

Law Regarding Pit Bull Dogs:

Sec. 3-39. Regulation of Pit Bulls

(a) Purpose and Intent This ordinance is established because of the perceived and demonstrated danger to life, health and safety of humans and animals posed by so-called Pit Bull dogs. Because such animals are, by experience, unpredictable and unprovoked in their violence, the City of Everett establishes this policy with the intent of controlling such animals notwithstanding the past or present disposition, nature or character of any particular animal.

(b) Definitions As used in this ordinance, the following definitions shall apply: (1) Pitt Bull: any canine whether full or mixed breed, of the following breeds: American Staffordshire Terrier, American Staffordshire, Staffordshire Pitt Bulls, American Stafford Terrier, American Pitt Bull Terrier, Bull Terrier or Pitt Bull. (2) Muzzle: A device constructed of metal or other material sufficiently strong that it will prevent the dog from biting any person or animal.

(c) Sale of Pitt Bulls Sale or facilitation of sale of Pitt Bulls with the City of Everett is prohibited.

(d) Restraint of Pitt Bulls Except as hereinafter provided, no person shall keep a Pitt Bull in the City of Everett unless said Pitt Bull is registered by the law and kept within or upon the principle residential premises of the person to whom said animal is registered. (1) The owner of a Pit Bull must take adequate care and precaution to prevent said animal from gaining egress from said property at which the dog is registered. (2) The premises at which any Pitt Bull is registered shall be enclosed by a fence and said animal shall be chained at all times so as to prevent it from gaining access beyond the premises.

(e) Exceptions A Pitt Bull may be beyond the premises at which it is registered only if it is securely muzzled and leashed or chained when leaving premises at which it is registered. Adequate care and precaution must be taken to prevent the animal from leaving except under the control or supervision of the owner, keeper, person in control or in charge.

(f) Penalties Violation of any subsection of this ordinance shall be punishable by a fine of \$50.00 and may result, after a hearing under General Laws, Chapter 140, section 157, in disposal of the animal. (1) Violations of this ordinance may also be enforced in the manner provided for under General Laws, Chapter 40, section 21D.