

# What is an Ordinance?

A city's governing authorities - the mayor and board of commissioners - perform their day-to-day functions in large part through adopting or issuing written ordinances.

An ordinance is an official action of a city board of commissioners, which is a regulation that affects the community at large. In short, an ordinance is a local law. Once an ordinance is enacted, the rules within that law can be enforced within the city limits. A violation of an ordinance could result in a penalty.

When drafting an ordinance, the mayor and board of commissioners must answer the following questions:

1. In what city will the ordinance be drafted and the local law enforced?
2. What is the ordinance requiring?
3. Why is there a need for the ordinance?
4. How will the problem be corrected?
5. What is the penalty if the law is broken?

After drafting an ordinance, the Board of Commissioners will vote and it takes a majority vote, (3-2) to pass the ordinance.

## CITY OF PLEASANTVILLE, KENTUCKY

### ORDINANCE 2002-06

AN ORDINANCE REQUIRING DOG OWNERS TO KEEP DOGS FROM RUNNING AT LARGE IN THE CITY

WHEREAS, it is the finding of city council of the City of Pleasantville that dogs running at large within the city presents numerous safety concerns for citizens; and the public safety and welfare would be protected and serve by requiring all dogs to be kept on a leash to protect the public from attacks.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PLEASANTVILLE, KENTUCKY AS FOLLOWS:

#### **Section 1 - Regulation**

No person shall permit any dog to run at large anywhere in the city. "Running at large" means allowing a dog to be out-of-doors without a leash in an unconfined place. This regulation shall apply to all public places and to all private property. No one person shall permit any dog to be out-of-doors in any place unless the dog is on a leash by a person able to control the dog or the dog is kept in an enclosed area with a fence that would prevent the dog from leaving the area.

#### **Section 2 - Penalty against dog owners**

Any person, firm or corporation violating any provision of this ordinance shall be fined fifty dollars (\$50) for each offense.

New ordinance example