



NEWS RELEASE

City of Los Angeles Department of Animal Services
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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IT'S THE LAW: ONE WEEK LEFT TO SPAY OR NEUTER YOUR PET!

*LA Animal Services Reminds Angelenos that the
CLOCK IS TICKING for Owners of Dogs or Cats*

Los Angeles – LA Animal Services is reminding all Angelenos that they have just one week to comply with the City's new Spay/Neuter law before formal enforcement begins on **October 1st, 2008**.

On February 12, 2008, the City Council of Los Angeles approved a new law that requires all cats and dogs in the City to be spayed or neutered after the age of four months, with some specific exemptions allowed. Mayor Villaraigosa signed this ordinance into law on February 26, 2008, making Los Angeles the national leader in efforts to humanely decrease the number of pets abandoned and euthanized each year.

The law provided a seven month "grace" period to give Los Angeles residents an opportunity to voluntarily comply with the law. The "grace" period ends on October 1, 2008. The Countdown Clock on LA Animal Services' website is a constant reminder that unless Angelenos have proof that their dog or cat is exempt by reason of one of the exemptions in the new law, they will be in violation of the law and subject to civil and criminal penalties come October 1, 2008.

Failure to abide by the law **after October 1, 2008** will result in an initial civil penalty of \$100, which can increase to \$500. Continued failure to comply with the law may result in the filing of a misdemeanor. At all times, the dog or cat is still required to be spayed or neutered.

The Countdown Clock and more information on this law and spay/neuter services in the City of Los Angeles can be found at www.laanimalservices.com.

For more information or assistance call LA Animal Services at
1-888-452LA-PET1/1-888-452-7381
(TTY Hearing impaired: 877-875-8205) or visit the website at www.LAAnimalServices.com.

We create happiness by bringing pets and people together!