

Prince George's County, Maryland

Sec. 3-101. - Definitions.

(62) Pit Bull Terrier shall mean any and all of the following dogs:

(A) Staffordshire Bull Terrier breed of dogs;

(B) American Staffordshire Terrier breed of dogs;

(C) American Pit Bull Terrier breed of dogs;

(D) Dogs which have the appearance of being predominantly of the breed of dogs known as Staffordshire Bull Terrier, American Staffordshire Terrier, or American Pit Bull Terrier. Predominantly shall mean that the dog exhibits the physical characteristics of a Pit Bull Terrier more than any other breed of dog;

(E) Dogs which have been registered at any time as a Pit Bull Terrier.

(CB-36-1985; CB-119-1987; CB-100-1991; CB-63-1994; CB-106-1996; CB-109-1997; CB-26-2001; CB-85-2010; CB-41-2012; CB-30-2014; CB-16-2018; CB-46-2019)

Sec. 3-185.01. - Pit Bull Terriers.

(a) Except as provided below, no person shall own, keep, or harbor a Pit Bull Terrier within the County.

(b) Any person owning a Pit Bull Terrier prior to November 1, 1996, may continue to harbor the animal on his premises under the following conditions:

(1) The animal shall be registered by the Administrator of Animal Control, and must at all times wear a tag provided by the Administrator which will readily identify it as a registered Pit Bull Terrier.

(2) The owner shall pay an annual fee of \$50.00 to the Administrator of Animal Control to maintain such animals and support enforcement.

(3) The owner shall maintain the dog within a building or a secure kennel at all times. Whenever the dog is removed from the building or kennel it shall be secured by an unbreakable or unseverable leash and maintained under the control of an adult.

(c) A person may temporarily hold a Pit Bull Terrier in the County for the purpose of showing the dog in a place of public exhibition, contest, or show sponsored by a dog club, association, or similar organization. The sponsor of the exhibition or show must obtain written permission from the Director and must provide protective measures to prevent the dog from escaping or injuring the public. The dog shall at all times during the transportation to and from the show or exhibition be confined in a secure temporary enclosure.

(d) Any dog employed or owned by the County or licensed security services and trained to perform official police, correctional, security, fire and/or search and rescue service shall be exempt from the provisions of this Section.

(CB-106-1996; CB-46-2019)

Sec. 3-116.01. - Criminal penalties; violations.

(a) Any person found to have violated any provision of Section 3-185.01 shall be fined up to \$1,000.00 or may be sentenced to not more than six (6) months of imprisonment.

(b) A Pit Bull that causes injury to or kills a human being or a domestic animal without provocation shall be humanely destroyed, and the owner of such dog shall be fined up to \$1,000.00 or may be sentenced to not more than six (6) months of imprisonment.

(c) For violation of Section 3-115(g), the criminal penalty shall be up to One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) and/or imprisonment for up to ninety (90) days.

(d) For violation of Section 3-135, the criminal penalty shall be up to Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) and/or imprisonment for up to ninety (90) days.

(e) For violation of Section 3-131, 3-180(a), 3-180(b)(4) or Section 3-180(c), the criminal penalty shall be One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) and/or imprisonment for up to six (6) months.

(f) For any violation of Section 3-136, upon conviction, the criminal penalty shall be \$500.00 nor more than \$1,000.00, and/or imprisonment for up to 180 days.

(CB-106-1996; CB-26-2001; CB-16-2018; CB-46-2019)

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