

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Public Safety Policy Committee

THRU: George Noe, City Manager
Nancy Freed, Deputy City Manager, Operations
Nancy Sheffield, Director, Neighborhood Services Department
Jackie Ehmann, Interim Manager, Animal Care Division

FROM: Cheryl Conway, Public Relations Specialist, Animal Care Division

DATE: January 27, 2014

RE: **ORDINANCE SEC. 14-75 UNLAWFUL KEEPING OF PIT BULLS**

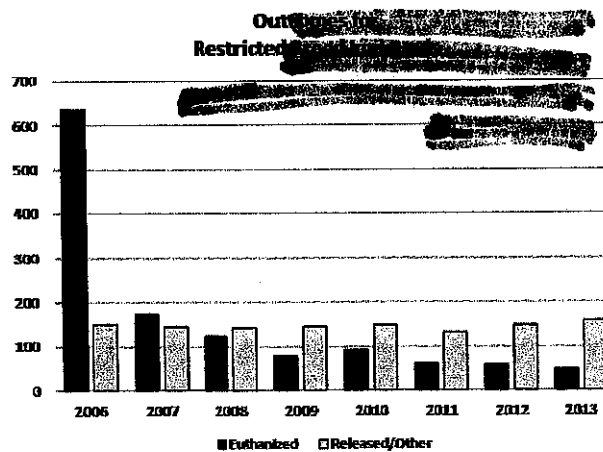
Council Member Renie Peterson requested the ordinance regulating the unlawful keeping of pit bulls be brought to the Public Safety Policy Committee for consideration of repeal.

The Aurora Restricted Breed ban ordinance was enacted in 2005 when Council chose to take a strong position against the ownership of ten breeds of dogs historically bred for fighting. This was in order to deal with serious issues and injury that had been inflicted by these types of dogs. Staff believes this strong stance was necessary at the time. Over time, the number of restricted breed dogs has been reduced significantly in Aurora and the types of issues experienced prior to the ban have not occurred with the same frequency or severity which was and remains the goal of the ban.

In 2011, the ordinance was revised to reduce the number of specific banned breeds and allow DNA testing, in addition to the more universally used method of observational evaluation, to determine if a dog is a pit bull.

These two changes tempered the strong position taken in the original ordinance and allowed more dogs to remain in the City than were allowed under the original ordinance.

The number of pit bulls euthanized continues to decline. The number of dogs released due to DNA testing or by court order with a notarized statement confirming the dog will be permanently re-homed outside the city remains relatively steady and has even increased slightly over the last two years. To date, the number of issues stemming from Pit Bulls has not increased and the intent of the ordinance remains effective.



Staff is concerned that if Aurora's ban is repealed, it is likely the pit bulls banned in Denver, Commerce City, Lone Tree, Castle Rock, Louisville and Fort Lupton will move into our city and the earlier issues and serious injuries to people might resurface. Our recommendation is to keep Ordinance 14-75 regulating the unlawful keeping of Pit Bulls.

BACKGROUND:

In 2003, prior to passage of this ordinance, several City Council Members received phone calls from constituents expressing concern about the number of pit bull dogs in their neighborhoods and the nature of these animals.

Staff reported these particular dogs were problematic due to the large number of reported problems with both the pit bulls and their owners. Perception was that many of the pit bulls came from Denver, where they'd been banned since 1989, and there was concern that more would come to Aurora once Commerce City enacted their proposed ban on these dogs. (Commerce City banned pit bulls in 2005).

At that time, pit bulls were the dogs of choice for gang members and less-than-responsible owners who were allowing them to run at large, using leashed pit bulls to taunt people on sidewalks, indiscriminately breeding them, fighting them and abandoning severely injured dogs afterwards. Owners were frequently cited for cruelty and neglect as well as keeping a vicious, aggressive or dangerous animal, among other charges. At any given time, up to 70% of kennels in the Aurora Animal Shelter were occupied by pit bulls with pending court disposition dates or with no known owner. That number has dropped significantly and now only 10%-20% of kennels are occupied at any given time by pit bulls.

