

**WARNING!**  
**GUARD DOG ON DUTY**



**REGULATIONS FOR KEEPING  
OR USING DOGS**

**(OTHER THAN SENTRY DOGS)**

**ON**

**INDUSTRIAL OR COMMERCIAL  
PREMISES**

**CITY OF LOS ANGELES**

**DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL REGULATION**

**MAYOR**

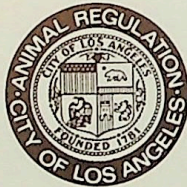
Tom Bradley

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In order to enhance the care, protection and quality of life for dogs, an ordinance regulating the keeping and maintaining of any dog on commercial or industrial property (other than trained Sentry Dogs) has been enacted into law by the City of Los Angeles, effective January 1, 1986. The Department of Animal Regulation has prepared this booklet to assist citizens to understand and more easily comply with the ordinance. Section 53.66 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code having been enacted, its substance is presented here in modified form.

If any questions arise, concerned individuals are directed to contact the nearest District Animal Shelter listed on the inside back cover of this booklet.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:**

**SEC. 53.66 GUARD DOGS**

Purpose of Section — In order to safeguard the health and safety of the general public from the danger of any dogs kept or maintained on any industrial or commercial premises and to insure the humane treatment of such dogs, it is the purpose of the City of Los Angeles in enacting Section 53.66 to make appropriate provisions for the regulation of guard dogs.

**A. DEFINITIONS**

(1) "Guard Dog" means any dog kept, used or maintained on any commercial or industrial premises or any dog kept, used or maintained on any industrial or commercial premises to guard, protect, patrol or defend any property or person other than a sentry dog licensed under Section 53.64 of this Code.

(2) "Premises" means any industrial or commercial property, building, structure, business, firm, facility, or enterprise.

**B. REQUIRED SIGNS AND INFORMATION**

No person shall keep, use or maintain any dog on any premises governed by this Section unless the premises are posted to warn of a dog on the premises. Said warning shall consist of a sign

placed at each entrance and exit to the premises and in a position to be legible from the sidewalk or ground level adjacent to the sign. If the premises is not enclosed by a wall or fence, a sign shall be placed at every entrance and exit to each structure on the premises. Each sign shall measure at least 10" X 14" and shall contain block lettering on a white background stating "Warning Guard Dog on Duty". In addition, the sign shall set forth the name, address and phone number of the person or persons to be notified during any hour of the day or night who will proceed immediately to the location to permit entry to the premises by any authorized representative of the Department. This Section shall not apply to signs required by Section 53.33(b) governing sentry dogs.

### C. IMMUNIZATION

(1) No person shall keep, use or maintain any dog on any premises unless each dog has been vaccinated against rabies as required by Section 53.51 of this code and each dog has a current and valid certificate of rabies vaccination issued by a licensed veterinarian, nor shall any person keep, use or maintain any dog unless each dog has been immunized against distemper, hepatitis, leptospirosis and parvovirus and each dog has a current and valid certificate of such immunization issued by a licensed veterinarian.

(2) The current and valid certificate of rabies immunization and immunization against the common diseases required by Section C(1) must be issued by a licensed veterinarian and shall be kept on the premises and shown upon the request or demand of any authorized representative of the Department.

### D. VETERINARY EXAMINATION

No person shall keep, use or maintain any guard dog on any premises unless each guard dog has a complete physical examination including blood, fecal, and urine analysis by a licensed veterinarian who shall certify each dog to be free of any infections or disease process. Such examination and certification for the health of each dog shall be renewed each calendar year. Every dog currently used as a guard dog shall be examined and certified for health prior to January 1, 1986.

(1) Any dog found not to be free of infections or disease process by the veterinarian shall be removed from the premises immediately.

