



# CONDITIONS GOVERNING THE IMPORTATION OF DOGS AND CATS INTO THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

## The Animals Law (2011 Revision)

*Please read the following information carefully, as the requirements may be different from those of other countries. Failure to meet these requirements exactly as outlined below will result in your dog or cat being refused entry into the Cayman Islands. Your local veterinarian will be able to help you with adhering to the requirements. Please take a copy of the import conditions to the veterinarian who will be preparing your pet.*

### A. PERMIT TO IMPORT

All dogs and cats entering the Cayman Islands must be accompanied by an **Import Permit** issued by the Cayman Islands Department of Agriculture. You must provide evidence that your dog or cat complies with all of our import requirements before we will issue an Import Permit. Please see the last page of this document for the application form. All correspondence and copies of the documents for consideration may be sent to:

Veterinary Services Department of Agriculture P.O. Box 459 Grand Cayman KY1-1106 Cayman Islands	Physical address: 181 Lottery Road, Lower Valley Bodden Town, Grand Cayman	Tel: (345) 947-3090 Fax: (345) 947-6501 Email: <a href="mailto:shana.chin@gov.ky">shana.chin@gov.ky</a> or: <a href="mailto:ciagriculture@gov.ky">ciagriculture@gov.ky</a>
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### B. IMPORT REQUIREMENTS

In order to bring your dog or cat into the Cayman Islands, the following procedures must be carried out **in the order shown below**:

- 1) **Your dog or cat must first be permanently identified with a microchip transponder and a microchip implant certificate issued.**

*Only microchip brands accepted by the International Standards Organisation (Standard 11784 or Annex A to standard 11785) should be used. These include some AVID<sup>®</sup>, Home Again<sup>®</sup>, and Identichip<sup>®</sup> microchips... those that are read by 134.2 kHz scanners. Please note: not all microchips conform to this standard. The microchip number must be recorded on all documentation required for the importation of your dog or cat.*

- 2) **After identification, a licensed veterinarian using an approved inactivated or recombinant vaccine must then vaccinate your dog or cat against rabies and issue a rabies vaccination certificate.**

*If your dog or cat was vaccinated before being fitted with a microchip, it must be vaccinated again. Subsequent booster vaccinations must be administered in accordance with the recommendations of the vaccine manufacturer. Any lapse with revaccination will result in your dog or cat being delayed to enter the Cayman Islands. Your dog or cat must be at least twelve (12) weeks old before the primary (first) rabies vaccine is given. The microchip number must be recorded on the rabies vaccination certificate. Vaccination certificates without a microchip number will not be accepted.*

- 3) **A blood test must be taken after vaccination to check for protective antibodies against rabies.**

*The blood test, a Fluorescent Antibody Virus Neutralising Test (FAVN), must be carried out by a laboratory approved by the OIE for carrying out such a test 30 days after rabies vaccination. The test result must show a serum antibody level of at least 0.5 IU/ml and must bear the animal's permanent identification number. Test results bearing the wrong microchip number will not be accepted and a new test will have to be carried out. A list of some approved laboratories is found in Appendix III.*

- 4) **Your dog or cat will be eligible for entry into the Cayman Islands not less than three (3) months and not more than twelve (12) months after the date the blood sample that gave a successful test result was drawn.**

*The three (3) month wait after a successful titre is mandatory for all dogs and cats entering the Cayman Islands from listed countries where rabies is well controlled regardless of previous rabies vaccination history. The three (3) months wait does not apply to dogs and cats that were born or have been continuously resident during the immediate six (6) months prior to import in a country recognized as being rabies free by the Cayman Islands Government.*

- 5) **Within 14 days of the scheduled date of travel to the Cayman Islands your dog or cat must be treated for tapeworms and ticks. The treatment must be recorded on the Official Veterinary Health Certificate.**

*For tapeworms: a preparation containing **praziquantel** at a dose rate of 5mg/kg body weight.*

*For ticks: a topical preparation known to have residual action. A product containing **fipronil** is preferred. Other products include amitraz, pyrethrins, and permethrins.*

***NOTE** The following products are NOT acceptable: Shampoos, collars, preparations that are licensed for control of fleas only (e.g. Program® Advantage®, Revolution® or Sentinel®).*

- 6) **Also within 14 days of the scheduled date of travel, your dog or cat must be examined and issued with an Official Veterinary Health Certificate (see Section C for information that must be provided on the Official Veterinary Health Certificates. Incomplete health certificates will not be accepted).**

