

**Selmer Police Department
Pit Bull Registration Form**



In compliance with the Selmer Municipal Code Title 10, Chapter 3 which prohibits, subject to certain exceptions, the ownership, harboring or possessing of Pit Bull Dogs within the Town of Selmer, Tennessee

Owner Name _____ Date _____

Owner Physical Address _____

Mailing Address (if different) _____

Phone Number (Daytime) _____ (Night) _____ (Other) _____

Dog's name _____ Dog's Gender _____ Spayed/Neutered Yes No (circle)

Dog's Age _____ Color _____ Length of ownership _____ Microchip # _____

Vet or Clinic _____ City _____

Veterinarian name _____ Phone No. _____

Date of last Rabies Vaccine _____ by _____ DVM
Proof of vaccination required

_____ (initial) I agree to keep the Rabies Vaccination current for the animal being registered, and provide the Selmer Police Department with annual documentation as proof.

_____ (initial) I agree that the animal will be confined in a proper enclosure at all times and will only be permitted outside of the enclosure for Veterinary care, at which time the animal will be properly muzzled, on a leash (no longer than 4') and controlled by a person capable of handling the animal.

_____ (initial) I acknowledge and certify that I have been given a copy of Ordinance 582, that I have read and understand the conditions under which the animal may be kept and that I agree to abide by these regulations. (Copy attached)

Signature of owner _____ Date _____

Approved by _____ Date _____

Additional comments _____

Duplicate signed and approved registration form should be given to Owner as evidence of compliance

**TOWN OF SELMER, TENNESSEE
ORDINANCE 574
PIT BULL DOG REGULATIONS**

10-302. Restrictions. It shall be unlawful to keep, harbor, own or in any way possess a pit bull dog within the corporate limits of Selmer. Provided, however, that persons owning such dogs at the time this chapter is adopted shall be allowed to keep them, provided that they comply with all of the provisions of this chapter, including § 10-303, within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this chapter.

10-303. Standards and requirements. The following standards and requirements apply to pit bull dogs located within the corporate limits.

1. **Registration.** Each owner, keeper, harborer, or possessor of a pit bull dog shall register such dog with the Selmer Police Department.
2. **Required restraints.** No person having charge, custody, control or possession of a pit bull shall permit the dog to go outside its kennel, pen or other proper enclosure unless it is necessary for the dog to receive veterinary care, and, in such instance, the pit bull shall be restrained on a chain, rope or other type of leash, no longer than four (4) feet in length, and the person in physical control of the leash must be a person of suitable age and discretion, and the dog must further wear a properly fitted muzzle sufficient to prevent such dog from biting persons or other animals. Such muzzle shall not interfere with the dog's breathing or vision. Such pit bull dogs, under any circumstances, may not be leashed to an item or object such as trees, posts, buildings or structures, whether temporary or otherwise.
3. **Confinement.** Except when leashed and muzzled, as a part of the requirement for receiving veterinary care, all pit bull dogs shall be securely confined indoors or confined in a locked pen, kennel or other secure enclosure that is suitable to prevent the injury of children, and is designed to prevent a pit bull dog from escaping. Such pen, kennel or structure must have secure sides and must be locked with a key or combination lock when such pit bull dogs are within the structure. All structures erected to house pit bull dogs must comply with zoning and building ordinances and regulations of the Town of Selmer. The enclosure shall include shelter and protection from the elements and shall provide adequate exercise room, be adequately lighted and ventilated and kept in a clean and sanitary condition.
4. **Signs.** All owners, keepers, harborers, or possessors of pit bull dogs shall display in a prominent place on their premises a sign easily readable by the public using the words "Beware of Dog." In addition, a similar sign must be posted on the kennel or pen of such animal.
5. **Reporting requirements.** All owners, keepers, possessors, or harborers of pit bull dogs must within ten (10) days of the following incidents report the following information in writing to the Selmer Police Department as required hereinafter:
 - a. The removal from the city or death of a pit bull dog;
 - b. The birth of offspring of a pit bull dog;
 - c. The new address of a pit bull dog owner should the owner move within the corporate limits of the city.