Staff also relayed that pit bulls consumed more time and resources than other breeds of dogs. Animal Care Officers responded in pairs to pick up those running at large due to the potential for attack and/or for owners to be confrontational. Because pit bulls are known to be animal-aggressive, they needed to be individually transported to the animal shelter. No other dogs or cats in carriers could be transported simultaneously without placing the other animals at risk.

Additionally, for safety reasons, Animal Care Officers could not respond to service requests at addresses for known gang members or in areas heavily frequented by gang members without an accompanying police officer.

In response, prior to enacting the pit bull ban, council amended the ordinance addressing vicious, aggressive or dangerous animals to strengthen the penalties for people convicted of keeping an aggressive animal.

A series of severe and highly publicized pit bull attacks occurred around the time the ordinance was enacted, including a 9-year old Aurora boy who lost his arm at the shoulder when his family's pit bulls attacked him; an Aurora grandmother who was mauled by her own pit bull as she tried to prevent it from attacking her granddaughter and the death of a woman in Elbert County who was attacked by three stray pit bulls. Similar situations, as reported by national media outlets, were happening around the country.

HISTORY OF THE ORDINANCE:

Section 14-75 Unlawful keeping of pit bulls:

October 24, 2005: The ordinance was enacted as a proactive measure to prevent attacks from ten breeds of dogs historically bred for fighting. It contains a grandfather clause for those dogs properly licensed at the time of enactment. The ordinance includes restrictions for keeping a licensed pit bull. In 2006, 498 grandfathered pit bulls were licensed. In 2013, the number of legally registered pit bulls dropped to 90.

February 11, 2008: Council reviewed the ordinance in study session to determine its effectiveness. It was decided that no further action was needed to be taken at that time and to keep the ordinance as written.

December 6, 2010: The ordinance was amended to differentiate unlicensed restricted breeds from those grandfathered and properly licensed with the city. By changing "shall" to "may," the ordinance change allows Animal Care Officer discretion on whether it is best to impound the dog, or if merely warning the owner to correct a violation and prevent it from reoccurring may be sufficient. Similarly, by separating licensed from unlicensed restricted breeds, the revision allows judges discretion in sentencing. Judges are not required to revoke a restricted breed license or order a licensed pit bull be permanently removed from the city, although they may if the nature of the offense warrants.

May 5, 2011: The ordinance was amended to:

- Remove the ban for the seven types of dogs defined as restricted breeds (American Bulldog aka Old Country Bulldog, Dogo Argentino aka Argentinian Mastiff, Presa Canario, Presa Mallorquin, Tosa Inu, Cane Corso and Fila Braselairo), while continuing to prohibit those defined as pit bulls ("any dog that is an American Pit Bull Terrier, American Staffordshire Terrier, Staffordshire Bull Terrier, or any dog displaying the majority of physical traits or genetic markers of any one or more of the above breeds, or any dog exhibiting those distinguishing characteristics which substantially conform to the standards established by the American Kennel Club or United Kennel Club for any of the above breeds.") As a result, all references to 'restricted breed' were deleted.
- An exemption for pit bull service dogs was added to accommodate changes made to the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- DNA testing was included as a method for determining a dog's breed. Those canines whose test results denote 50% or less genetic pit bull composition are now allowed in the city without restriction.

Section 14-7 Keeping vicious, aggressive or dangerous animals:

August, 2004: The ordinance was amended to strengthen the penalty section by increasing fines and, upon a first conviction, requiring owners to microchip the animal. The ordinance was revised to also require destruction upon a second conviction involving the same animal. This ordinance is strong and effective. Research in 2004 reported this section of the Aurora Municipal Code has been referred to other communities by the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) and the National Animal Control Association (NACA) as a "national model." However, the vicious, aggressive or dangerous animal ordinance is *reactive*. It is typically applied *after* an incident has occurred.

March, 2011: The keeping vicious, aggressive or dangerous animal ordinance was reviewed by the Neighborhood Services Policy Committee in March, 2011 and compared against Englewood, Colorado's dangerous dog ordinance. Committee members agreed Sec. 14-7 is effective and did not recommend additional revisions.

