

ORDINANCE NO. __-____
CITY OF PASCAGOULA, MISSISSIPPI

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PASCAGOULA, MISSISSIPPI AMENDING
CHAPTER 10 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES REGARDING ANIMAL CONTROL**

WHEREAS, Chapter 10 of the Pascagoula Code of Ordinances establishes regulations for animal control; and

WHEREAS, certain revisions to Chapter 10 are needed to the City's animal control ordinances to protect the safety and welfare of citizens; and

WHEREAS, Mississippi Code Section 21-19-9 grants municipalities jurisdiction to regulate animal control; and

WHEREAS, the City Council for the City of Pascagoula hereby amends Chapter 10, as set forth herein.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF PASCAGOULA AS FOLLOWS:**

SECTION 1. Chapter 10, Article I, Section 10-7, Subsection (d) of the City of Pascagoula Code of Ordinances is hereby repealed and replaced with the following:

- (d) Where an animal control officer or police officer suspects that a dog or animal is a vicious dog or animal, said animal control officer or police officer shall file an affidavit with the municipal court for a determination as to whether the dog or animal is a vicious dog or animal. The animal control officer or police officer shall further provide the owner of the suspected vicious dog or animal written notice of such proceeding. If the suspected vicious animal or dog has been impounded by an animal control officer, the same shall remain impounded until such time as the municipal court makes its determination. Should the municipal

court determine that the dog or animal is in fact vicious, then the dog or animal shall remain impounded at the owner's expense until such time as the owner has constructed a pen that meets the requirements of this section for the confinement of the dog or animal when the same is out of doors and not otherwise leashed or muzzled as set forth hereinabove. In such event, the owner shall have thirty (30) days to construct said confinement; provided, however, that this period may be extended an additional thirty (30) days upon the municipal court's order.

SECTION 2. Chapter 10, Article I, Section 10-7, of the City of Pascagoula Code of Ordinances is hereby amended to add Subsection (k):

- (k) The owner of a vicious dog or animal shall be required to maintain liability insurance for death or injury of a person or pet arising from or related to the ownership of the vicious dog or animal. Said liability insurance policy shall have a limit of no less than \$500,000.00 for such an occurrence. The owner of a vicious dog or animal shall present proof of such insurance to the animal control officer or police officer upon request. The failure to maintain such insurance or to present proof thereof to an animal control officer or police officer shall be a misdemeanor. The failure to maintain such insurance shall further constitute a failure to properly confine the vicious dog or animal.

SECTION 3. Chapter 10, Article I, Section 10-5, of the City of Pascagoula Code of Ordinances is hereby amended to add Subsection (e) as follows:

- (e) It shall be unlawful for any person to keep venomous or constricting snakes within the City. The City Manager may grant a temporary waiver from this prohibition for educational or other community purposes.

SECTION 4. The amendments to this Chapter shall become effective as provided by law.

The above Ordinance was introduced in writing by Mayor Willis, seconded for adoption by Councilman _____, and received the following vote: Mayor Willis voted “___”, Councilman ___ voted “___”, Councilman ___ voted “___”, Councilman ___ voted “___”, Councilman ___ “___”, Councilman ___ voted “___”, and Councilman ___ voted “___”.

Passed this the __ day of _____ 2022.

APPROVED:

/s/
Jay Willis, Mayor

/s/
Karen Kennedy, City Clerk