10-304. Sale or transfer of ownership prohibited. No person shall sell, barter or in any other way transfer possession of a pit bull dog to any person within the Town of Selmer unless the recipient person resides permanently in the same household and on the same premises as the owner of such dog; provided that the owner of a pit bull dog may sell or otherwise dispose of a pit bull dog or the offspring of such dog to persons who do not reside within the Town of Selmer.

10-305. Animals born of registered dogs. All offspring born of pit bull dogs within the Town of Selmer must be removed from the Town of Selmer within six (6) weeks of the birth of such animal.

10-306. Rebuttable presumptions. There shall be a rebuttable presumption that any dog registered within the Town of Selmer as a pit bull dog or any of those breeds defined by § 10-301 of this chapter is in fact a dog subject to the requirements of this code.

10-307. Failure to comply. It shall be unlawful for the owner, keeper, harborer, or possessor of a pit bull dog within the Town of Selmer to fail to comply with the provisions of this chapter. Any dog found to be the subject of a violation of this chapter shall be subject to immediate seizure and impoundment. In addition, failure to comply will result in the revocation of the license of such animal resulting in the immediate removal of the animal from the Town of Selmer.

10-308. Violations and penalties. Any persons violating or permitting the violation of any provision of this chapter shall be guilty of a civil offense, and upon conviction shall be subject to the fine prescribed in the general penalty clause of the Selmer Municipal Code. Each day such violation shall continue constitutes a separate offense. In addition to the foregoing penalty, any person who violates this chapter shall pay all expenses, including sums for shelter, food, handling, veterinary care and expert testimony, which are necessitated by the person's failure to abide by the provisions of this chapter.

10-301. Definitions. The words, terms, and phrases, and their derivations as used in this chapter, except where the context clearly indicates otherwise, shall have the following meanings:

1. "Impoundment" means the taking or picking up and confining of an animal by any police officer, animal control officer or any other public officer under the provisions of this chapter.
2. "Muzzle" means a device constructed of strong, soft material or of metal, designed to fasten over the mouth of an animal to prevent the animal from biting any person or other animal.
3. "Pit bull" means and includes any of the following dogs:
 - a. The bull terrier breed of dog;
 - b. The Staffordshire bull terrier breed of dog;
 - c. The American pit bull terrier breed of dog;
 - d. The American Staffordshire terrier breed of dog; and
 - e. Dogs of mixed breed or of other breeds than above listed which breed or mixed breed is known as pit bull, pit bull dogs or pit bull terriers; and
 - f. Any dog which has the appearance and characteristics of being predominantly of the breeds of dogs known as bull terrier, Staffordshire bull terrier, American pit bull terrier, American Staffordshire terrier, and any other breed commonly known as pit bulls, pit bull dogs or pit bull terriers; or a combination of any of these breeds.
4. "Owner" means any person, partnership, corporation or other legal entity owning, harboring or possessing any pit bull, or in the case of a person under the age of eighteen (18), that person's parent or legal guardian. A pit bull shall be deemed to be harbored if it is fed or sheltered for three (3) or more consecutive days. This definition shall not apply to any veterinary clinic or boarding kennel.
5. "Predominantly" means knowledge through identification procedures or otherwise, or admission by owner, keeper, or harborer that the dog is more than fifty percent pit bull. Predominantly also means that the dog exhibits the physical characteristics of a pit bull more than that of any other breed of dog.
6. "Sanitary condition" means a condition of good order and cleanliness to minimize the possibility of disease transmission.
7. "Under restraint" means that the dog is secured by a leash, led under the control of a person physically capable of restraining the dog and obedient to that person's commands, or securely enclosed within the real property limits of the owner's premises.