ANALYSIS:

Pit Bull Ban

The ban on pit bulls is a *proactive* measure to prevent incidents from these dogs from happening. Staff indicates complaints about the breed ban come primarily from those who live outside Aurora (mostly from out-of-state) and rarely from an Aurora citizen. Conversely, when a pit bull or a dog that looks like a pit bull is brought into Aurora, neighbors are typically quick to call and report it. People who call the Animal Care Division indicate they do not want to live next to pit bulls. Most callers voice concern for the safety of their children and pets.

Pit Bull Bans Nationally / Internationally

March, 2011: Research presented to the Aurora City Council revealed 191 cities banned pit bulls and another 97 restricted them. At that time, 13 military bases in the U.S. also prohibited these dogs. Internationally, pit bulls are banned in Germany, England, the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, New South Wales, Ireland, Spain, Turkey, the Netherlands, Singapore, Ontario, Canada and Winnipeg, Canada.ⁱ

January, 2014: Internet research indicates 512 cities now ban or restrict pit bulls, a substantial increase since 2011. An additional 46 cities once had a ban but repealed it, mostly in response to state legislation prohibiting breed specific language (BSL).

Pit Bull Bans in Colorado

Colorado currently has 8 cities that ban pit bulls: Aurora, Denver, Commerce City, Lone Tree, Castle Rock, Fort Lupton, Louisville and LaJunta. An additional two cities repealed their ban when Colorado state law was revised to prohibit BSL in areas without 'home rule' designation (Wellington and Golden). It is notable that most of the Colorado communities with a breed ban either abut or are located close to Aurora. It is expected that if Aurora's ban is repealed, pit bulls from those communities will relocate to our city.

Dog breeds are developed by selective procreation to advance certain traits. They are genetically programmed to behave in a relatively predictable manner. That is why professional breeders and shelters advise people to thoroughly research dog breeds before getting a companion animal to ensure a good match for the family's lifestyle.

Previous research (2011) found that Supreme courts in 11 U.S. states and the District of Columbia upheld the constitutionality of breed-specific laws. Court findings are consistent: differential treatment is warranted because there are differences between breeds developed for fighting and the majority of other dog breeds.ⁱⁱ

The differences cited by the various Supreme courts are:

- **Unpredictability of Aggression:** Pit bull breeds and fighting breeds, unlike other dogs, often give no warning before they attack.ⁱⁱⁱ They typically do not give the common warning signs other breeds show (i.e. barking to alert someone of their presence, growling, ears forward, hackles up, stiffened body and tail, etc.) .
- **As a group, pit bulls, compared to other breeds, generally have a higher propensity to exhibit unique behavioral traits during an attack. These behaviors have a higher likelihood of causing more severe injuries or death.**^{iv}

- Manner of attack: Pit bulls and fighting breeds inflict more serious wounds than other breeds because they tend to attack the deep muscles, hold on, shake, and cause tissues to tear.
- Strength: Pit bulls are muscular and unusually strong for their size, generally stronger than other dogs.
- Manageability and temperament: Some of these dogs can make great family pets, but even their most ardent admirers agree these breeds are not for everyone and they require special attention and discipline. In the legal case against Denver, the court cited one study which reported that over 13% of pit bulls attacked their owners, as compared with just over 2% of other dog breeds.^v
- Tenacity: Pit bulls trained for fighting are valued for 'gameness,' the tenacious refusal to give up a fight. Courts are in agreement that once a pit bull began to fight, it often would not retreat.
- Pain tolerance: Evidence showed that when a pit bull attacked, it would not retreat, even when considerable pain was inflicted upon it.^{vi}
- Pit bulls are known to be animal-aggressive. Most owners will try to protect their pet and put their own safety at risk when their pet is attacked.^{vii}

The ban on pit bulls continues to effectively work as intended. There were several severe attacks on people from these dogs immediately around the time the ordinance was considered and enacted. There hasn't been a severe attack from these types of dogs in Aurora within the last several years. The number of associated service requests in 2013 was down significantly compared to 2006.

