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Department Training
Investigations
Marine Patrol
Patrol
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Aero Squadron
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STARS

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Inmate Work Programs

Monroe Detention
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Corrections
Court Services
Foods Services
Records
Transportation

Press Release

Subject: Yolo County Dog Owners Reminded of Responsibility to license Dogs

Contact: Mark Persons, Public Information, 530.406.5172

Date: August 27, 2013

"Dog ownership comes with a lot of responsibilities, and licensing your dog is on top of the list" says Vicky Fletcher Chief Officer of Animal Services. "Buying a dog license is easy and affordable, and dog owners can purchase a license at the Yolo County Animal Shelter, Davis Police Department, West Sacramento Police Department or West Side Veterinary Clinic. You can also print an application from the Sheriff's website at <http://www.yolocountysheriff.com> – Click Animal Services Section.

An annual dog license is \$30.00 or \$15.00 if the animal is spayed or neutered. A Lifetime ticket home for your pet is permanent identification like a microchip; the shelter provides microchips at vaccine clinics for \$15.00. Service Dogs, helping people with disabilities, may be eligible for a license at no cost; come to the shelter to complete an application or one can be mailed to you.

The dog license application is simple and only requests owner contact information, including an email address if you have one and details about the dog being licensed, like name, age, breed and color, proof of spay or neuter for the discounted price and proof of rabies vaccine. You can purchase multiple year licenses depending on the date of expiration for the pet's rabies vaccine.

"We encounter many dogs that are not licensed or identified in any way and it's hard for us to reunite them with their owners," Fletcher said. "Your best bet for a lost dog coming home safely and quickly is with an updated dog license."

"Service Without Limitations"

Fletcher offered these reasons for dog licensing and responsible pet ownership:

- . **It's the law.** All dogs four months and older must have a current license and a rabies vaccine.

- . **If your dog gets lost, a license and ID is the best way to get your pet back.** A license and a microchip helps Animal Services Officers in the field, Animal Shelters and local veterinary clinics identify your dog and get him back safely.

- . **The cost of a license is less than the penalty for being caught without one.** Owners who fail to license their dogs could face a court issued fine of up to \$198.00 for each unlicensed dog.

- . **Responsible pet ownership is less costly than the fines for failing to manage your pet responsibly.** Allowing your dog to run at large is \$348.00, allowing your dog to run off a leash in your presence is \$307.00, and Failure to Vaccinate for Rabies is \$348.00. These are fines for a Notice to Appear which may be in addition to impound fee if your pet is brought to Animal Services because it does not have identification.

- . **License fees support animal control.** The annual fee you pay to license your dog helps keep the shelter running and support animal law enforcement, which is responsible for ensuring the welfare of community pets, regulating dangerous dogs and overseeing annual licensing and rabies control.

For more information contact Yolo County Animal Services @ 530.668.5287