

Guard Dog Permitting and Registration





Environmental Protection and Growth Management Department

ANIMAL CARE AND ADOPTION DIVISION

2400 SW 42nd St • Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33312 • 954-359-1313 • Broward.org/Animal

Guard Dog Permit and Registration Application Information and Instructions

Guard Dogs are allowed in Broward County and play a special role in the protection of your business and property.

In order to ensure their safety and well-being in this important service, **Section 4-13**, of Broward County's Code of Ordinances outlines special protections and requirements for all guard dogs who work within Broward County.

In order to operate a guard dog business OR own and keep a guard dog on site, each guard dog must be registered with Broward County Animal Care and Adoption Section and have a special guard dog license tag.

For detailed information, including a complete copy of Section 4-13, regarding the guard dog ordinance, please visit broward.org/animal.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is a guard dog?

A Guard Dog is any type of dog used for the purpose of defending, patrolling, or protecting property or life (persons) at any **commercial** establishment.

What is a “guard dog service?”

A Guard Dog Service is any person, firm or corporation which trains, sells, rents, leases or loans guard dogs for the purpose of defending, patrolling or protecting property or persons.

What fees must I pay to have a guard dog in Broward County?

There are three permitting and registration fees that are required to be paid in order to receive a permit to have a guard dog and to register your guard dog with Broward County:

1. An annual/renewable permit fee in order to receive a guard dog permit of:
 - a. **\$1,000** for a guard dog business
 - b. **\$200** for an individual guard dog owner
2. A one-time registration fee of **\$100** per guard dog
3. A guard dog rabies registration tag fee of **\$150** (*renewable annually*)



Please Note: There will be a **\$25** late fee if not renewed **30 days prior** to expiration of previous year's tag

How do I register my guard dog with Broward County?

There are four important steps you must take in order to register and properly license your guard dog with Broward County:

1. **Vaccinate the Dog:** each guard dog must receive a current rabies vaccination from a licensed veterinarian. *Proof of rabies vaccination must be documented in order to register the guard dog.*
2. **Microchip the Dog:** each guard dog must be microchipped. The microchip can be implanted by a licensed veterinarian or by Broward County Animal Care and Adoption.
3. **Complete a Guard Dog Registration Application:** the application must list each guard dog that is owned by a guard dog service or by an individual
 - a. the application must include confirmation of current rabies vaccination
 - b. microchip number
 - c. description of each guard dog
 - d. a color photo of each guard dog
 - e. proof of ownership of each guard dog (ex: bill of sale, receipt or notarized affidavit)
 - f. a notarized affidavit signed by the previous owner that the dog will be used as a guard dog
 - g. current certification from a licensed Florida veterinarian that the dog is healthy enough to be a guard dog (see the Veterinary Certification of Fitness Form attached to this Application).
4. **Pay the appropriate permit and registration fees.**

Your Responsibilities as a Guard Dog Owner

The safety and well-being of the dog(s) in your care are of the utmost importance. As the owner of a guard dog there are several important requirements that you must follow in order to ensure your dog(s) receives humane treatment, remains healthy and is able to serve in his role as a guard dog.

Nourishment Requirements:

- You must at all times provide clean and fresh water for the guard dogs in your care.
- Sufficient quantities of wholesome, fresh food must be provided on a daily basis.

Housing Requirements:

- The guard dog(s) environment must be sanitary, safe and humane.
- The area where the guard dog is kept must well-ventilated with plenty of air circulation.
- If the guard dog is kept in a cage, he must have at least 30 minutes of exercise for every 12 hours he is confined.

Health Requirements:

- The guard dog must receive a rabies vaccination from a licensed veterinarian every year.

- At least every six (6) months the guard dog(s) must be examined by a veterinarian who is licensed in the state of Florida in order to determine whether the dog is healthy and physically fit to perform service as a guard dog.
- If the veterinarian determines that the dog is not physically fit, then the dog will not be able to be registered as a guard dog.
- A pregnant or lactating (nursing) dog cannot serve as a guard dog.

