The following is an overview of five local dog laws that dog owners in Imperial County most frequently violate.

The term unincorporated areas/territory refers to those parts of the county that are not within the city limits for any of the local cites.

'Sec. 6.08.010 Vaccination

It is unlawful for any person to own a dog over the age of four months in the unincorporated territory of the county of Imperial, state of California, or to permit such dog to be on his or premises in said unincorporated territory, or to allow any such dog to be in any public place, unless the dog has been vaccinated with canine rabies vaccine, and has been licensed as hereinafter provided.

'Sec. 6.08.020 Frequency of Vaccinations

Every such dog shall be vaccinated by a veterinarian, duly qualified and licensed in the state of California, with canine rabies vaccine at least once each twelve (12) months or more often upon written notice from the county veterinarian. The veterinarian vaccinating such dog shall issue a certificate of vaccination to the person owning the dog so vaccinated.

'Sec. 6.08.050 Licenses

Every Person owning a dog in the unincorporated area of Imperial County, shall, upon the effective date of this section and annually thereafter, obtain a license for such dog from the county veterinarian or his or her representative, or other proper person designated by the board of supervisor, by payment of the fee therefore of ten dollars ($10.00) per year for each unneutered dog and five dollars ($5.00) per year for each neutered dog. The license shall be valid for a period of twelve (12) months from the date issue.

'Sec. 6.08.070 Tags Worn by a Dog

On the same day the tag is issued, it shall be securely fastened by the owner of the dog to a collar, which collar shall, on the day and at all times thereafter be worn by the license dog. Such tag, once fastened to and worn upon the dog as above provided shall be prima facie evidence of the vaccination and licensing of the dog as herein required.

'Sec. 6.08.120 Dogs Running at Large Prohibited

No dog owner shall cause, permit allow his or her dog to run at large (i.e., be neither effectively confined by a building, structure or enclosure nor restrained by rope, strap, chain or other material) in any portion of the unincorporated area of the county, except as hereinafter provide.

"Sec. 1.16.010 General Penalty for Violations

Any person who violates any of the provisions of this code is guilty of an infraction or a misdemeanor. Every violation determined to be an infraction is punishable by:
(1) A fine not exceeding one hundred dollars ($100.00) for a first violation;
(2) A fine not exceeding two hundred dollars ($200.00) for a second violation of the same ordinance within one year;
(3) A fine not exceeding five hundred dollars ($500.00) for each additional violation of the same ordinance within one year, unless otherwise prescribed.

Every violation determined to be a misdemeanor is punishable by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars ($1,000.00) and/or by imprisonment in the county jail for a period of not more than six months, unless otherwise prescribed.

Imperial County Ordinance: *Dogs Chapter 6.08 **Chapter 1.16 General Penalty

Be the Solution: Spay or Neuter Your Animals

If you have any questions contact Imperial County Animal Control
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