1.93	1.16
2009-10	2.27	0.80
2010-11	2.50	0.74
2011-12	2.35	0.73

The mandatory spay/neuter law went into effect on May 19, 2010.





## Appendix F

## Los Angeles County, California, Code of Ordinances

Title 10 – Animals, Division 1 – Animal Control, Chapter 10.20 – Dogs and Cats\*,  
Part 4 Mandatory Spay and Neuter Program for Dogs**Sections.**

- 10.20.350 Mandatory spaying, neutering of dogs.
- 10.20.355 Unaltered dog license—Requirements.
- 10.20.360 Denial or revocation of unaltered dog license—Grounds and re-application.
- 10.20.365 Appeal of denial or revocation of unaltered dog license.
- 10.20.370 Transfer, sale and breeding of unaltered dog.
- 10.20.375 Penalties.
- 10.20.380 Impoundment of unaltered dog.
- 10.20.385 Allocation of fees and fines collected.

**10.20.350 Mandatory spaying, neutering of dogs.**

- A. No person may own, keep, or harbor a dog over the age of four months in violation of this section. An owner or custodian of an unaltered dog must have the dog spayed or neutered or obtain an unaltered dog license in accordance with Section 10.20.355
- B. The owner or custodian of a dog which is unable to be spayed or neutered without a high likelihood of suffering serious bodily harm or death due to age or infirmity, must obtain written confirmation of that fact from a licensed veterinarian. The writing must also state the date by which the dog may be safely spayed or neutered. If the dog is unable to be spayed or neutered within 30 days, the owner or custodian must apply for an unaltered dog license.

*(Ord. 2006-0029 § 5 (part), 2006.)*

**10.20.355 Unaltered dog license—Requirements.**

An owner or custodian of an unaltered dog over the age of four months must obtain an annual unaltered dog license for the dog. The license shall be issued if the department has determined that all of the following conditions are met:

- A. The dog is one of the following: a competition dog as defined in Section 10.08.095; a dog used by a law enforcement agency for law enforcement purposes; a qualified service or assistance dog as defined in Section 10.20.090; or a dog which is unable to be spayed or neutered as set forth in Section 10.20.350 B;
- B. The owner or custodian has submitted the required application and has paid the fee set forth in Section 10.90.010(VI)(A); and
- C. The unaltered dog will be maintained in accordance with the provisions of Los Angeles County Code Section 10.40.010, and with applicable state animal care and control laws.

*(Ord. 2006-0029 § 5 (part), 2006.)*

**10.20.360 Denial or revocation of unaltered dog license—Grounds and re-application.**

- A. The department may deny or revoke an unaltered dog license for one or more of the following reasons:
  - 1. The applicant or licensee is not in compliance with all of the requirements of Section

## 10.20.355

2. The department has received at least one complaint, verified by the complainant under penalty of perjury, that the applicant or licensee has allowed a dog to run loose or escape, or has otherwise been found to be neglectful of his or her dog or other animals;
  3. The applicant or licensee has been previously cited for violating a state law, county code or other municipal provision relating to the care and control of animals;
  4. The unaltered dog has been adjudicated by a court or an agency of appropriate jurisdiction to be a potentially dangerous or vicious dog, or to be a nuisance within the meaning of the Los Angeles County Code or under state law;
  5. Any unaltered dog license held by the applicant has been revoked;
  6. A female unaltered dog has had more than one litter per year, or five or more litters in her lifetime; or
  7. The license application is discovered to contain a material misrepresentation of fact.
- B. Re-application for unaltered dog license:
1. When an unaltered dog license is denied, the applicant may re-apply for a license upon a showing that the requirements of Section 10.20.355 have been met. The department shall refund one-half of the license fee when an application is denied. The applicant shall pay the full fee upon re-application.
  2. When an unaltered dog license is revoked, the owner or custodian of the dog may apply for a new license after a thirty-day waiting period upon a showing that the requirements of Section 10.20.355 have been met. No part of an unaltered dog license fee is refundable when a license is revoked and the applicant shall pay the full fee upon re-application.

*(Ord. 2006-0029 § 5 (part), 2006.)*

**10.20.365 Appeal of denial or revocation of unaltered dog license.**

- A. Request for hearing.
1. Notice of intent to deny or revoke. The department shall mail to the owner or custodian a written notice of its intent to deny or revoke the license for an unaltered dog which includes the reason(s) for the denial or revocation. The owner or custodian may request a hearing to appeal the denial or revocation. The request must be made in writing within ten days after the notice of intent to deny or revoke is mailed. Failure to submit a timely written hearing request shall be deemed a waiver of the right to appeal the license denial or revocation.
  2. Hearing officer. The hearing shall be conducted by the director's designee.
  3. Notice and conduct of hearing. The department shall mail a written notice of the date, time, and place for the hearing not less than ten days before the hearing date. The hearing date shall be no more than thirty days after the department's receipt of the request for a hearing. Failure of the owner or custodian or his or her agent to appear at the hearing will result in forfeiture of the right to a hearing. The hearing will be informal and the rules of evidence will not be strictly observed. The department shall mail a written decision to the owner or custodian within ten days after the hearing. The decision of the hearing officer shall be the final administrative decision. Change in location of dog. If the dog is moved after the department has issued a letter of intent to deny or revoke, but has not yet denied or revoked the license, the owner or custodian must provide the department with information as to the dog's whereabouts,

including the current owner or custodian's name, address, and telephone number.  
(Ord. 2006-0029 § 5 (part), 2006.)

#### **10.20.370 Transfer, sale and breeding of unaltered dog.**

- A. Offer for sale or transfer of unaltered dog: An owner or custodian who offers any unaltered dog for sale, trade, or adoption must include a valid unaltered dog license number with the offer of sale, trade or adoption, or otherwise state and establish compliance with Section 10.20.350. The license and microchip numbers must appear on a document transferring the dog to the new owner.
- B. Transfer of unaltered dog: The owner or custodian of an unaltered dog over the age of four months, which is not a competition dog as defined in Section 10.08.095, must demonstrate compliance with Section 10.20.350 and 10.20.185 prior to the transfer, and must notify the department of the name and address of the transferee within ten days after the transfer.
- C. Notification of litter and sale or transfer of puppies: Within thirty days after a litter is born to a female dog, the owner or custodian of the female dog shall advise the department in writing of the number of live born puppies. When a puppy under the age of four months is sold or otherwise transferred to another person, the owner or custodian shall advise the department of the name and address of the new owner or custodian, and the microchip number of the puppy, if applicable, within ten days after the transfer.