Staff is concerned that if Aurora's ban is repealed, it is likely the pit bulls banned in Denver, Commerce City, Castle Rock, Lone Tree, Louisville and Fort Lupton will move into our city and the earlier issues and severe injuries caused by these types of dogs may return as well.

Staff Recommendation: Continue to prohibit pit bulls in Aurora.

Questions for the Committee:

1. Does the committee support maintaining ordinance Sec. 14-75 unlawful keeping of pit bulls?

Attachment: Aurora Municipal Code section 14-75: unlawful keeping of pit bulls

CITY CODE
City of
AURORA, COLORADO

Codified through
Ordinance No. 2013-38, enacted October 28, 2013.
(Supp. No. 55)

Aurora, CO
City of Aurora
Aurora, CO 80012
(303)739-7000
www.auroragov.org

The listing below includes all legislation received by Municipal Code since the last update (printed or electronic) to the Code of Ordinances. This legislation has been enacted, but has not yet been codified.

Legislation	Date	Description
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No additional legislation has been received since the last update. The Code of Ordinances is up to date as indicated by the banner above.

Sec. 14-75. Unlawful keeping of pit bulls.

(a)

Prohibited. It shall be unlawful for any person to have, own, possess, keep, exercise control over, maintain, harbor, transport, or sell within the city any pit bull.

(b)

Definitions.

(1)

"Immediate family" for purposes of this chapter, includes the owner's spouse, child, parent or sibling.

(2)

"Handler" for purposes of this chapter, means an individual with a disability who is utilizing a service dog, as that term is defined in this chapter, to do work or perform tasks directly related to the individual's disability. If over the age of 18, the handler must also be the owner of the service dog. If under the age of 18, the handler's legal guardian must be the owner of the service dog.

(3)

"Muzzle" for purposes of this chapter, shall mean a restraining device made of metal, plastic, leather, cloth or a combination of these materials that, when fitted and fastened over a snout/mouth/head, prevents the dog from biting but allows room for the dog to breath and pant. The muzzle must be made in a manner that will not cause injury to the dog or interfere with its vision or respiration, but must prevent it from biting any person or animal.

(4)

"Pit bull" for purposes of this chapter, is defined as any dog that is an American Pit Bull Terrier, American Staffordshire Terrier, Staffordshire Bull Terrier, or any dog displaying the majority of physical traits or genetic markers of any one or more of the above breeds, or any dog exhibiting those distinguishing characteristics which substantially conform to the standards established by the American Kennel Club or United Kennel Club for any of the above breeds.

(5) "Secure temporary enclosure" for purposes of this chapter, is a secure enclosure used for purposes of transporting a pit bull and which includes a top and bottom permanently attached to the sides except for a "door" for removal of the pit bull. Such enclosure must be of such material and secured with a keyed or combination lock so that the pit bull cannot exit the enclosure on its own.

(6) "Secure pen or enclosure" for the purposes of this chapter, shall mean a six-sided structure designed to prevent entry of a child or escape of a pit bull. Such pen or structure must have minimum dimensions of five-feet by ten-feet per animal housed within and must have secure chain-link sides, a secured top and a secure bottom. The enclosure must provide protection from the elements for the dog. All structures erected to house a pit bull must comply with all zoning and building ordinances and regulations of the city and shall be kept in a clean and sanitary condition. The gate of the pen or enclosure shall be secured with a keyed or combination lock.

(7) "DNA testing" DNA (Deoxyribonucleic Acid) is the genetic blueprint that contain most of the genetic instructions for every canine's body make up (height, weight, size etc.). DNA testing means a genetic analysis to identify key single-nucleotide polymorphisms marker locations (genetic markers) that may detect the breed, type and variety of a dog and may show the ancestral breed composition of a particular dog.

