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Fwd: OPPOSE Proposed Amendments to LAMC 53.63/ COUNCIL FILE #14-0681 PAW Committee

1 message

whitney smith <whitneysmith3@gmail.com>
To: adam.lid@lacity.org

Fri, Sep 9, 2016 at 9:54 AM

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "assistant@lighthouseela.com" <assistant@lighthouseela.com>
Date: September 8, 2016 at 9:30:48 PM PDT
To: Whitney Smith <whitneysmith3@gmail.com>
Subject: OPPOSE Proposed Amendments to LAMC 53.63/ COUNCIL FILE #14-0681 PAW Committee

RE: OPPOSED TO PROPOSED Amendments to LAMC 53.63/ COUNCIL FILE #14-0681 PAW Committee

“BARKING DOG” REMEDY/COMPLAINT REQUIREMENTS

DEAR PAW COMMITTEE Members and LA City Council:

BEFORE any human beings need for peace and quiet be addressed— it is ethically *unsound* that the current municipal code does not require an Animal Control Officer to go to the accused's house with the disruptive dog and **determine the condition of the dog.**

FIRST!!!!

I am APPALLED that this is not even a CONSIDERATION.



cesar's way
ACHIEVING BALANCE AND HARMONY

The first step toward reducing your dog's barking is to determine the type of bark your dog is expressing. The following questions can help you to accurately decide on which type of barking your dog is doing so that you can best address your dog's problem.

1) When and where does the barking occur? Who or what is the target of the barking?

2) What things (objects, sounds, animals or people) trigger the barking?

3) Why is your dog barking?

I would like to call your attention to the LA WEEKLY article of 7/21/2011 (below) called "LOS ANGELES DOG BARKING HELL" which makes a few points—including one by our then and current LAAS General Manager Brenda Barnette.



.... "It is maddening," says Becraft, an immigration attorney, of the dog barking he and his wife have endured on a very pleasant Leimert Park street. "Because [the dog] barks not because of intruders, or because of other dogs barking, but rather out of anxiety and loneliness. It's a whimpering bark that is very nerve-wracking and borderline insane and sad."

Capt. Jorge Figueroa's philosophical outlook, that a chronically barking dog is a "neighbor" or "community" issue, often underlaid by lifestyle differences between people living in close quarters, is echoed throughout the dog-barking officialdom at City Hall.

"I can tell you," says Brenda Barnette, general manager of Animal Services, "that often in the hearings, **it's about a problem or issue between neighbors.**" She insists that's "not really a dog issue."

So it took two years for LAAS Commission to get the amendments to LAMC 53.63 to the PAW Committee. WOW.

And the "changes" basically **remove the burden of PROOF** of an "excessive" barking dog from the Complainant, and open the floodgates for haters to accuse their neighbors of barking excess with flimsy NON SPECIFIC parameters.

So we are going from **SPECIFIC** minimum "disturbance" metrics that can be **EVIDENCED**—to something like *feelings and impressions*. With ZERO markers!

AND the "changes" include a ludicrous inclusion of the Complainant's Occupation as a factor.

If you work the Night Shift when MOST people work during the day you cannot expect the world outside to maintain the hushed tone of night.

If you work the night shift the onus is on YOU to wear earplugs and put up sound baffles at your window- not require silence from your neighbors dog.

I cannot believe the biased and unfair coddling of that addition.

The ORDINANCE LAMC 53.63 is flawed.

It **DOES NOT** increase in any fairness via the proposed change.

The proposed changes destroy any clarity.

It needs to be AMENDED to include:

*****A MANDATED ACO inspection of the Defendant Dog Owner's property to discern the CAUSE of the BARKING in the first place.**

Please take a moment to consider the points I have brought to your attention and **DO NOT VOTE TO PASS**

this half baked SLIPPERY SLOPE set of changes to LAMC 53.63.

Sincerely,

Whitney Smith
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