(Ord. 2006-0029 § 5 (part), 2006.)

#### **10.20.375 Penalties.**

The penalties for violations of any provision of this part are as follows:

- A. First violation. A first violation shall be an infraction punishable by a fine not to exceed \$250. If the owner or custodian fails to correct the underlying cause of the violation within 30 days after being notified of the violation, it shall be deemed a second violation.
- B. Second violation. A violation within a year of a first violation shall be deemed a second violation. A second violation is a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment in the county jail for a period not to exceed six months or by a fine not to exceed \$1,000, or by both such fine and imprisonment. Each subsequent violation within one year shall be considered an additional misdemeanor.

(Ord. 2006-0029 § 5 (part), 2006.)

#### **10.20.380 Impoundment of unaltered dog.**

- A. When an unaltered dog is impounded, the owner or custodian may reclaim the unaltered dog when one of the following occurs:
  - 1. The dog is spayed or neutered by a department veterinarian at the expense of the owner or custodian. Such expense may include additional fees due to extraordinary care required;
  - 2. The dog is spayed or neutered by another department approved veterinarian. The owner or custodian may arrange for another department approved veterinarian to spay or neuter the dog, and shall pay to the department the cost to deliver the dog to the chosen veterinarian. The cost to deliver the dog shall be based on the department's hourly rate established by the Auditor-Controller, billed in minimum one hour increments. The veterinarian shall complete and return to the department within ten days, a statement confirming that the dog has been spayed or neutered and

shall release the dog to the owner or custodian only after the spay or neuter procedure is complete; or,

3. At the discretion of the director, the dog may be released to the owner or custodian if he or she signs a statement under penalty of perjury, representing that the dog will be spayed or neutered and that he or she will submit a statement within ten days, signed by the veterinarian, confirming that the dog has been spayed or neutered.
4. If the owner or custodian demonstrates compliance with Section 10.20.350

**B. Costs of Impoundment.**

1. The owner or custodian of the unaltered dog shall be responsible for the costs of impoundment, which shall include daily board costs.
2. The costs of impoundment shall be a lien on the dog, and the unaltered dog shall not be returned to its owner or custodian until the costs are paid. If the owner or custodian of an impounded unaltered dog does not pay the lien against the dog in full within fourteen days, the dog shall be deemed abandoned to the department in accordance with Section 10.36.310

*(Ord. 2006-0029 § 5 (part), 2006.)*

**10.20.385 Allocation of fees and fines collected.**

All costs and fines collected under this part and the fees collected under Section 10.90.010 shall be paid to the department for the purpose of defraying the cost of the implementation and enforcement of this Part 4.

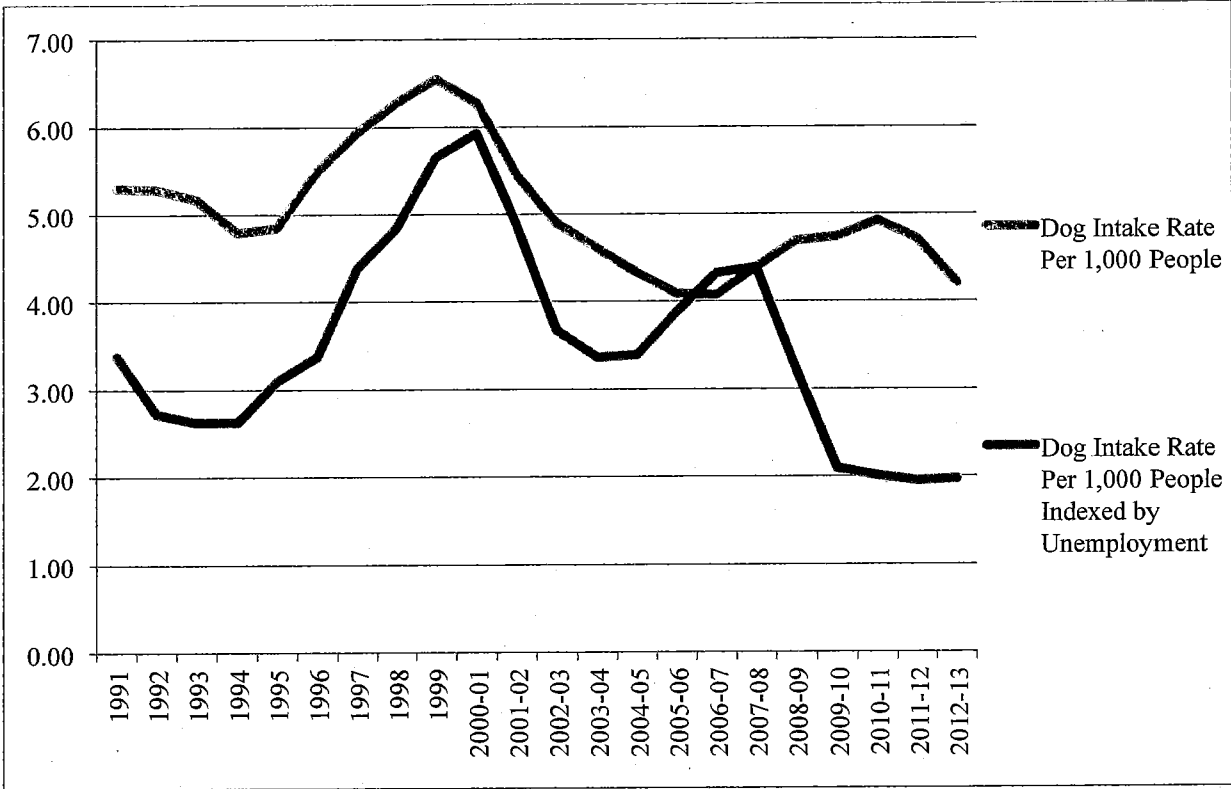
*(Ord. 2009-0017 § 12, 2009; Ord. 2006-0029 § 5 (part), 2006.)*

(Los Angeles County, California, Municipal Code, n.d.)