(8) "DNA test evidence" an owner may, at the owner's expense, submit a DNA sample of a dog to a veterinarian or other professional to test for the genetic history of a dog. Such test should look for the genetic markers for the following breeds: American Pit Bull Terrier, American Staffordshire Terrier, and Staffordshire Bull Terrier. In order to be considered a pit bull the DNA testing must demonstrate a genetic blueprint of excess of 50 percent of pit bull. The DNA test results shall constitute evidence which the court may consider in establishing that a dog is other than a breed banned by this section. DNA testing results shall override any subjective evidence including observational findings to the contrary. If an owner indicates to a judge that a DNA test will be performed, the court may issue appropriate orders as to the release of the dog with any additional conditions that the court believes will minimize any danger to the community during the pendency of the testing and obtaining the results.

(c) *Exceptions.* The prohibition in subsection (a) shall not apply in the following enumerated circumstances. Failure by the owner to comply and remain in compliance with all of the terms of any applicable exception may subject the pit bull to immediate impoundment and disposition.

(1) The owner of a pit bull who has applied for and received a pit bull license and who maintains the pit bull at all times in compliance with the pit bull license requirements of subsection (d) of this section and all other applicable requirements of this chapter, may keep a pit bull within the city.

(2) The animal care division may temporarily transport and harbor any pit bull for purposes of enforcing the provisions of this chapter.

(3)

Any veterinarian while treating or grooming a pit bull, or holding such pit bull after treatment until claimed by the owner or released to an animal care officer.

(4)

A person may temporarily transport into and hold in the city a pit bull only for the purpose of showing such pit bull in a place of public exhibition, contest or show sponsored by a dog club association or similar organization. However, the sponsor of the exhibition, contest, or show must receive written permission from the city manager or designee, must obtain any other permits or licenses required by city ordinance, and must provide protective measures adequate to prevent pit bulls from escaping or injuring the public. The person who transports and holds a pit bull for showing shall, at all times when the pit bull is being transported within the city to and from the place of exhibition, contest, or show, keep the pit bull confined in a secure temporary enclosure locked with a keyed or combination lock and bearing a caution sign affixed in a conspicuous location warning people a pit bull is confined within.

(5)

The owner of a pit bull may temporarily transport the pit bull through the city. During such transport the owner may not stop within the city for any reason not reasonably related to and necessary for travel. During such travel, the owner shall keep the pit bull muzzled and either in a secure temporary enclosure or securely leashed with a leash no longer than four feet in length held by someone 21 years of age or older who is capable of effectively controlling the dog. Extension-style leashes may not be used. Leashes may not be attached to inanimate objects.

(6)

The owner/handler of a pit bull that is the handler's service animal who has applied for and received a pit bull license in accordance with subsection (d) of this section, and who maintains the pit bull at all times in compliance with the pit bull license requirements of subsection (d) of this section and all other applicable requirements of this chapter, may keep a pit bull that is a service animal within the city. If an animal care division or other authorized city law enforcement officer makes contact with an owner/handler of a pit bull not licensed pursuant to this section and the owner/handler asserts that his or her dog is a service animal, the owner/handler shall be informed of this section and instructed to obtain a pit bull license pursuant to subsection (d) below within 72 hours of the initial contact. Failure to obtain a pit bull license shall result in impoundment of the dog pursuant to subsection (e) of this section.

(7)

A non-resident owner/handler may temporarily transport into and hold in the city a pit bull that is the owner/handler's service animal for a period not exceeding two weeks. During such temporary transport or holding, the owner/handler shall keep the pit bull muzzled and securely leashed with a leash no longer than four feet in length held by the owner/handler who requires the use of the service animal. In the event the handler, because of a disability, is not able to use a muzzle or leash no longer than four feet in length, or in the event the use of a muzzle or a leash no longer than four feet in length would interfere with the service animal's safe, effective performance of work or tasks, the service animal must be otherwise under the handler's control.

