

**DRAFT
ORDINANCE 2009**

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ANIMAL CONTROL REGULATIONS OF THE CITY OF RALEIGH BY REGULATING THE PRACTICE OF TETHERING DOGS.

Whereas, the City of Raleigh does not currently regulate the unattended restraint of dogs; and,
Whereas, the unattended restraint of dogs can result in dogs possibly strangling when becoming entangled in ropes and chains, being exposed to harsh weather conditions without access to shelter, and being unable to reach a supply of food and water;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF RALEIGH THAT:

Section 1. **Sec. 12-3004** of the Raleigh City Code is hereby amended by adding a new definition thereto to read as follows:

“Tether. Tether means tying out or fastening a dog outdoors on a rope, chain or other line for restraining a dog. The term does not mean the restraint of a dog on an attended leash.”

Section 2. **Sec. 12-3 007** of the Raleigh City Code is hereby amended by denominating the current language of the section as subparagraph (a) and adding a new subparagraph (b) to read as follows:

“(b) No person shall tether a dog to a tree, fence, post, dog house, or other stationary object for more than three hours total in any twenty four hour period. Any device used to tether shall be at least ten feet long and attached in such a manner as to prevent strangulation or other injury to the dog and entanglement with other objects. A cable trolley system may be used to tether for the allowed period so long as the stationary cable is at least ten feet long and the dog can perpendicularly move at least ten feet away from the stationary line. The line should be attached to the dog with a buckle type collar or a body harness. The device used to tether shall weigh no more than ten percent of the animal’s body weight and must allow the dog access to food and water. In addition to being a misdemeanor, a violation of this section is subject to a civil penalty of \$100.00 per day for each day of violation.

Section 3. The provisions of this ordinance are declared to be severable pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 14 of the Raleigh City Code.

Section 4. All ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Section 5. This ordinance is effective July 1, 2009

This ordinance was prepared by the Raleigh City Attorney s Office