- (2) A copy of the veterinarian's annual certification of health shall be kept on the premises and shown upon the request or demand of any authorized representative of the Department.
- (3) A copy of the veterinarian's annual certification of health shall be filed with the Department within 15 days of its issuance.
- (4) If an authorized representative of the Department has reasonable cause to believe that a dog is injured, sick, diseased, unwell, or malnourished or constitutes a danger to the public health and safety, said representative may order the dog to be removed from the premises until a new certification of health is issued by a licensed veterinarian. The Department representative shall be notified prior to returning the dog to the premises.

### E. TAGS

Notwithstanding Section 53.21, no person shall keep, use or maintain any dog on any premises unless each dog has its license tag securely affixed to its collar, harness or other device.

### F. TETHER REQUIREMENTS

No person shall keep, use or maintain any guard dog controlled by a rope, chain or similar material on any premises unless:

- (1) The tether length shall be at least 12 feet;
- (2) Any metal tether shall weigh no more than 5 lbs., be no more than 2½ inches in circumference for each link, be no more than ½ inch outside diameter for any chain link or other similar tether, and all links shall be a smooth oval link;
- (3) Any rope type tether shall not exceed one-half inch in diameter;
- (4) The dog shall have a collar or non-choke type chain around its neck;
- (5) The tether shall be secured to the collar and attached to a swivel or similar device at the end opposite from the collar.

### G. SHELTER REQUIREMENTS

No person shall keep, use or maintain a dog on any premises unless each dog is provided full access to an enclosed building, dog house, or similar shelter. Said shelter shall:

- (1) Be constructed in a manner to assure protection of each dog from the elements (wind, rain, heat, cold);

- (2) Have a floor off the ground, free of cracks, depressions and rough areas where insects, rodents or eggs from internal parasites may lodge;
- (3) Be cleaned and maintained in a manner to insure the best possible sanitary condition; and
- (4) Be of adequate size to accommodate the number and size of dogs required to utilize the prescribed housing.

**H. WATER REQUIREMENTS**

No person shall keep, use or maintain any dog on any premises unless each dog has access to water at all times, and:

- (1) If the water is kept in a container or pail, it must be kept in an area to prevent contamination and spillage and replaced with fresh water at least once each calendar day; or
- (2) If the water is provided by an automatic or demand device, the water supply to the device must be on 24 hours each day.

**I. FEEDING REQUIREMENTS**

No person shall keep, use or maintain any dog on any premises unless each dog is provided sufficient food to maintain proper body weight and good general health. The food shall be kept in a suitable container and kept in an area to prevent contamination and spillage. Fresh food shall be placed in a clean container at least once each calendar day. Spoiled or contaminated food shall be disposed of in a proper manner.

INSERT J. LICENSING.

City of Los Angeles  
**DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL REGULATION**  
 DIRECTORY

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE  
 Room 1650, City Hall East  
 Los Angeles, California 90012  
 (213) 485-2271

**District Animal Shelters:**

Open to the public 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Saturday, and closed for regular business Sundays and Holidays.

1. ~~Ann Street~~ ..... (213) 222-7138  
~~215 West Ann Street~~  
~~Los Angeles, CA 90012~~
2. Eleventh Avenue ..... (213) 731-8281  
 3612 11th Avenue  
 Los Angeles, CA 90018
3. Harbor ..... (213) 831-2414  
 735 Battery Street  
 San Pedro, CA 90731
4. East Valley ..... (818) 764-7061  
 13131 Sherman Way  
 North Hollywood, CA 91605
5. West Los Angeles ..... (213) 820-2691  
 11950 Missouri Avenue  
 West Los Angeles, CA 90025
6. West Valley ..... (818) 882-8800  
 20655 Plummer Street  
 Chatsworth, CA 91311

City of Los Angeles  
Department of Animal Regulation  
Room 1650, City Hall East  
200 N. Main Street  
Los Angeles, Ca. 90012

**DOGS KEPT OR MAINTAINED ON  
COMMERCIAL OR INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY  
— NEW ORDINANCE REQUIREMENTS —**