
Pasco County, Florida Municipal Code

Sec. 14-108. Prohibition on the retail sale of dogs, cats and rabbits.

- (a) A pet store, as defined in this chapter, shall not sell, deliver, offer for sale, barter, auction, give away or otherwise transfer or dispose of a dog, cat, or rabbit.
- (b) *Prohibition on retail sale in public places.*
 - (1) Any sale of dogs, cats or rabbits, to include puppies and kittens, are prohibited on any public or private streets and rights-of-way, within 50 feet of any right-of-way, at any flea market, or private parking lots or any open-air venue, such as, but not limited to, parades, concerts, and festivals.
 - (2) The sale of dogs, cats or rabbits by a breeder, pet dealer or large kennel as defined in this chapter shall only take place at the premises for which the license is issued for. This shall not prohibit delivery at an offsite location of an animal which has been sold from the licensed premises.
- (c) *Exemptions.*
 - (1) Animal rescue organizations and government agencies.
 - (2) Nothing in this section shall prohibit pet stores from collaborating with animal shelters, animal rescue organizations, or animal control authorities to offer space for such entities to showcase adoptable dogs, cat, and rabbits inside pet stores. However, all dogs, cats, and rabbits showcased for adoption shall not be younger than eight weeks old and the pet store must not have any ownership interest in any dog, cat, or rabbit displayed for adoption.
- (d) *Certificate of Source.*
 - (1) For animals that are showcased for adoption under subsection (c)(2), a pet store shall ensure that a Certificate of Source is posted and maintained in a conspicuous place on the cat, dog or rabbits kennel, cage or enclosure.
 - (2) The following principles apply to Certificates of Source under this section:
 - a. The certificate of source must be provided to the adopter of any dog, cat, or rabbit.
 - b. The certificate of source must also be made available for review upon the request of a law enforcement or animal control officer.
 - c. Falsification of a certificate of source shall be deemed a violation of this section.
- (e) *Penalty.* A pet seller that violates this section shall be subject to penalties in accordance with Section 1-6 of this Code and a civil penalty of \$500.00 for each offense. Each dog, cat, or rabbit offered for sale in violation of this section shall constitute a separate offense. Each day a pet store is in violation of this section shall constitute a separate offense.

(Ord. No. 16-29, § 3, 10-11-16; Ord. No. 20-32, § 3, 9-8-20; Ord. No. 22-32, § 3, 6-21-22; Ord. No. 22-55, § 3, 10-11-22)