Appendix G  
 Dog Intake Rates at the Department of Animal Care and Control,  
 Los Angeles County, California

<b>Year</b>	<b>Dog Intake Rate Per 1,000 People</b>	<b>Dog Intake Rate Per 1,000 People Indexed by Unemployment</b>
1991	5.30	3.38
1992	5.28	2.72
1993	5.17	2.63
1994	4.79	2.63
1995	4.85	3.09
1996	5.49	3.37
1997	5.93	4.38
1998	6.27	4.84
1999	6.54	5.65
2000-01	6.27	5.92
2001-02	5.45	4.88
2002-03	4.89	3.67
2003-04	4.61	3.36
2004-05	4.32	3.39
2005-06	4.09	3.87
2006-07	4.07	4.32
2007-08	4.39	4.39
2008-09	4.69	3.23
2009-10	4.74	2.10
2010-11	4.92	2.01
2011-12	4.71	1.95
2012-13	4.21	1.97

The mandatory spay/neuter law went into effect in 2006.

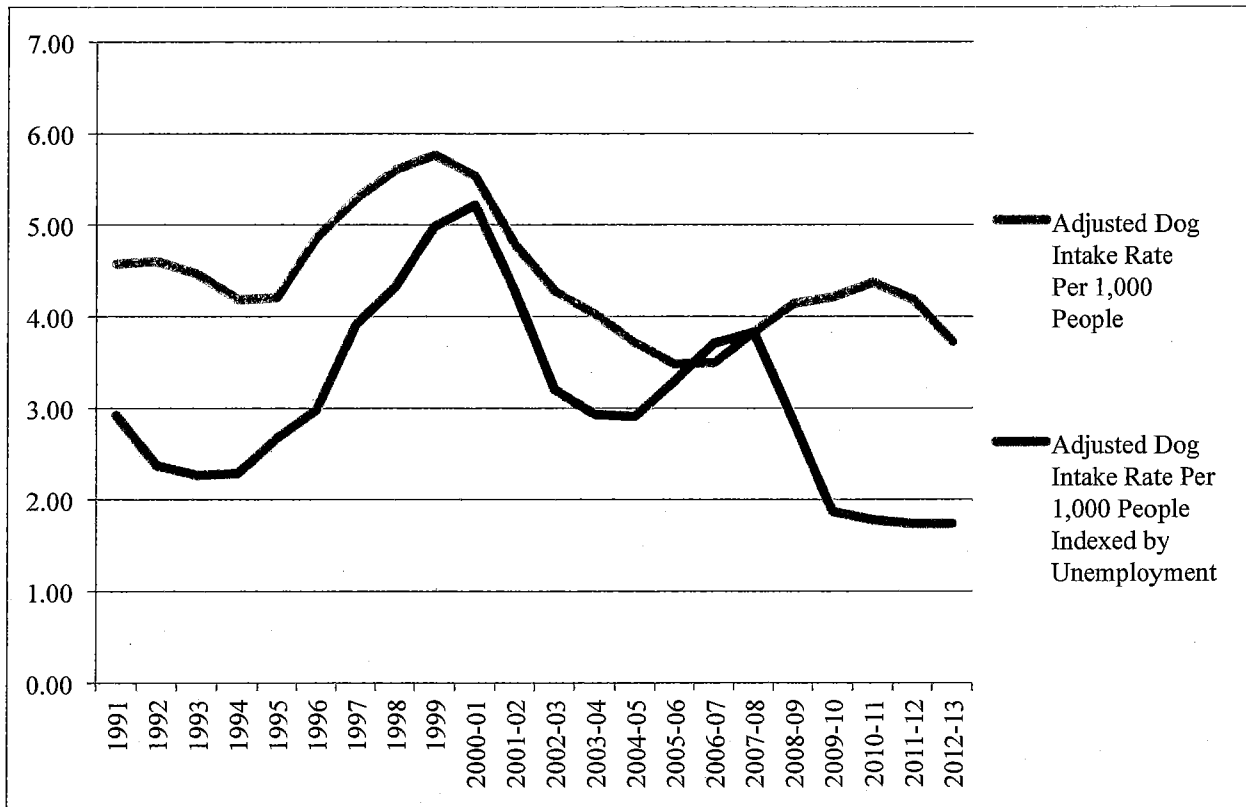


Appendix H  
Adjusted Dog Intake Rates at the Department of Animal Care and Control,  
Los Angeles County, California

<b>Year</b>	<b>Adjusted Dog Intake Rate Per 1,000 People</b>	<b>Adjusted Dog Intake Rate Per 1,000 People Indexed by Unemployment</b>
1991	4.57	2.92
1992	4.60	2.37
1993	4.46	2.27
1994	4.18	2.29
1995	4.20	2.67
1996	4.86	2.98
1997	5.29	3.91
1998	5.60	4.33
1999	5.76	4.98
2000-01	5.53	5.22
2001-02	4.79	4.28
2002-03	4.27	3.20
2003-04	4.02	2.93
2004-05	3.71	2.91
2005-06	3.48	3.29
2006-07	3.49	3.71
2007-08	3.83	3.83
2008-09	4.14	2.85
2009-10	4.21	1.87
2010-11	4.37	1.78
2011-12	4.18	1.74
2012-13	3.72	1.74

The mandatory spay/neuter law went into effect in 2006.