(d)

License. The owner of a pit bull who has applied for and received a pit bull license within 60 days of the effective date of this section or the owner/handler of a pit bull that is a service animal who has applied for and received a pit bull license shall be allowed to keep such pit bull within the city. As a condition of issuance of a pit bull

license, the owner shall at the time of application, comply with or otherwise provide sufficient evidence that the owner is in compliance with all of the following regulations:

- (1) The owner of the pit bull shall provide proof of a current rabies vaccination and shall pay an annual pit bull license fee to be set by city council. The annual pit bull license fee shall be waived for a pit bull that is a service animal.
- (2) The owner of the pit bull shall keep current the license for such pit bull through annual renewal. Such license is not transferable or renewable except by the holder of the license or by a member of the immediate family of such licensee. A pit bull license tag will be issued to the owner at the time of issuance of the license. Such license tag shall be attached to the pit bull by means of a collar or harness which must be worn by the animal at all times, clearly visible, and shall not be attached to any pit bull other than the pit bull for which the license was issued.
- (3) The owner must be at least 21 years of age. This regulation shall be waived for a pit bull that is a service animal when the handler is between at least 18 years of age, but under 21 years of age.
- (4) The owner shall present to the city manager or designee proof that the owner has homeowner's or renter's insurance with a minimum of \$100,000.00 for liability coverage which will cover any damage or injury caused by a pit bull during the 12-month period covered by the pit bull. This regulation shall be waived for a pit bull that is a service animal.
- (5) The owner shall, at the owner's own expense, have the pit bull spayed or neutered and shall present to the city manager or designee documentary proof from a licensed veterinarian that this sterilization has been performed.
- (6) The owner shall, at the owner's own expense, have a microchip containing an identification number implanted into the pit bull. The owner shall also, at the owner's expense, register the microchip number with a national data bank and provide proof of such registration to the animal care division. The city manager or designee shall maintain a file containing the registration numbers and names of the pit bull and the names and addresses of the owners. The owner shall notify the city manager or designee of any change of address.
- (7) Except as stated below and at all times when a pit bull is at the property of the owner, the owner shall keep the pit bull confined. When outdoors, all pit bulls shall be confined in a locked secure pen or enclosure or with its owner/handler or an adult at least 21 years of age in the rear yard with the dog, and the rear yard enclosed by a six foot fence maintained in accordance with chapter 146 of this Code. A warning sign shall be affixed to the gate of the structure notifying people a pit bull is contained within. This regulation related to the warning sign shall be waived for a pit bull that is a service animal.
- (8) No pit bull may be kept on a porch, patio or in any part of a house or structure that would allow the dog to exit such building on its own volition. This regulation shall be waived for a pit bull that is a service animal.
- (9)

At all times when a pit bull is away from the property of the owner, the owner shall keep the pit bull muzzled and either in a secure temporary enclosure or securely leashed with a leash no longer than four feet in length held by someone 21 years of age or older who is capable of effectively controlling the dog. Extension-style leashes may not be used. Leashes may not be attached to inanimate objects. In the event the handler, because of a disability, is not able to use leash no longer than four feet in length, or in the event the use of a muzzle or a leash no longer than four feet in length would interfere with the service animal's safe, effective performance of work or tasks, the service animal must be otherwise under the handler's control at all times when away from the property of the owner/handler in a manner relayed to the city manager or designee at the time of licensing. This regulation and the means for controlling the pit bull may be modified and portions may be waived for service animals by the city manager or designee as determined on a case-by-case basis.

(10)

The owner shall not sell or otherwise transfer the pit bull to any person residing within the city except a member of the owner's immediate family who will then become the owner and will be subject to all of the provisions of this section.

(11)

The owner shall immediately notify the animal care division in the event that the pit bull is loose, stolen, at-large, unconfined, has mauled, bitten, attacked, threatened, or in any way menaced another animal or human, or has died.

(12)

The owner shall have posted at the front door entrance to the owner's property where the pit bull is kept a conspicuous and clearly legible pit bull warning sign obtained from the animal care division. This regulation shall be waived for a pit bull that is a service animal.

(13)

No person applying for a pit bull license shall be granted a litter or fancier's permit pursuant to section 14-42 of this section for such pit bull.

(14)

Failure to comply with any of these conditions shall result in a revocation of the license, impoundment and disposition pursuant to subsection (e) of this section.

