



VISAYAS STATE UNIVERSITY

Visca, Baybay City, Leyte 6521-A

Philippines

Tel: +63 53 335 2600; Fax: +63 53 335 2601

e-mail: opvisca@mozcom.com; website: www.lsu-visca.edu.ph

Office of the President

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MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 6
Series of 2008

T O: All VSU Constituents

R E: R.A. 9482 and Responsibility of Pet Owners

It has been noted that a number of stray dogs, road accidents, and dog-biting cases in the campus have increased significantly.

With this, please be informed that effective March 1, 2008, VSU will start the implementation of R.A. 9482 (approved into law on May 25, 2007) entitled, "An Act Providing for the Control and Elimination of Human and Animal Rabies, Prescribing Penalties for Violation Thereof and Appropriating Funds Thereof".

Owning a dog demands responsibilities from pet owners. In view of this, dog owners within the campus should be informed of the following responsibilities in accordance to R.A. 9482:

- a) Submit your Dog for mandatory registration.
- b) Have your Dog regularly vaccinated against Rabies and maintain a registration card which shall contain all vaccinations conducted on your Dog for accurate record purposes
- c) Maintain control over your Dog and do not allow it to roam the streets or any other Public Place without a leash and a person to control it.
- d) Be a responsible Owner by providing your Dog with proper grooming, adequate food, and a clean shelter.
- e) Within twenty-four (24) hours, report any Dog-biting incident immediately to the Concerned Officials for investigation and/or for any appropriate action. Place such Dog under observation by a veterinarian at the College of Veterinary Medicine.
- f) Immediately assist the victim bitten by your Dog and shoulder the medical expenses, as well as other incidental expenses, relative to the victim's injuries.

In addition, the penalty portion for violations by Pet Owners as stipulated in R.A. 9482 is quoted for your guidance:

1. Pet Owners who fail or refuse to have their Dog registered and immunized against Rabies shall be punished by a fine of Two Thousand Pesos (P2,000.00).

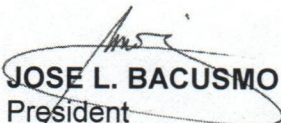
2. Pet Owners who refuse to have their Dog vaccinated against Rabies shall be liable to pay for the vaccination of both the Dog and the individuals Bitten by their Dog.
3. Pet Owners who refuse to have their Dog put under observation after said Dog has Bitten an individual shall be meted a fine of Ten Thousand Pesos (P10,000.00).
4. Pet Owners who refuse to have their Dog put under observation and do not shoulder the medical expenses of the person Bitten by their Dog shall be meted a fine of Twenty Five Thousand Pesos (P25,000.00).
5. Pet Owners who refuse to put leash on their Dogs when they are brought outside the house shall be meted a fine of Five Hundred Pesos (P500.00) for each incident.
6. An impounded Dog shall be released to its Owner upon payment of a fine of not less than Five Hundred Pesos (P500.00) but not more than One Thousand Pesos (P1,000.00).
7. Any person found guilty of trading Dog for meat shall be fined not less than Five Thousand Pesos (P5,000.00) per Dog and subjected to imprisonment for one to four years.
8. Any person found guilty of using electrocution as a method of euthanasia shall be fined not less than Five Thousand Pesos (P5,000.00) per act and subject to imprisonment for one to four years.
9. If the violation is committed by an alien, he or she shall be immediately deported after service of sentence without any further proceedings.

The College of Veterinary Medicine, in cooperation with the Security Force, is hereby directed to initiate the registration of all dogs owned by VSU constituents and to request for vaccines needed for the immunization of the dogs registered. Dog Owners are therefore directed to submit their dogs for registration and immunization and to pay for the cost of the vaccine needed. The College of Veterinary Medicine will conduct free vaccination at the VSU Oval and a house to house registration on the second week of February, 2008.

Pursuant to the VSU Housing Guidelines (BOR Resolution No. 25, s. 2005 dated 16 February 2005), residents should limit the number of pet dogs to only one. Thus, residents of apartments/houses in the campus are advised to eventually reduce the number of their pet dogs to a maximum of one per house/apartment. No replacement of excess number of registered dogs shall be allowed.

Effective March 1, 2008 Security Personnel of VSU will catch and impound astray dogs in the campus. Impounded dogs not claimed after three (3) days from the Dog Pound shall be donated to the College of Veterinary Medicine of VSU and shall be disposed in any manner pertinent to the provisions of R.A. 8485.

For the information and strict compliance of all concerned.


JOSE L. BACUSMO
President

cc: College of Veterinary Medicine
VSU Security Force
Records
File