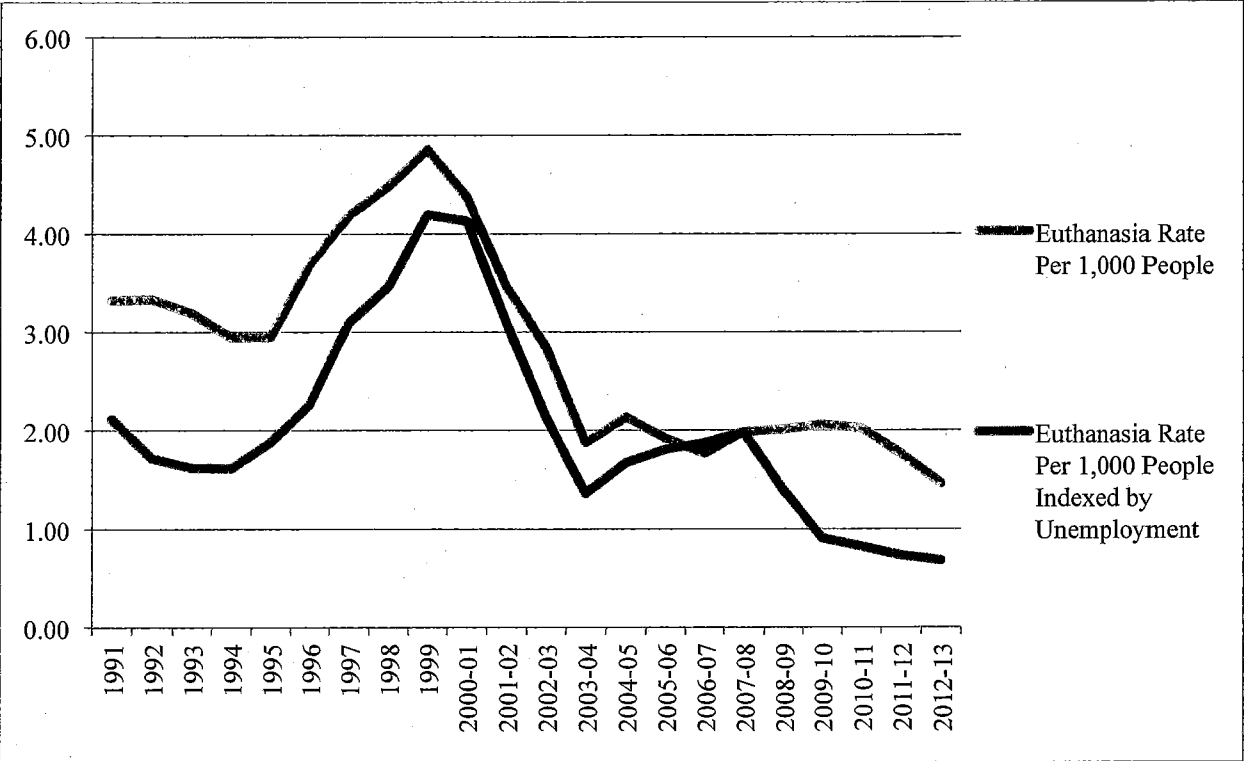




Appendix I  
Dog Euthanasia Rates at the Department of Animal Care and Control,  
Los Angeles County, California

<b>Year</b>	<b>Euthanasia Rate Per 1,000 People</b>	<b>Euthanasia Rate Per 1,000 People Indexed by Unemployment</b>
1991	3.32	2.11
1992	3.33	1.72
1993	3.19	1.62
1994	2.94	1.61
1995	2.95	1.88
1996	3.68	2.26
1997	4.18	3.09
1998	4.48	3.46
1999	4.85	4.19
2000-01	4.37	4.13
2001-02	3.46	3.10
2002-03	2.84	2.13
2003-04	1.87	1.36
2004-05	2.13	1.67
2005-06	1.92	1.81
2006-07	1.76	1.87
2007-08	1.98	1.98
2008-09	2.01	1.39
2009-10	2.06	0.91
2010-11	2.02	0.82
2011-12	1.76	0.73
2012-13	1.46	0.68

The mandatory spay/neuter law went into effect in 2006.



## Appendix J

## San Francisco Health Code, Article 1: Animals, Sections 43.1. Mandatory Spaying and Neutering of Pit Bulls; Exceptions. through 44.7. Operative Date

**SEC. 43.1. MANDATORY SPAYING AND NEUTERING OF PIT BULLS; EXCEPTIONS.**

No person may own, keep, or harbor any dog within the City and County of San Francisco that the person in possession knew, or should have known, was a pit bull that has not been spayed or neutered unless:

- (a) The pit bull is under eight weeks of age;
- (b) The pit bull cannot be spayed or neutered without a high likelihood of suffering serious bodily harm or death due to a physical abnormality. A veterinarian must certify such a condition, determine the time frame after which the pit bull can be spayed/neutered. Within 30 days of the operative date of this ordinance, or within 30 days of, taking possession or ownership of an unspayed or unneutered pit bull, the owner, guardian or keeper must submit such documentation to be verified by the Department;
- (c) The pit bull has been present in the City and County of San Francisco for less than thirty days;
- (d) The owner, guardian or keeper has obtained, or has submitted an application for a breeding permit in accordance with Section 44 et seq. of the San Francisco Health Code;
- (e) Determination of breed is under appeal pursuant to Section 43(b) above; or
- (f) The pit bull is a show dog. Within 30 days of the operative date of this ordinance, or within 30 days of taking possession or ownership of an unspayed or unneutered pit bull, the owner, guardian or keeper must submit a copy of the organization papers (AKC or UKC) to the Department of Animal Care and Control demonstrating the pedigree information and show dog registration and that the dog conforms with the same breeding permit guidelines set forth in Sections 44.1(a)(3)(A), 44.1(a)(3)(B), 44.1(a)(3)(C) and 44.1(a)(3)(D).

(Added by Ord. 268-05, File No. 051607, App. 11/22/2005)

**SEC. 43.2. PENALTIES FOR FAILURE TO SPAY OR NEUTER PIT BULL.**

Violation of Section 43.1 may result in the following penalties:

(a) A first violation may result in the Department impounding the pit bull and disposing of the pit bull in accordance with Sections 41.7(a) and 41.9 of the San Francisco Health Code. A first violation shall be an infraction punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500. In order for the owner, guardian or keeper to reclaim the pit bull from the Department, in addition to paying the other charges and fees set out in Section 41.10, one of the following must occur:

(1) The Department shall have a veterinarian spay or neuter the dog. The dog owner, guardian or keeper shall pay a deposit of \$100 prior to the procedure and will be charged the fee for such services consisting of the actual expense incurred as established by the Department. There may be additional fees for any extraordinary care provided.

(2) In the alternative, the owner, guardian or keeper shall arrange for another veterinarian within the City and County of San Francisco to spay or neuter and shall pay the Department a fee of \$60, which shall cover the Department's costs of delivering the dog to a vet of the owner, guardian or keeper's choosing. The Department shall deliver the dog to the vet, and the vet shall release the dog to the owner, guardian or keeper only after the spaying or neutering is complete.

(3) At the discretion of the Director, or his/her designee, the Director may release the dog to the owner, guardian or keeper provided that the owner, guardian or keeper signs an affidavit

that s/he will have the dog spayed or neutered within two weeks and will provide documentation verifying that the spaying or neutering occurred upon completion. If the owner, guardian or keeper fails to have his/her pit bull spayed or neutered as agreed in the affidavit, the Department shall have the authority to impound the dog, and the owner, guardian or keeper may be charged with a second violation under 43.2(b), below.

(4) In the event that the Director or his/her designee determines that payment of any fees by the owner, guardian or keeper of a pit bull which is impounded or otherwise taken into custody would cause extreme financial difficulty to the owner, guardian or keeper, the Director or his/her designee may, at his/her discretion, waive all or part of the fees necessary for compliance with this section.

