Application for Non-Commercial Permit to Keep More Than Four (4) Dogs and/or Cats Over the Age of Six (6) Months

State of Tennessee **County of Knox**

Permit No. _____ Date Approved _____

I hereby make application for a permit to keep more than four dogs and/or cats over the age of six months under the provisions of City Animals Ordinance Chapter 5, Article I, Section 5-27 and base my application upon answers to the following questions:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Work Phone _____

Operator's Name (if other than applicant) _____

What type of building will the animals be kept in? (circle one)

Dwelling

Mobile Unit

Separate Building Adjacent to a Dwelling

Other (please indicate) _____

Veterinarian Information:

Name _____

Office Address _____

Phone _____ **Emergency Phone** _____

Have you ever:

Been denied any type of license by the City of Knoxville? Yes/No
Had any type of license revoked in the City of Knoxville? Yes/No
Been charged with a violation of any animal law or code? Yes/No

If the answer to any of the proceeding questions is Yes, please explain below using a separate sheet of paper if necessary.

_____

_____

What types of animals will be kept? _____

Approximately how many dogs and/or cats will be kept at any given time? _____

The Permittee should understand that the facility where the animals are to be kept must be in independent compliance with all relevant zoning and health codes. The Permittee should also be aware that the board may request an inspection of the facility by animal control prior to issuing a permit. The Permittee must also comply with all regulations issued by the Animal Control Board under its authority in Chapter 5, Article I, Section 5-52(b)(6) of the City of Knoxville Code.

Read the following terms of the application for a non-commercial pet permit and, after carefully reading, understanding, and considering the following, sign and date signifying your accord and agreement with those terms.

I understand that, should my application be accepted, I am being granted a privilege, not a right. I acquire no vested interest in continuing to keep more than four cats and/or dogs within the City of Knoxville beyond the stated terms of this permit. I understand that neither the City of Knoxville nor any of its Instrumentalities, agents, or employees makes any representations as to

continued rights to keep more than four cats and/or dogs within the City of Knoxville or to extend the duration of the permit or grant additional permits in the future. I absolve the City of Knoxville of all liability flowing from any damage or harm that I or another granted authority under this permit might cause, by negligence or otherwise, in the enjoyment of the privileges granted therein. I assert that I have read and understand the relevant provisions of the City Animals Ordinances in Chapter 5 of the City of Knoxville Code and agree to comply with all relevant provisions of those ordinances governing the treatment of the animals in question and understand the criminal and civil consequences of violating those ordinances. I further understand that, in the event of a public health emergency, I agree to immediate compliance with directions of public health officials and agree to allow those officials to enter, seize control, and/or close my operations if a situation threatening the public health develops or is discovered.

Applicant's Signature _____

Date _____

Signature of Witnessing Officer _____

Please remit this form along with a $25.00 application fee (make checks payable to City of Knoxville) to the following address:

City of Knoxville Police Department
ATTN: Animal Control
800 Howard Baker Jr. Avenue
Knoxville, TN 37915

If you have questions relating to this application, please call the City of Knoxville Animal Control Department at (865) 215-8640.

To Be Completed by City Animal Control

Inspection Performed? Yes _____ No _____

Date of Inspection _____

Permit Approved? Yes _____ No _____

Inspector Signature _____

Notes _____

_____

_____

To Be Completed by City Animal Control Board

Permit Approved? Yes _____ No _____ Date _____

Fee Remitted? Yes _____ No _____ Date _____ Amount _____

Chairperson Signature _____

Notes _____

_____

_____

Copies to be submitted to:

City Animal Control Board
City Animal Control
Knoxville Police Department
Applicant/Permittee

CRITERIA FOR HAVING MORE THAN A TOTAL OF FOUR ANIMALS IN A HOUSEHOLD IN THE CITY LIMITS

NON-COMMERCIAL KENNELS/CATTERIES

PHYSICAL PROPERTY:

1) **Each dog must have at least (length of dog in inches + 6 inches) x (length of dog in inches + six inches) = required square inches of space per dog of fenced area outside whether or not it spends the majority of time inside or out.**

2) **The dogs must be kept in fenced-in area when they are out of doors.**

   a) **The fence must be in good repair so that the dogs cannot escape.**

   b) **The fence must be high enough that the dogs cannot jump over it (minimum height of 6" taller than the tallest dog measured at top of head or tips of ears, whichever is higher).**

   c) **If the dogs have a tendency to dig under the fence, then additional measures such as extending the fence underground, putting concrete under the edge of the fence, or other measures must be taken to prevent the dogs' escape.**

   d) **All fences must meet building code regulations and be constructed according to City Ordinances.**

   e) **The fenced area must include shade and proper shelter for each animal as described under the Animal Ordinance Sec. 5-34 (b-3). Surfaces of housing facilities must be easily cleaned and sanitized or be replaceable when worn or soiled.**

   f) **Potable water must be available at all times.**

   g) **The fenced area must be cleaned daily in the summer and all feces placed in leak proof and tightly closed containers (in cold weather every 2 or 3 days may be sufficient). The feces must not be dumped in the surrounding area. The fenced area must be sanitary and able to pass any Health Inspection done by the Animal Control Officers, Animal Control Board members, or members of the health Department.**

h) Dogs housed primarily indoors must be housed no more than (2) to a room (room must be bigger than 8' x 10'). The rooms must be kept in a sanitary manner.

