

**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Dennis W. Farias, City Clerk / 508-979-1450

New Bedford Licensing Dogs for the New Year

All dog owners in New Bedford are required by City Ordinance to have their dogs licensed no later than **February 1, 2015**. Failure to license your dog(s) by this date must unfortunately result in a \$25.00 citation/late fee per animal. Due to the public health and safety issues involved, the City's Animal Control Department will ticket those who fail to license their dogs, with fees and penalties potentially adding up to as much as \$300.00 per dog. ***It is our goal to help all New Bedford dog owners avoid these unnecessary and expensive costs by making it quick and easy to license their dogs on time.***

The licenses will be available in the City Clerk's Office at City Hall beginning on **Monday, December 8, 2014**. Licenses are only **\$10.00 for spayed/neutered dogs and \$20.00 for non-spayed/unneutered dogs**. As always, ***Dog Licenses are valid from Jan. 1st to December 31st, regardless of when they are originally obtained.***

HOW TO LICENSE YOUR DOG(S):

1. **BY MAIL:** Download, complete and mail the form at: http://www.newbedford-ma.gov/city-clerk/wp-content/uploads/sites/14/2013/10/Dog_license_form.pdf, along with a check/money order made payable to City of New Bedford, Proof of Rabies Vaccination and Spaying/Neutering for each animal needing a license and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the address below. Upon receipt of payment, your license(s) and receipt of payment will be sent to you in the envelope you provide.

**City Clerk's Office, Rm. 118
City Hall, 133 William St.
New Bedford, MA 02740**
2. **IN PERSON** at the above address by using cash, check or debit/credit card. When paying in person, you will receive your dog license(s) immediately. Please remember to bring Proof of Rabies Vaccination and Spaying/Neutering.
3. **BY PHONE:** Call the City Clerk's Office (508.979.1450) with your credit card and other pertinent information during business hours: Mon- Fri., 8am – 4pm. Once payment is processed, your license(s) and receipt of payment will be mailed directly to you. ***Please note that a \$1.95 Convenience Charge will apply to all debit/credit card transactions.***

PLEASE REMEMBER TO INCLUDE/BRING:

1. A Valid Rabies Certificate or Other Proof of Rabies Vaccination
2. Proof of Spaying/Neutering, if applicable
3. A Certificate of Training, if applicable
4. Make Check/Money Order Payable to City of New Bedford