(b) A second violation of this section by the owner, guardian or keeper, shall be a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment in the County Jail for a period not to exceed six months or by a fine not to exceed \$1,000, or by both such fine and imprisonment. In addition, a second violation may result in the Department impounding the pit bull and disposing of the pit bull in accordance with Sections 41.7(a) and 41.9 of the San Francisco Health Code. Further, the provisions of Section 43.2(a)(1) above may apply.

(Added by Ord. 268-05, File No. 051607, App. 11/22/2005)

#### **SEC. 43.3. ALLOCATION OF FEES AND FINES COLLECTED.**

All fees and the City's share of all fines collected under Section 43.2 shall be used only by the Animal Care and Control Department to fund the implementation and enforcement of the pit bull spaying/neutering program.

(Added by Ord. 268-05, File No. 051607, App. 11/22/2005)

#### **SEC. 43.4. OPERATIVE DATE.**

Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 43.1, the provisions of this Section mandating the spaying and neutering of pit bulls shall not be operative until the first date that California Health and Safety Code Section 122331 is in full force and effect or upon the effective date of this ordinance, whichever is later.

(Added by Ord. 268-05, File No. 051607, App. 11/22/2005)

#### **SEC. 44. REQUIRING A PERMIT FOR THE BREEDING AND TRANSFERRING OF PIT BULL PUPPIES.**

(a) No person shall cause or allow any pit bull, as defined in Section 43(a) of the San Francisco Health Code, that is owned, harbored or kept within the City and County of San Francisco to breed or give birth without first obtaining a permit as described in this Article.

(b) Keeping an unaltered male adult dog together with a female dog in heat in the same dog run, pen, room, or any other space where the two dogs are allowed contact with one another that would allow the dogs to breed is considered prima facie evidence of an owner, guardian or keeper's intent to allow the dogs to breed.

(Added by Ord. 268-05, File No. 051607, App. 11/22/2005)

#### **SEC. 44.1. GRANTING OR DENYING A PERMIT.**

(a) **Requirements of permit.** An owner or keeper of a pit bull may obtain a nontransferable permit that lasts for one year. If more than one owner, guardian, or keeper is involved in the breeding process, each party must apply for and be granted a breeding permit. The permit may be obtained from the San Francisco Department of Animal Care and Control

("Department") if all of the following conditions are met:

(1) The applicant has submitted the appropriate forms and fees required by the Department in order to seek consideration for a breeding permit.

(2) The applicant has a space in which to breed pit bulls and raise the puppies that the Department is satisfied will contain the animals as well as provide them with safe, sanitary, and humane conditions, appropriate for breeding pit bulls, which satisfies all applicable provisions of Article 1 of the San Francisco Health Code and all applicable State animal welfare laws.

(3) The Department has evaluated and reached a positive conclusion regarding the suitability of the particular pit bulls to be bred, including consideration of their lineage, age and health condition. The Department shall utilize the following guidelines in making a determination:

(A) Owners, guardians or keepers shall provide verification that any pit bull to be bred is registered as an American Pit Bull Terrier, an American Staffordshire Terrier, or a Staffordshire Bull Terrier, with the appropriate registry for its breed (American Kennel Club, United Kennel Club, American Dog Breeders Association ("ADBA")) or any other valid registry as determined by the Department.

(B) Any pit bull to be bred must meet the pit bull breed standard, as defined by the appropriate registration agency (AK, UKC, or ADBA), for physical conformation as well as temperament.

(C) The registered pit bull has participated in at least one approved dog show during the previous 365 day period or the owner, guardian or keeper has given written notice to one of the dog registries listed above stating his/her intention that the dog will participate in an approved dog show. A dog show is defined as an event that is sanctioned in writing by one or more of the dog registries listed above.

(D) Any pit bull to be bred shall have the appropriate health screenings for its breed. For pit bulls this is, at a minimum, the following health tests: Orthopedic Foundation for Animals ("OFA") or University of Pennsylvania Hip Improvement Program ("PennHIP") certification on hips, OFA on heart by a certified cardiologist and must have passed the American Temperament Testing Society temperament test.

(4) Breeders shall not allow female pit bulls to have more than 1 litter per year.

(5) Upon approval of his/her application, the applicant must pay the \$100 permit fee.

(b) **Permit denial.** The Department shall automatically deny the permit if one or more of the following occurs, and that decision shall be final:

(1) The applicant fails to pay the permit fee within two weeks of notification that the application has been approved. Applicant may reapply for a permit after ten months.

(2) The applicant has a history of allowing dogs to run loose or escape, or has otherwise been found to be neglectful; has had his/her dog identified as a nuisance; or has previously been determined to have violated Section 41.12 of the San Francisco Health Code.

(3) The applicant has violated any provisions of Health Code Sections 42 through 44.5.

(4) The applicant has applied for a permit within the last ten months.

(c) **Inspections of the premises.** The Department may on one or more occasions, up to a year after issuing the permit, perform an inspection of the dog's living quarters to ensure that the standards required to receive a permit are met. The Department will give the owner, guardian or keeper a twenty-four hour notice and will conduct such inspection at a reasonable time when the owner, guardian or keeper, or his/her representative, is present. The owner, guardian or keeper shall allow the Department access to conduct the inspection.

If the property does not meet the required standards, or the owner, guardian or keeper cannot be contacted for an inspection within two weeks of the Department's initial attempt, or the owner, guardian or keeper fails or refuses to allow an inspection, the Department shall not issue a permit.

(Added by Ord. 268-05, File No. 051607, App. 11/22/2005)

#### **SEC. 44.2. RELOCATION OF PERMIT.**

(a) The Department may, after conducting a hearing, revoke a breeding permit for violations of the provisions of Sections 42 through 44.5 of the San Francisco Health Code. Within five days of the Department's knowledge of any such violations, a hearing officer, who is any designated representative of the Department of Animal Care and Control or the San Francisco Police Department, shall notice the owner, guardian or keeper of the pit bull in writing that s/he is in violation and subject to penalties under this ordinance, including revocation of his/her breeding permit. Unless the hearing is waived by the owner, guardian, or keeper of the dog, or the hearing is scheduled on an agreed-upon date, the hearing officer shall fix a time not less than ten or more than 30 days from the date of the violation notice. The hearing officer shall fix a place for said hearing and cause all parties to be notified, not less than five days before the date of such hearing. The hearing may be informal and the rules of evidence not strictly observed. Within fifteen days following the hearing, the hearing officer shall issue his/her decision to all parties. The decision of the hearing officer is final. Upon a finding of a violation, the hearing officer may impose appropriate remedies on the owner, guardian, or keeper. Any violation(s) may also be considered in future permitting decisions.

