

ORDINANCE NO. 2749

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain subsections (b) and (c), Section 5-7-37, Article C, Chapter 7, Title 5 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended; which Title 5 relates to TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, which Chapter 7 relates to ANIMALS AND FOWL, which Article C relates to DOGS, which Section 5-7-37 relates to IMPOUNDING OF VICIOUS OR DANGEROUS DOG; CONFINEMENT OF DOG WHICH HAS COMMITTED AN ATTACK and which subsections (b) and (c) relate to COMPLIANCE WITH ORDER FOR CONFINEMENT OF DOG.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. That subsections (b) and (c), Section 5-7-37, Article C, Chapter 7, Title 5 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended, be and the same hereby are amended and reordained to read as follows:

(b) Whenever a report is made as provided by section 5-7-40 of this code of a person being bitten by a dog or a complaint is received by the police department, health department, dog warden or a deputy dog warden or the operators of the animal shelter of a dog having bitten another animal, but no summons or warrant is sworn out charging maintenance of a vicious or dangerous dog, the dog warden or a deputy dog warden shall forthwith issue an order to the owner of the dog directing that the dog be confined under quarantine and kept under observation on the premises of the owner or a private kennel for a period of 10 days at the expense of the owner, during which time the dog shall never leave the premises, and the order shall be served upon the owner by the dog warden or a deputy dog warden in the manner provided by section 8.01-296, Code of Virginia. Then, if no summons or warrant is forthcoming and an authorized representative of the director of public health or a licensed veterinarian reports that the dog shows no symptoms of rabies within the 10 days the dog shall be released. If a report of rabies is made, or if a summons or warrant is sworn out before the expiration of the 10-day period, the dog shall be immediately removed to the animal shelter pending a final disposition of the case, and costs thereby incurred shall be charged to the owner of the dog.

(c) If any owner does not comply with the provisions of this section within 24 hours from the time he is served with an order issued pursuant to the provisions of this section, the dog in question shall be impounded at the animal shelter and kept under observation at the owner's expense for a period of 10 days and the owner shall be charged with a violation of this section.

Section 2. That the title of and an informal memorandum explaining this ordinance shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation published in the city not later than five