Identification Requirements:

- The guard dog must at all times wear a Guard Dog Registration Tag, which is issued by Broward County at the time of registration.
- Each guard dog must be micro-chipped.
- A color photo of each guard dog, including a physical description of each dog, must be taken and submitted to Broward County at the time of registration.

Premises Requirements:

- Each business that uses a guard dog to patrol the premises after hours must provide adequate fencing, or some other confining structure, to keep the guard dog within the premises.
- If the guard dog is kept on the premises during normal business hours, then he must be confined away from the general public.
- Signs must be posted at the place of business which read, "Dangerous Dog" or "guard dog on Premises." Such signs should be posted at each entryway and at 50-foot intervals along the fence line. The lettering on the signs should be in black, 6-inch-high lettering on a white background.
- The name and telephone number of the guard dog's Trainer or handler and owner must be posted at the entryway in case of an emergency.

Transportation Requirements:

- If a guard dog is being transported, the vehicle used must be clearly marked in order to show that a guard dog is in the vehicle.
- A compartment, which is separate from the driver, is required and must provide adequate ventilation.
- A guard dog cannot be transported in the trunk of a car or in an unenclosed portion of the vehicle—such as a convertible, pickup or flat-bed truck unless the dog is securely confined in a cage or pet crate, which must be securely anchored to the vehicle.



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Guard Dog Permit Application

Personal Information				
Last Name	First Name		Middle Initial	
Home Address		City	State	Zip
Home Phone	Business Phone	Mobile Phone		
Email Address				
I will be primarily responsible for training, providing food, water exercise and care of each guard dog <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No				
<i>If no, please complete Caretaker Information on page 5</i>				

Business Information			
Business Name			
Business Address		City	State Zip
Business Phone		Mobile Phone	
Business Fax		Email Address	

Continue to page 6 to fill out guard dog information.

Guard Dog Information					
Dog 1	Name	Breed		Sex	Age
	Color(s)		Distinguishing Markings (<i>scars, tattoos, etc.</i>)		
	Microchip Identification #		Microchip Manufacturer		
	Location Dog Will be Housed		Rabies Vaccination Date	Rabies Vaccination Expiration Date	
Dog 2	Name	Breed		Sex	Age
	Color(s)		Distinguishing Markings (<i>scars, tattoos, etc.</i>)		
	Microchip Identification #		Microchip Manufacturer		
	Location Dog Will be Housed		Rabies Vaccination Date	Rabies Vaccination Expiration Date	
Dog 3	Name	Breed		Sex	Age
	Color(s)		Distinguishing Markings (<i>scars, tattoos, etc.</i>)		
	Microchip Identification #		Microchip Manufacturer		
	Location Dog Will be Housed		Rabies Vaccination Date	Rabies Vaccination Expiration Date	
Dog 4	Name	Breed		Sex	Age
	Color(s)		Distinguishing Markings (<i>scars, tattoos, etc.</i>)		
	Microchip Identification #		Microchip Manufacturer		
	Location Dog Will be Housed		Rabies Vaccination Date	Rabies Vaccination Expiration Date	
Dog 5	Name	Breed		Sex	Age
	Color(s)		Distinguishing Markings (<i>scars, tattoos, etc.</i>)		
	Microchip Identification #		Microchip Manufacturer		
	Location Dog Will be Housed		Rabies Vaccination Date	Rabies Vaccination Expiration Date	

Continue to page 7 to fill out veterinary information.

Veterinary Information				
<input type="checkbox"/> Same for all guard dogs				
Dog 1	Veterinarian Last Name		Veterinarian First Name	
Veterinary Practice Name				
Address		City	State	Zip
Business Phone	Business Fax		Business Email	
Dog 2	Veterinarian Last Name		Veterinarian First Name	
Veterinary Practice Name				
Address		City	State	Zip
Business Phone	Business Fax		Business Email	
Dog 3	Veterinarian Last Name		Veterinarian First Name	
Veterinary Practice Name				
Address		City	State	Zip
Business Phone	Business Fax		Business Email	
Dog 4	Veterinarian Last Name		Veterinarian First Name	
Veterinary Practice Name				
Address		City	State	Zip
Business Phone	Business Fax		Business Email	
Dog 5	Veterinarian Last Name		Veterinarian First Name	
Veterinary Practice Name				
Address		City	State	Zip
Business Phone	Business Fax		Business Email	

Continue to page 8 to fill out caretaker information.

