

NEWS RELEASE



City of Los Angeles Department of Animal Services
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CONTACT: 213.792.4800 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 25, 2008

IT'S THE LAW: ONLY 67 DAYS LEFT TO SPAY OR NEUTER YOUR PET!

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

Los Angeles – LA Animal Services announced today the launching of a "Countdown Calendar" to serve as a daily reminder to all Angelinos of how many days they have left to comply with the City's new Spay/Neuter law before formal enforcement begins on **October 1**st, **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 Countdown Calendar is to remind them that unless they have proof that their dog or cat is exempt by reason of one of the exemptions in the new law, if they have not **spayed or neutered their dog or cat by October 1**st, **2008**, they will be in violation of the law and subject to civil and criminal penalties.

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 abide by 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 Calendar 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.