(b) After the Department has issued a permit, it may revoke the permit pursuant to procedures set forth in Section 44.2(a) if a subsequent inspection of the premises under Section 44.1(c) reveals the area to be below the standards required for the permit, or if the owner, guardian or keeper cannot be contacted for an inspection within two weeks of the Department's initial attempt, or if the owner, guardian or keeper refuses the Department access for an inspection. If the dog is already pregnant or the puppies are born, the Department may, pending a hearing, impound the pit bull and/or its puppies in accordance with Section 41.7(a) of the San Francisco Health Code. After a hearing, the Department may fine the owner, guardian or keeper an amount not to exceed \$500, permanently confiscate the puppies and dispose of them in accordance with Section 41.9 of the San Francisco Health Code, and consider the violation in future permitting decisions.

(Added by Ord. 268-05, File No. 051607, App. 11/22/2005)

#### **SEC. 44.3. TRANSFERENCE AND SALE OF PIT BULL PUPPIES.**

(a) Any owner, guardian or keeper residing in or conducting a transaction within the City and County of San Francisco who offers any pit bull puppies under six months old for sale, trade, or adoption, must prominently post his/her valid breeding permit number with any offer of sale, trade, or adoption. The permit number must also be supplied in writing to the individual, firm, corporation, or other entity that acquires a puppy.

(b) The breeder shall not remove puppies from the litter until the puppies are at least 8 weeks of age, are fully weaned, have their first set of vaccinations, have been de-wormed and are in good general health.

(c) Breeders and any party that acquires a pit bull puppy through purchase, trade or adoption shall enter into a written agreement for the transaction and must include language that the acquiring party shall, at any time during the dog's life, return the puppy to the breeder if the

acquiring party cannot keep it, and that the breeder shall accept any such returned dog.

(d) Pit bull puppies that do not have show dog papers as defined in Section 43.1(f) must be spayed or neutered by the breeder prior to transfer.

(e) Within three weeks of the time that the litter is whelped, the breeder shall send to the Department a head count of how many puppies were live born. Within three weeks after the breeder transfers physical possession of each puppy, the breeder shall notify the Department of the name, address, and telephone number of the new owner, guardian or keeper of each puppy.  
(Added by Ord. 268-05, File No. 051607, App. 11/22/2005)

#### **SEC. 44.4. FINES FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH PERMIT REQUIREMENTS.**

(a) A violation of the breeding permit provisions at Section 44 shall be an infraction punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500. Such violations must be corrected within 30 days.

(b) After 30 days of a first citation, if the owner, guardian or keeper fails to correct a violation of Section 44, it shall be an additional violation and shall be punishable as a misdemeanor. Subsequent violations will be considered part of a continuous sequence of offenses and each violation after 30 days of a prior conviction will be punishable as a misdemeanor. The punishment shall be imprisonment in the County Jail for a period not to exceed six months or by a fine not exceeding \$1,000, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

(c) Failure to include a prominently posted permit number when transferring pit bull puppies under Section 44.3(a) shall be an infraction punishable by a \$100 fine for the first violation, a \$200 fine upon a second violation within a year of the first offense, and a \$500 fine upon the third and subsequent violations within a year of the second offense.

(d) Failure to provide the Department with the number of puppies born and information about a new owner, guardian or keeper of each puppy in accordance with Section 44.3(e) shall be an infraction punishable by a \$100 fine for the first violation, a \$200 fine upon a second violation within one year of the first offense, and fine of \$500 for the third and subsequent violations within one year of the second offense. Failure to provide the Department with the new owner, guardian or keeper's information for each puppy, will be considered a separate and individual violation.

(Added by Ord. 268-05, File No. 051607, App. 11/22/2005)

#### **SEC. 44.5. ALLOCATION OF FEES AND FINES COLLECTED.**

All fees and the City's share of all fines collected under Section 44.4 shall be used only by the Animal Care and Control Department to fund the implementation and enforcement of the pit bull breeding permit program.

(Added by Ord. 268-05, File No. 051607, App. 11/22/2005)

#### **SEC. 44.6. EXCEPTIONS TO PERMIT POSTING REQUIREMENTS.**

The Department of Animal Care and Control or a valid 501(0)(3) animal welfare and rescue organization that seeks adoptive homes for pit bulls may transfer ownership and place ads without displaying or supplying a permit number as described in Section 44.3(a).

(Added by Ord. 268-05, File No. 051607, App. 11/22/2005)

#### **SEC. 44.7. OPERATIVE DATE.**

Notwithstanding the provisions of Sections 44 through 44.3, the provisions of this Section requiring a permit for the breeding and transfer of pit bull puppies shall not be operative until January the first date that California Health and Safety Code Section 122331 is in full force and



effect or upon the effective date of this ordinance, whichever is later.  
(Added by Ord. 268-05, File No. 051607, App. 11/22/2005)

(City & County of San Francisco Health Code, n.d.).

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Board of Supervisors
City and County of San Francisco
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
(415) 554-5184 FAX (415) 554-7714

Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board, Commission, Committee, or Task Force: Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

Seat # or Category (If applicable): Vacant seats 1 or 2 or 3 District:

Name: Amy Fuller

Home Address: Union Street # Zip: 94109

Home Phone: 216- Occupation: Auditor

Work Phone: 510-452-6814 Employer: SCS Global Services

Business Address: 2000 Powell Street Zip: 94608

Business E-Mail: afuller@scsglobalservices.com Home E-Mail: amycfuller@

Pursuant to Charter Section 4.101 (a)2, Boards and Commissions established by the Charter must consist of electors (registered voters) of the City and County of San Francisco. For certain other bodies, the Board of Supervisors can waive the residency requirement.