Caretaker Information *(if applicable)*

If the permit holder is not primarily responsible for the training and general welfare of the guard dog(s), please complete the following. If the permit holder will be primary responsible for the training and general welfare of the guard dog(s), this section may be left blank.

Dog 1	Last Name		First Name	
Home Address		City	State	Zip
Business Address		City	State	Zip
Home Phone	Business Phone		Mobile Phone	
Email Address		Business Fax		
Dog 2	Last Name		First Name	
Home Address		City	State	Zip
Business Address		City	State	Zip
Home Phone	Business Phone		Mobile Phone	
Email Address		Business Fax		
Dog 3	Last Name		First Name	
Home Address		City	State	Zip
Business Address		City	State	Zip
Home Phone	Business Phone		Mobile Phone	
Email Address		Business Fax		
Dog 4	Last Name		First Name	
Home Address		City	State	Zip
Business Address		City	State	Zip
Home Phone	Business Phone		Mobile Phone	
Email Address		Business Fax		
Dog 5	Last Name		First Name	
Home Address		City	State	Zip
Business Address		City	State	Zip
Home Phone	Business Phone		Mobile Phone	
Email Address		Business Fax		

Continue to page 9 to fill out customer information and sign.

Customer Information

Same for all guard dogs

If the permit holder is a business providing a guard dog service, please provide a list of all customers and which guard dog(s) they have been assigned.

Dog 1	Last Name	First Name	Middle Initial	
Home Address		City	State	Zip
Business Address		City	State	Zip
Home Phone	Business Phone		Mobile Phone	
Dog 2	Last Name	First Name	Middle Initial	
Home Address		City	State	Zip
Business Address		City	State	Zip
Home Phone	Business Phone		Mobile Phone	
Dog 3	Last Name	First Name	Middle Initial	
Home Address		City	State	Zip
Business Address		City	State	Zip
Home Phone	Business Phone		Mobile Phone	
Dog 4	Last Name	First Name	Middle Initial	
Home Address		City	State	Zip
Business Address		City	State	Zip
Home Phone	Business Phone		Mobile Phone	
Dog 5	Last Name	First Name	Middle Initial	
Home Address		City	State	Zip
Business Address		City	State	Zip
Home Phone	Business Phone		Mobile Phone	

I have read and understand Section 4-13 of the Chapter 4 Broward County Ordinance. I certify that the information in this application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief under penalty of perjury.

Applicant Signature

Date



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Veterinary Certification of Fitness For Service as a Guard Dog

I hereby certify that the guard dog known as _____

with microchip number _____, belonging to:

- Is fit for service as a guard dog and is not currently suffering from any medical issues.*
- Is fit for service as a guard dog, but is currently under my care for a medical issue that does not constitute a risk to the animal's health or impede its ability to perform its duties.*
- Is **not** fit for service as a guard dog and should be **permanently retired from service** as a guard dog.*
- Is **not** fit for service as a guard dog and should be **temporarily removed from service** as a guard dog. The dog may be returned to service following treatment for:*

*Please indicate any veterinary care provided to treat the aforementioned symptoms and any follow up treatment given. Also indicate any required treatment declined by the owner.

If the guard dog has been temporarily removed from service, proof of treatment and a new Veterinary Certification of Fitness must be submitted to Broward County Animal Care and Adoption before the dog may return to service as a guard dog.

Veterinarian Information			
Veterinarian Name			Veterinarian License #
Veterinarian Practice Address		City	State Zip
Business Phone		Business Fax	

Veterinarian Signature

Date