


LAI D ON DESKS 7/15/19  
REVISED 7/22/19  
GOVERNMENT SERVICES & ADMINISTRATION

RESOLUTION NO. 2019205

RE: LOCAL LAW NO. 4 OF 2019, A LOCAL LAW ESTABLISHING AN ANIMAL ABUSE REGISTRY

Legislators TRUITT, PULVER, SAGLIANO, HOUSTON, MICCIO, SURMAN, GARITO, HORTON, KEITH, METZGER, THOMES, BLACK, MUNN, AMPARO, BRENDLI, EDWARDS, KEARNEY, and LLAVERIAS offer the following and move its adoption:

RESOLVED, that the Legislature of the County of Dutchess adopts Local Law No. 4 of 2019, which has been submitted this date for consideration by said Legislature.

APPROVED  
  
MARCUS J. MOLINARO  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE  
Date 9-10-2019

STATE OF NEW YORK  
COUNTY OF DUTCHESS

ss:

This is to certify that I, the undersigned Clerk of the Legislature of the County of Dutchess have compared the foregoing resolution with the original resolution now on file in the office of said clerk, and which was adopted by said Legislature on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of August 2019, and that the same is a true and correct transcript of said original resolution and of the whole thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of said Legislature this 12<sup>th</sup> day of August 2019.

  
CAROLYN MORRIS, CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE

RE: LOCAL LAW NO. 4 OF 2019 A LOCAL LAW ESTABLISHING AN ANIMAL ABUSE REGISTRY

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY LEGISLATURE OF THE COUNTY OF DUTCHESS, STATE OF NEW YORK AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE INTENT.

The Dutchess County Legislature finds it necessary and appropriate to establish a County-wide Animal Abuse Registry. Animal abusers have a high rate of recidivism and is often associated with violence towards humans. It is the intent of this law to restrict those persons who have committed serious animal welfare crimes to be banned from owning or living with an animal for a period of fifteen years and to be listed on the Sheriff's website in order to restrict their ability to obtain an animal. Persons or entities transferring the ownership of an animal, or which have employees or volunteers interacting with animals have a duty to inspect the registry to ensure such persons have no history of animal abuse. This registry will severely restrict an Animal Abuse Offender's ability to obtain an animal. It is the hope that surrounding counties will provide a link to Dutchess' Registry alongside their registry in order to prevent an Offender from traveling outside the County to obtain an Animal. The registry maintained by the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office will have links to other online registries throughout the state should a person or entity want to do an exhaustive search of state-wide offenders to ensure the welfare of the Animal. It may be necessary from time to time to update the crimes enumerated as an Animal Abuse Crime if the State of New York enacts new laws however this local law allows judicial discretion in requiring a person to register for non-enumerated crimes.

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS.

Unless the context clearly provides otherwise, the terms set forth below shall have the following meanings:

- (a) "Animal" means any living mammal, bird, reptile, amphibian or fish. It shall not mean a human being.
- (b) "Animal Abuse Crime" means any of the following:
  - (1) New York State Agriculture and Markets Law Article 26:
    - Section 351, Prohibition of animal fighting
    - Section 353, Overdriving, torturing and injuring animals; failure to provide proper sustenance
    - Section 353-a, Aggravated cruelty to animals
    - Section 353-c, Electrocuting of fur-bearing animals
    - Section 353-d, Confinement of companion animals in vehicles: extreme temperatures
    - Section 353-e, Companion animal grooming facilities
    - Section 353-f, Companion animal piercing and tattooing prohibited
    - Section 355, Abandonment of animals
    - Section 356, Failure to provide proper food and drink to impounded animals
    - Section 357, Selling or offering to sell or exposing diseased animal
    - Section 359, Carrying animal in a cruel manner
    - Section 360, Poisoning or attempting to poison animals
    - Section 361, Interference with or injury to certain domestic animals
    - Section 362, Throwing substance injurious to animals in public place