Check All That Apply:

Registered voter in San Francisco: Yes [checked] No [ ] If No, where registered:

Resident of San Francisco [checked] Yes [ ] No [ ] If No, place of residence:

Pursuant to Charter section 4.101 (a)1, please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:

I have lived in San Francisco for 2.5 years and am a young, female resident interested in the health of both our city's animals and occupants. Being an avid user of the Bay Area's outdoor spaces, I come across many animal-related issues on a weekly basis: dog regulations at parks and beaches, feral cats and rodents, pets on MUNI and BART, etc. By living in and visiting many neighborhoods throughout the area, I believe I am well-equipped to understand and provide solutions to local animal welfare issues.

**Business and/or professional experience:**

Previously, I worked at the largest animal shelter in Chicago (The Anti-Cruelty Society). My work included donor relations and development, communication with the public, and coordination with our investigation team. I managed public complaints about mistreatment of pets, rodent infestations, animal hoarding situations, and more. Our shelter also operated a low-cost spay/neuter clinic which served hundreds of low-income Chicago residents per month. Currently, I work as an Auditor at SCS Global Services, a third-party certification company. I assess products and manufacturing facilities against environmental and social standards, some of which focus on the humane treatment of animals in the apparel industry (ex. wool and angora). I also worked in the agriculture industry for both PepsiCo and Annie's and therefore have knowledge of animal husbandry practices.

**Civic Activities:**

My civic activities in San Francisco have been limited to environmental beautification in public spaces, though I also organized an employee volunteer event at Mutville. I have volunteered at animal shelters since high school (where I also shadowed a vet for a month as part of my senior project). I am getting married in August and finally feel settled in San Francisco, and would like to start giving back. Animal welfare has always been one of my passions and I would be thrilled to serve as a Commissioner on the Commission of Animal Control and Welfare.

Have you attended any meetings of the Board/Commission to which you wish appointment?      Yes  No

For appointments by the Board of Supervisors, appearance before the RULES COMMITTEE is a requirement before any appointment can be made. (*Applications must be received 10 days before the scheduled hearing.*)

Date: 04/22/2014      Applicant's Signature: (required) Amy Fuller

(Manually sign or type your complete name.  
NOTE: By typing your complete name, you are hereby consenting to use of electronic signature.)

**Please Note:** Your application will be retained for one year. Once Completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:  
Appointed to Seat #: \_\_\_\_\_ Term Expires: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Seat was Vacated: \_\_\_\_\_



**Board of Supervisors  
City and County of San Francisco**  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244  
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**Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces**

Name of Board, Commission, Committee, or Task Force: Animal Control & Welfare

Seat # or Category (If applicable): 1, 2, 3 District: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Annemarie Fortier

Home Address: — Spruce St Zip: 94118

Home Phone: 415- — Occupation: housewife

Work Phone: — Employer: —

Business Address: — Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Business E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Home E-Mail: annemarie.fortier@ —

**Pursuant to Charter Section 4.101 (a)2, Boards and Commissions established by the Charter must consist of electors (registered voters) of the City and County of San Francisco. For certain other bodies, the Board of Supervisors can waive the residency requirement.**

Check All That Apply:

Registered voter in San Francisco: Yes  No  If No, where registered: \_\_\_\_\_

Resident of San Francisco  Yes  No If No, place of residence: \_\_\_\_\_

**Pursuant to Charter section 4.101 (a)1, please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:**

*I have served on the Commission for two years. As a parent and guardian to two dogs, I am very interested in seeing our children, pets and wildlife live together with respect.*

**Business and/or professional experience:**

After a career in finance, I retired to care for my two young children.

**Civic Activities:**

Volunteer at SF public schools, the SPCA, and with charities involved in education.

Have you attended any meetings of the Board/Commission to which you wish appointment? Yes  No

For appointments by the Board of Supervisors, appearance before the RULES COMMITTEE is a requirement before any appointment can be made. (Applications must be received 10 days before the scheduled hearing.)

Date: April 14, 2014 Applicant's Signature: (required) [Signature]

(Manually sign or type your complete name.  
NOTE: By typing your complete name, you are hereby consenting to use of electronic signature.)

**Please Note:** Your application will be retained for one year. Once Completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record.

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:**

Appointed to Seat #: \_\_\_\_\_ Term Expires: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Seat was Vacated: \_\_\_\_\_



Board of Supervisors
City and County of San Francisco
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
(415) 554-5184 FAX (415) 554-7714

Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board, Commission, Committee, or Task Force: Animal Control and Welfare

Seat # or Category (If applicable): 7 District: 4

Name: Shari B. O'Neill

Home Address: 47th Ave Zip: 94122

Home Phone: Occupation: veterinarian

Work Phone: 415.681.4313 Employer: Avenues Pet Hospital

Business Address: 2221 Taraval Street Zip: 94116

Business E-Mail: Home E-Mail: sharidvm@

Pursuant to Charter Section 4.101 (a)2, Boards and Commissions established by the Charter must consist of electors (registered voters) of the City and County of San Francisco. For certain other bodies, the Board of Supervisors can waive the residency requirement.

Check All That Apply:

Registered voter in San Francisco: Yes [checked] No [ ] If No, where registered:

Resident of San Francisco [checked] Yes [ ] No [ ] If No, place of residence:

Pursuant to Charter section 4.101 (a)1, please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:

Please see attached documents

**Business and/or professional experience:**

Please see attached documents

**Civic Activities:**

Please see attached documents

Have you attended any meetings of the Board/Commission to which you wish appointment?    Yes  No

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For appointments by the Board of Supervisors, appearance before the RULES COMMITTEE is a requirement before any appointment can be made. *(Applications must be received 10 days before the scheduled hearing.)*

Date: 4/4/2014    Applicant's Signature: (required) Shari B. O'Neill, DVM

(Manually sign or type your complete name.  
NOTE: By typing your complete name, you are hereby consenting to use of electronic signature.)

**Please Note:** Your application will be retained for one year. Once Completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record.