i) The dogs must not produce excessive noise, odor, or otherwise be a nuisance to the neighbors.

j) Areas where animals are kept must be free of clutter, including equipment, furniture, and stored materials. The premises must be kept free of accumulations of trash, junk, waste products, and discarded matter such as wood, bricks, and abandoned vehicles. Weeds, grasses and bushes would have to be controlled so as to facilitate cleaning and pest control and to protect the dogs' and cats' health and well-being from hazards such as burrs, sharp twigs, and fires.

k) Dogs must be maintained in compatible groups. If they fight among themselves, the aggressive animals must be kept separated or removed permanently from the premises.

l) A pest control program (especially for fleas and ticks) is necessary for both dogs and cats to promote their health and well-being as well as human health in the neighborhood.

3) Cats:

a) Cats must not be allowed to roam free in the neighborhood. They must be confined in the house or in a totally enclosed area outside.

b) Cats kept indoors must have ample room (no more than 2 cats to an 8 x 8 room). Each cat must have its own litter box which is cleaned and/or scooped daily. The feces must be disposed of properly in a tightly closed leak-proof trash can.

c) Cats in a totally enclosed area (must have the top enclosed also) outside must have 4' x 4' feet of floor space per cat. Hiding places, shelters, and vertical perches should be provided in the area. No more than 12 cats should be in one primary enclosure.

<u>ANIMALS</u>:

1) **The animals must be well cared for. All dogs and cats on the premises must have yearly vaccinations for rabies and infectious diseases (dogs must have distemper, hepatitis, and parvo vaccinations: cats must have FVRCP vaccination). Certifications of vaccination must be presented at the time of application and every year when the permit is renewed.**

2) **Animals must have clean water daily and never be without water, especially in hot weather. The water should not be allowed to freeze in cold weather. Animals must be fed at least once a day and the amount should be recommended by the applicant's veterinarian. Each animal must have a separate food dish and care must be taken to insure that each animal gets adequate food.**

3) **Adequate shelter must be provided for each animal as defined in the Animal Control Ordinance Section 5-34 (b-3) to protect the animals from the elements.**

4) **All animals must be castrated or spayed after (6) months of age for (non-commercial kennels).**

5) **Any animal which is vicious (bites anyone) must be removed from the premises.**

APPLYING FOR PERMIT:

1) **A person or persons wishing to file a request for a permit to have more than (4) animals on their property must submit a request in writing to the Animal Control Board through the Animal Control Department. All of the requirements under physical property must be met before the application is submitted.**

2) **When the request is submitted, the following should also be included:**

   a) **Copies of each animal's current rabies certificate and city license registration form.**

   b) **A description of each animal including its name, breed, age, sex, weight, a copy of sterilization record.**

   c) **A statement from the animals' veterinarian concerning the age of the dogs and cats affected by the variance, and addressing whether granting the variance would be detrimental to the dogs and cats.**

INSPECTION:

1) **Once an application for a permit to house additional animals is received, the Animal Control Board will review it with the applicant presenting his/her case at the Animal Control Board meeting. The applicant must appear in person to answer any questions.**

2) **One or more officers from the Animal Control Department and a member of the Public Health Department will inspect the premises before the following Board meeting and report to the board their findings. These inspections may be unannounced.**

3) **A notice may be placed on the property to inform neighbors of the reviewing of the premises for a permit, or the neighbors may be informed of the application for a permit by letter from the Animal Control Board. The neighbors will be informed of the Animal Control Board's meeting so they can attend is so inclined.**

4) **Any signs of abuse of the animals will be grounds for not issuing or for revoking a permit.**

RENEWAL:

1) **A permit will only be issued for one year. It must be renewed yearly. In order to renew the permit, the applicant must send a letter to the Animal Control Department applying for renewal at least one month before the permit expires. If any complaints have been received by the Animal Control Department about the premises in the past year (during the time the initial permit was in effect), the complaints will be investigated and if found to be valid and corrective measures have not been taken, then the permit will not be renewed.**

2) **Renewal of a permit is not automatic and does not give the owner permission to get additional animals. The permit will apply to animals that were on the premises when the permit was issued. Animals which die or disappear cannot be replaced unless the total number of animals is less than 4. When the total number of animals reaches 4, a permit is no longer necessary.**

3) **All animals must be castrated or spayed after (6) months of age for (non-commercial kennels).**

4) **Any animal which is vicious (bites anyone) must be removed from the premises.**

5) **All animals must be castrated or spayed after (6) months of age for (non-commercial kennels).**

6) **Any animal which is vicious (bites anyone) must be removed from the premises.**