- Section 364, Running horses on highway
- Section 365, Clipping or cutting the ears of a dogs
- Section 366, Companion animal stealing
- Section 366-a, Removing, seizing or transporting dogs for research purposes
- Section 368, Operating upon tails of horses
- Section 379, Selling fur, hair, skin or flesh of a dog or cat
- (2) New York State Penal Law:
  - Section 130.20(3), Sexual misconduct with an animal
  - Section 195.06, Killing or injuring a police animal
  - Section 195.12, Harming an animal trained to aid a person with a disability
  - Section 242.10 and Section 242.15, Harming a service animal
- (c) “Animal Abuse Offender” means any person eighteen (18) years of age or older, convicted of an Animal Abuse Crime, except youthful offenders whose convictions or adjudications include sealed records.
- (d) “Animal Abuse Registry” means the online registry established by this local law for the purpose of registering any person convicted of an Animal Abuse Crime who is currently residing in the County.
- (e) “Animal Shelter” means any public or privately owned organization including, but not limited to, any duly incorporated humane society, pound, animal protective association or animal rescue group which maintains buildings, structures or other property for the purpose of harboring animals which may be stray, surrendered, unwanted, lost, abandoned or abused and seeks to find appropriate temporary or permanent homes for such animals.
- (f) “Conviction” means any adjudication of guilt by any court of competent jurisdiction, whether upon a verdict after trial, plea of guilty or nolo contendere plea.
- (g) “Farm Animal” means any ungulate, poultry, species of cattle, sheep, swine, goats, llamas, horses or fur-bearing animals, as defined in section 11-1907 of the environmental conservation law, which are raised for commercial or subsistence purposes. Fur-bearing animal shall not include dogs or cats.
- (h) “Pet Seller” means any individual, person, partnership, firm, corporation or other entity which offers Animals for sale, exchange or otherwise transferring ownership of Animals.
- (i) “Service Animal” means any animal that has been trained to do work and/or perform tasks for persons with disabilities as defined under the American with Disabilities Act.

### Section 3. ESTABLISHING AN ANIMAL ABUSE REGISTRY.

- (a) The County Sheriff’s Department is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to establish, manage and maintain an online Animal Abuse Registry of any Animal Abuse Offenders living in the County.
- (b) The Animal Abuse Registry shall contain information as listed in Section 5 subsection d of this Article and including but not limited to the Animal Abuse Crime(s) convicted of, date the listing was posted, type of Animal, and should the Animal(s) related to the charges have a name(s) their name(s) shall be listed.
- (c) The Animal Abuse Registry shall be found on the Sheriff’s Department website and contain links to other counties who maintain an Animal Abuse Registry in some form easily available for public inspection.
- (d) The Sheriff’s Department is hereby authorized and empowered to promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary to implement the Animal Abuse Registry.

#### Section 4. ANIMAL ABUSE CONVICTIONS.

- (a) Any person who has been charged with an Animal Abuse Crime and is offered a plea to a reduced charge may be ordered by the court, with proper notice and after a hearing, to register with the Sheriff's Department as part of the final judgment.
- (b) Any person who has been convicted or plead to a non-enumerated crime under the Animal Abuse Crime definition, but such crime is related to endangering the welfare of an Animal may be ordered by the court, with proper notice and after a hearing, to register with the Sheriff's Department as part of the final judgment.
- (c) Any hearing pursuant to this Section shall be a summary hearing and necessary when the defendant has been found guilty or plead to a non-enumerated crime under the Animal Abuse Crime definition. The hearing shall determine if the underlying conduct the defendant was charged with poses a risk to the safety and well-being of Animals and therefore indicates a compelling interest to subject the defendant to registration pursuant to this local law. Any person who is required to register with the Sheriff's Department pursuant to this Section shall comply with all applicable provisions of this local law.

#### Section 5. ANIMAL ABUSE REGISTRY.

- (a) Any Animal Abuse Offender who resides in the County and who has been convicted of an Animal Abuse Crime on or after the effective date of this local law must register with the Sheriff's Department within 10 (ten) days of their release from incarceration or, if not incarcerated, from the date of the rendering of judgment.
  - (1) Nothing in this local law shall require any Animal Abuse Offender convicted of an Animal Abuse Crime prior to the enacting date of this Local Law to register with the Sheriff's Department.
- (b) The Animal Abuse Registry shall contain the required information of each Animal Abuse Offender for a period of fifteen (15) years following their release from incarceration or, if not incarcerated, from the date of the judgment of conviction.
  - (1) Any persons registered, required to be registered or previously registered who are convicted of a subsequent Animal Abuse Crime shall be listed on the Animal Abuse Registry for life.
- (c) When a person is convicted of an Animal Abuse Crime, the prosecuting agency shall promptly forward to the Sheriff's Department the name, address, the Animal Abuse Crime(s) that said person was convicted of, type of animal, and the Animal name(s) should they have one, thereby notifying the Sheriff's Department that said person is required to register with the Animal Abuse Registry.
  - (1) Should a person successfully appeal a conviction of an Animal Abuse Crime, the prosecuting agency shall promptly forward to the Sheriff's Department the name and address of the convicted person and the Animal Abuse Crime(s) that they were originally convicted of, thereby notifying the Sheriff's Department that the person is no longer required to be registered with the Animal Abuse Registry.
  - (2) Upon notification to the Sheriff's Department of a successful appeal of a conviction of an Animal Abuse Crime by an individual that has been required to register pursuant to this local law, the individual shall be removed from the Animal Abuse Registry within five (5) days following the notification.
- (d) Each person required to register with the Sheriff's Department shall submit the following information:

- (1) Their name and any aliases they may be known by;
  - (2) Their place of residence and any other addresses listed on a government issued identification card;
  - (3) Their date of birth;
  - (4) A clear and accurately depicted photograph of the person's head and shoulders. The Sheriff's Department may or may not accept a submitted photograph and require the person to be photographed at a Sheriff's Department office.
- (e) Every five (5) years each person required to register with the Sheriff's Department shall:
- (1) Verify or update their name and any aliases, and place of residence and any other addresses;
  - (2) Update their photograph.
- (f) Each person required to register with the Sheriff's Department shall update their registry information within five (5) days of any change of residential address and/or upon any official change of name.
- (g) Each person convicted of an Animal Abuse Crime in another county within the State of New York who establishes residence in the County shall register with the Sheriff's Department within thirty (30) days of establishing residence.
- (h) Each person required to register with the Sheriff's Department shall pay an initial fee of one hundred and twenty-five (\$125) to the Sheriff's Department at the time of registration. All such fees shall be used to help pay the administrative and maintenance costs of maintaining the Animal Abuse Registry or for Animals in the service of the Sheriff's Department.
- (i) Any person who is required to register who fails to do so shall have all of the required information, made available to the Sheriff's Office, listed on the Registry within twenty (20) days of such person's release from incarceration or, if not incarcerated, from the date of the rendering of judgment with a notation that such person has failed to register.

## Section 6. REQUIREMENTS AND PROHIBITIONS.

- (a) Animal Abuse Offenders shall not own Animals within the County, where such ownership includes having Animals within or about the person's residence or otherwise under the care, custody or control of such person, except:
  - (1) An Animal Abuse Offender may own an Animal used as a Service Animal or Farm Animal, either utilized by themselves or by another person residing at the same address as the Animal Abuse Offender.
- (b) An individual who is convicted of an Animal Abuse Crime shall transfer ownership and control of any Animals within sixty (60) days of conviction.
- (c) An Animal Shelter, Pet Seller, or other person or entity located in the County shall not sell, exchange or otherwise transfer the ownership of any animal to any person residing in the County who is listed as an Animal Abuse Offender on the Animal Abuse Registry, except:
  - (1) An Animal Shelter, Pet Seller, or other individual or entity may sell, exchange or otherwise transfer the ownership of a Service Animal or Farm Animal to an Animal Abuse Offender.
- (d) At the time of sale, exchange or other transfer of ownership of any Animal, the Animal Shelter, Pet Seller or other person or entity shall examine the Animal Abuse Registry to confirm that the name of the potential owner of the Animal is not listed.

- (1) It shall not be considered a violation if the Animal Abuse Registry was reviewed at the time of sale, exchange or transfer and the Animal Abuse Offender was not listed.
- (e) Nothing in this local law shall prevent an Animal Shelter, Pet Seller, or other person or entity located in the County from denying a sale, exchange or otherwise transferring the ownership of any animal for any reason including but not limited to a person being registered on another animal abuse registry within the State of New York.
- (f) Any business, nonprofit, entity or otherwise which, in their normal course of business, has supervision or control of any Animal shall:
  - (1) Inspect the Animal Abuse Registry for names of new employees or volunteers who have supervision or control of any Animal.
  - (2) Annually cross-reference a list of employees and volunteers, who have supervision or control of any Animal, with the Animal Abuse Registry.

#### SECTION 7. PENALTIES.

- (a) Any Animal Abuse Offender required to register or update their information with the Sheriff's Department who fails to do so shall be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by incarceration for a period of not more than one (1) year and/or a fine not to exceed two thousand dollars (\$2,000).
- (b) Any Animal Abuse Offender who violates the prohibition against possessing, owning, adopting or purchasing an animal shall be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by incarceration for a period of not more than one (1) year and/or a fine not to exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000).
- (c) Any Animal Shelter, Pet Seller, or other individual or entity that violates any provision of this law shall be guilty of a violation and subject to a fine not to exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000).

#### SECTION 8. SEVERABILITY.

If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section, or part of this law or the application thereof to any person, individual, corporation, firm, partnership, entity, or circumstance shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such order or judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section, or part of this law, or in its application to the person, individual, corporation, firm, partnership, entity, or circumstance directly involved in the controversy in which such order or judgment shall be rendered.

#### SECTION 9. REVERSE PREEMPTION.

This article shall be null and void on the day that statewide legislation goes into effect incorporating either the same or substantially similar provisions as are contained in this Article or in the event that a pertinent state or federal administrative agency issues and promulgates regulations preempting such action by the County of Dutchess.

SECTION 10. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Local Law shall be effective immediately upon filing with the New York State Secretary of State.

## FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

NO FISCAL IMPACT PROJECTED

### APPROPRIATION RESOLUTIONS

*(To be completed by requesting department)*

Total Current Year Cost \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Current Year Revenue \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
and Source

Source of County Funds *(check one)*:     Existing Appropriations,     Contingency,  
 Transfer of Existing Appropriations,     Additional Appropriations,     Other *(explain)*.

Identify Line Items(s):

Related Expenses:    Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Nature/Reason:

Anticipated Savings to County: \_\_\_\_\_

Net County Cost (this year): \_\_\_\_\_  
Over Five Years:    \$35,000 \_\_\_\_\_

#### Additional Comments/Explanation:

OCIS will develop the necessary software and website features for the Sheriff's Office to comply. The development would most likely not take place in the 2019 Fiscal Year. Minimal administrative hours will be necessary to add/remove persons from the registry as necessary.

Prepared by: Nicholas Joseph

Prepared On: 7/9/2019



Resolution No. 2019205, LOCAL LAW NO. 4 of 2019, A LOCAL LAW ESTABLISHING AN ANIMAL ABUSE REGISTRY, was laid on desks on July 15, 2019, and considered on August 12, 2019.

Roll call vote at that time resulted as follows:

AYES: 21 Amparo, Black, Bolner, Brendli, Edwards, Garito, Horton, Houston, Incoronato, Jeter-Jackson, Kearney, Keith, Metzger, Miccio, Munn, Page, Pulver, Sagliano, Surman, Truitt, Zernike

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 4 Borchert, Thomes, Llaverias, Johnson

Resolution adopted.

The County Executive held a public hearing on the foregoing Local Law on August 28, 2019 and signed it into Law on September 10, 2019. The effective date of the Local Law was September 16, 2019.

# Government Services and Administration Roll Call

<i>District</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>
District 19 - Towns of North East, Stanford, Pine Plains, Milan	Pulver*	✓	
District 2 - Towns of Pleasant Valley and Poughkeepsie	Sagliano*		
District 13 - Towns of LaGrange, East Fishkill, and Wappinger	Bolner*		
District 4 - Town of Hyde Park	Black*		
District 20 - Town of Red Hook/Tivoli	Munn*		
District 1 - Town of Poughkeepsie	Llaverias		
District 3 - Town of LaGrange	Borchert	<i>absent</i>	
District 7 - Towns of Hyde Park and Poughkeepsie	Truitt (C)		
District 11 - Towns of Rhinebeck and Clinton	Kearney		
District 14 - Town of Wappinger	Amparo		
District 22 - Towns of Beekman and Union Vale	Garito		
District 25 - Towns of Amenia, Washington, Pleasant Valley	Houston (VC)		

Present: <u>11</u>	Resolution: <u>✓</u>	Total :	<u>11</u>	<u>0</u>
Absent: <u>1</u>	Motion: <u>—</u>		Yes	No
Vacant: <u>0</u>		Abstentions:	<u>0</u>	

# Roll Call Sheets

District	Last Name	Yes	No
District 19 - Towns of North East, Stanford, Pine Plains, Milan	Pulver	✓	
District 2 - Towns of Pleasant Valley and Poughkeepsie	Sagliano		
District 13 - Towns of LaGrange, East Fishkill, and Wappinger	Bolner		
District 4 - Town of Hyde Park	Black		
District 20 - Town of Red Hook/Tivoli	Munn		
District 1 - Town of Poughkeepsie	Llaverias	<i>absent</i>	
District 3 - Town of LaGrange	Borchert	<i>absent</i>	
District 5 - Town of Poughkeepsie	Keith		
District 6 - Town of Poughkeepsie	Edwards		
District 7 - Towns of Hyde Park and Poughkeepsie	Truitt		
District 8 - City and Town of Poughkeepsie	Brendli		
District 9 - City of Poughkeepsie	Johnson	<i>absent</i>	
District 10 - City of Poughkeepsie	Jeter-Jackson		
District 11 - Towns of Rhinebeck and Clinton	Kearney		
District 12 - Town of East Fishkill	Metzger		
District 14 - Town of Wappinger	Amparo		
District 15 - Town of Wappinger	Incoronato		
District 16 - Town of Fishkill and City of Beacon	Zernike		
District 17 - Town and Village of Fishkill	Miccio		
District 18 - City of Beacon and Town of Fishkill	Page		
District 21 - Town of East Fishkill	Horton		
District 22 - Towns of Beekman and Union Vale	Garito		
District 23 - Towns of Pawling, Beekman and East Fishkill	Thomes	<i>absent</i>	
District 24 - Towns of Dover and Union Vale	Surman		
District 25 - Towns of Amenia, Washington, Pleasant Valley	Houston		

Present: 21  
 Absent: 4  
 Vacant: 0

Resolution: ✓  
 Motion:     

Total: 21      0  
           Yes        No  
 Abstentions: 0