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FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:  
Appointed to Seat #: \_\_\_\_\_ Term Expires: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Seat was Vacated: \_\_\_\_\_

**Shari B. O'Neill, DVM, MPH, DACVPM**

— 47th Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94122  
email: sharidvm@ —  
(415) —

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## **EDUCATION**

Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine, 1999  
Auburn University, College of Veterinary Medicine  
Magna Cum Laude

Master of Public Health, 2011  
University of Iowa, College of Public Health

Diplomate, American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine  
Board Certification, 2011

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

January 2013 to current **California Veterinary Medical Association, California Veterinary Medical Reserve Corps Steering Committee (CAVMRC)**  
State of California

- Major Urban Coordinator/ County Coordinator (OES Region II)
- Act as liaison/ facilitator and contact for local animal authorities regarding animal disaster plans
- Work directly with the CAVMRC Unit Coordinator or a deputy coordinator to oversee/ facilitate the CAVMRC role in a local disaster
- Speak on behalf of the CAVMRC at various community events (such as special interest club functions or city council meetings)
- Disseminate information about trainings to CAVMRC members and facilitate trainings

October 2012 to current **Commissioner, Animal Control and Welfare Commission**  
City and County of San Francisco

- Appointed by the Board of Supervisors/ Mayor's Office
- Voting member of the advisory body to the Board of Supervisors with regard to animals in private, public, and commercial care

January 2010 to current **Disaster Preparedness Coalition for Animals, SFVMA representative**  
Animal Care and Control, San Francisco, California

- Animal disaster planning for the City and County of San Francisco
- Design and delivery of training for Disaster Animal Response Team volunteers
- Community outreach program for companion animal emergency preparedness for professionals and the public

June 2003 to current **Senior Associate Clinical Veterinarian**  
Avenues Pet Hospital, San Francisco, California

- Clinical practice/ small animal medicine and surgery
- Supervision and teaching of Registered Veterinary Technicians and assistants
- Website production/ maintenance
- Doctor's scheduling, agendas for clinician and staff meetings
- Consultant for workplace safety, preparedness plans

July 2002 to June 2003 **Associate Clinical Veterinarian**  
Park Animal Hospital, San Francisco, California

- Clinical practice/ small animal medicine and surgery
- Supervision and teaching of Registered Veterinary Technicians and assistants



July 2001  
to June 2002

**Associate Clinical Veterinarian**

Bridge Street Veterinary Clinic, Brighton, Colorado

- Clinical practice/ small animal medicine and surgery
- Supervising technical / front desk staff during evening hours
- Assisting in hiring / interview process for support staff

June 1999  
to June 2001

**Associate Clinical Veterinarian**

Emory Animal Hospital, Decatur, Georgia

- Clinical practice/ small animal medicine and surgery
- Indirectly supervising four technicians
- Establishing doctor's schedules
- Coordinating, setting agendas for and scheduling staff meetings

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

- American Veterinary Medical Association
- California Veterinary Medical Association
- San Francisco Veterinary Medical Association (Secretary)

**Shari B. O'Neill, DVM, MPH, DACVPM**

47th Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94122  
email: sharidvm@  
(415)

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April 4, 2014

Honorable Supervisors Yee, Tang, and Campos:

I would like to express my interest in seeking reappointment for seat 7 on the SF Animal Control and Welfare Commission. I have practiced clinical veterinary medicine in the private sector for 15 years, the last 12 of which have been in the Sunset District where I am also a resident. My client demographic represents a broad range of characteristics unique to San Francisco and I feel I am well connected to the needs and concerns of pet-owners in our community.

I have a special interest in disaster preparedness and have worked with the SF Disaster Preparedness Coalition for Animals and ACC, which is responsible for emergency planning and coordination of public and private stakeholders in the local disaster response, as well as volunteer education and training, and community outreach for the public. Through the Coalition, I work with a number of organizations that deal with companion animal issues in different capacities including private and public animal shelters, and programs that assist special populations with companion animals such as the homeless and those living with HIV/AIDS. In collaborating with these other agencies I have come to appreciate the many points of view that arise when addressing issues related to animals in our community. I also serve on the California Veterinary Medical Association Medical Reserve Corps Steering Committee which addresses animal disaster planning and response at the state level.

Through my interdisciplinary education, I can offer a distinct point of view on how the relationships between humans, animals, and the environment influence the health and well being of each other, and how these interactions can be of significant public concern. I have expertise in public health issues related to animals including infectious and zoonotic disease, epidemiology, environmental health, and public health education, which would lend a unique perspective to the Commission.

I therefore believe I am uniquely qualified to advise the Board on matters related to the health and welfare of the animals in our community.

I am available to answer any questions you may have concerning my candidacy for this position via email or phone.

Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward to hearing from the Rules Committee with a decision on the appointment.

Sincerely,

Shari B. O'Neill, DVM, MPH, DACVPM

San Francisco  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Date Printed: May 9, 2014

Date Established:

June 22, 1973

Active

**COMMISSION OF ANIMAL CONTROL AND WELFARE**

**Contact and Address:**

Sally Stephens Chair  
Animal Care and Control  
1200 15th Street  
San Francisco, CA 94103

Phone:

Fax: (415) 554-9424

Email: stephensfw@mindspring.com

**Authority:**

Health Code, Section 41.1 (Ordinance Nos. 226-73; 59-82; 182-89; 394-89; and 107-99)

**Board Qualifications:**

The Commission of Animal Control and Welfare consists of eleven (11) members.

The seven (7) members appointed by the Board of Supervisors shall be voting members:

- > Six (6) members shall represent the general public and have interest and experience in animal matters; and
- > One (1) member must be a licensed veterinarian practicing in San Francisco.

The other four (4) members are non-voting members, as follows:

- > One (1) member shall consist of the Director of the Animal Care and Control Department or his/her designated representative;
- > One (1) member appointed by the Director of the Department of Public Health or his/her designated representative;
- > One (1) member appointed by the Chief of Police or his/her designated representative; and
- > One (1) member appointed by the General Manager of the Recreation and Park Department or his/her designated representative.

Each member of the Commission of Animal Control and Welfare of the City and County of San Francisco shall be a resident of the City and County of San Francisco, except for the licensed veterinarian, who must practice in San Francisco, but who need not be a resident of San Francisco.

San Francisco  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

The Commission shall have the powers and duties to: a) hold hearings and submit recommendations regarding animal control and welfare to the Board of Supervisors and the City Administrator; b) study and recommend requirements for the maintenance of animals in public, private, and commercial care; and c) work with the Tax Collector, Director of the Animal Care and Control Department, and authorized licensing entities to develop and maintain dog licensing procedures and make recommendations on fees.

**Term of Office:** Three of the members who are first appointed by the Board of Supervisors shall be designated to serve for terms of one year and three for two years from the date of their appointment. Thereafter, members shall be appointed as aforesaid for a term of two years, except that all of the vacancies occurring during a term shall be filled for the unexpired term. A member shall hold office until his or her successor has been appointed and has qualified.

**Reports:** The Commission shall render a written report of its activities to the Board of Supervisors quarterly as stated in Health Code, Section 41.3.

**Sunset Date:** None