(e)

Impoundment. The animal care division is authorized to immediately impound any pit bull found within the city limits which does not fall within the exceptions listed in subsection (c) or (d), subject to a pre-trial hearing pursuant to section 14-4 of this Code. If the dog is found to be an unlicensed pit bull it shall be destroyed unless the owner produces evidence deemed sufficient by the court that the pit bull is to be permanently taken out of the city. Sufficient evidence must include, but is not limited to, a notarized agreement from the person taking custody of the animal containing an address and date of transfer. Additionally, the owner must consent to an in-home inspection by the animal care division within 30 days of release for the purpose of verifying the dog's removal from the city. Prior to release, the owner must pay the cost of impoundment and microchip the dog pursuant to subsection (d)(6) of this section. If the dog is found not to be a pit bull or if the dog is found to be a service animal, the dog shall be released to the owner. Notwithstanding a finding that the dog is not a pit bull or a finding that the dog is a service animal, a dog may be impounded and the owner/handler may be held responsible for violations of this

section or any other applicable state or local law, including but not limited to, the ordinances contained in chapter 14 of the Aurora Municipal Code.

(f)

Penalty.

(1)

Any person found guilty of violating this section with a licensed pit bull, upon conviction, could be subject to the penalty provisions of City Code section 1-13

(2)

Any person found guilty of violating this section with an unlicensed pit bull shall, upon conviction, be subject to the payment of a fine of not less than \$700.00. In addition to the fines stated in this subsection, a person convicted under this section may be subject to not more than one year in jail. None of the minimum monetary fines in this subsection shall be suspended by the municipal court and the penalties in this subsection may be imposed in addition to the court-ordered destruction provided in section 14-4

(Ord. No. 2005-84, § 1, 10-24-2005; Ord. No. 2010-55, §§ 1—4, 12-6-2010; Ord. No. 2011-11, §§ 1—8, 5-9-2011)

Secs. 14-76—14-100. Reserved.

REFERENCES

- i Source: Website: DogsBite.org
- ii From the article: "One City's Experience – Why Pit Bulls are More Dangerous and Breed Specific Legislation is Justified" by Kory A. Nelson, Senior Assistant City Attorney in the Prosecution Section for the City and County of Denver, Colorado Printed in The Municipal Lawyer, July/August 2005 Vol. 46, No. 6
- iii Stephen Zawistowski, animal geneticist and advisor to the ASPCA, quoted in the article: Printed in The City Journal, Spring, 1999 issue "Scared of Pit Bulls? You'd Better Be! By Brian C. Anderson http://www.city-journal.org/html/9_2_scared_of_pit.html
- iv "The pit-bull terrier is first and last a fighting dog. Its breeding history separates it from other tough breeds like Doberman pinschers and Rottweilers, which have been bred to guard their masters and property." Carl Semencic, author of several informative books on guard dogs and a big pit-bull fan quoted in an article: Printed in The City Journal, Spring, 1999 issue "Scared of Pit Bulls? You'd Better Be! By Brian C. Anderson http://www.city-journal.org/html/9_2_scared_of_pit.html
- v From the article: "One City's Experience – Why Pit Bulls are More Dangerous and Breed Specific Legislation is Justified" by Kory A. Nelson, Senior Assistant City Attorney in the Prosecution Section for the City and County of Denver, Colorado Printed in The Municipal Lawyer, July/August 2005 Vol. 46, No. 6
- vi Article: Printed in The City Journal, Spring, 1999 issue "Scared of Pit Bulls? You'd Better Be! By Brian C. Anderson http://www.city-journal.org/html/9_2_scared_of_pit.html
- vii "Pit bulls are genetically wired to kill other dogs." Carl Semencic, author of several informative books on guard dogs and a big pit-bull fan quoted in an article: Printed in The City Journal, Spring, 1999 issue "Scared of Pit Bulls? You'd Better Be! By Brian C. Anderson http://www.city-journal.org/html/9_2_scared_of_pit.html
- viii Source: Website: Dogsbite.org
- ix Source: Website: Dogsbite.org