*The health certificate may be issued by a licensed accredited veterinarian but must be endorsed (stamp or seal and signature) by an official veterinarian who is employed full time by the government of the country of origin (e.g. USDA in the USA, CFIA in Canada, DEFRA in the UK).*

- 7) **A completed Application Form, a copy of the Microchip Implant Certificate, a completed Breed Declaration Form (Dogs Only), copy /copies of rabies vaccination certificates for rabies vaccinations administered after microchip implant, a copy of the Official Veterinary Health Certificate, a copy of the Rabies Titre Laboratory report and a non-refundable application fee (single entry: CI\$50.00 (US\$61.00)); payable to Cayman Islands Government must be submitted to the Cayman Islands Department of Agriculture for processing. (Accepted forms of local payments are Cayman Islands and United States cash and checks drawn on a Cayman Islands bank – no credit or debit cards are accepted. Accepted forms of international payments are United States Bank Draft and United States International Money orders – no personal checks, credit or debit cards are accepted).**

*Once all the documentation are received and the application fee is paid the application will be processed and a reply given to you within three (3) working days.*

- 8) **If successful, an Import Permit will be issued. Unless otherwise specified, the import permit is valid for 14 days from the date of the Official Veterinary Health Certificate.**

*The permit can be sent to you by fax or e-mail. Attach a faxed/printed copy of the permit, along with the **original documents** presented to support your application to the carrier in which your dog or cat will be transported.*

- 9) **You must give at least 48 hours notice of expected date and time of arrival, along with details of the vessel or airline if such information was not provided on the application form or the travel arrangements have changed (e.g. Airline and flight number). (See part G: Transportation Instructions.)**

### **C. OFFICIAL VETERINARY HEALTH CERTIFICATE**

*An Official Veterinary Health Certificate is a document issued an accredited veterinarian and endorsed by a veterinarian employed full time by the government of the country of origin (e.g. USDA, CFIA, DEFRA). The document may be filled out and signed by a licensed accredited veterinarian, but must also be endorsed by a government veterinarian.*

**The Official Veterinary Health Certificate is valid for a period of 14 days only.**

The official veterinary health certificate must have the following information:

- 1) A unique certificate number;
- 2) The country of origin of the animal;
- 3) The name and address of the owner/agent;
- 4) A description of the animal(s) to be imported; (Species, Breed, Sex, Age and Coat colour);
- 5) The microchip identification number of the animal(s) and the location of the microchip;
- 6) Information on the last rabies vaccination (date administered, the vaccine name, its manufacturer and batch number must be on the certificate);
- 7) The type and date of other routine vaccinations administered;
- 8) The seal number of the container in which the animal is being transported along with the signature and stamp of the official affixing the seal. (See part G Transportation Instructions);
- 9) Certificate statements as outlined below.

The official veterinary health certificate must have the following statements:

- a. As best as can be ascertained the animal is not infected with any communicable disease and is free from external parasites.
- b. The animal has not been kept within 30 miles of an area officially quarantined for Foot and Mouth Disease during the past 30 days (this does not apply to dogs and cats arriving directly from territories recognised as free from Foot and Mouth disease, e.g. the UK, USA, Canada or CARICOM territories).
- c. The animal was kept since birth or has been continually resident in the country of origin for the six (6) months prior to shipment and as best as can be ascertained has not been exposed to rabies or has not been present within the past six (6) months in an officially quarantined or designated rabies area.
- d. The animal has been treated on the day of examination with an acaricidal preparation, which is known to have residual action against ticks (include the name of the acaricidal product).
- e. The animal has been treated on the day of examination with a preparation containing praziquantel at a dose rate of 5mg/kg body weight, which is known to be effective against tapeworms (include the name of the tapeworm product).
- f. The animal was subjected to a neutralising antibody titration test within the past 12 months with a result of 0.5IU/ml or greater (attach a copy of the rabies titre laboratory report).

*The certificate should be written in English. In such circumstances as may be warranted, it should also be written in a language understood by the certifying veterinarian. A certifying veterinarian should have no conflict of interest with the animals he is certifying.*

#### **D. PROHIBITIONS**

1. In accordance with the Animals Law (2011 Revision), no animal of any description may be imported into the Cayman Islands from any country in Asia, Africa or Central and South America. Other territories from which dogs and cats are prohibited are Cuba, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Haiti and the Dominican Republic.
2. Certain breeds of dogs or crosses of such breeds are prohibited from entering the Cayman Islands. Genetic material such as semen and embryos from these breeds are also prohibited. All applications for the importation of dogs into the Cayman Islands must be accompanied by a written declaration from the owner/agent of owner attesting that the dog to be imported does not belong to or is not crossed with one or more of the following prohibited breeds or type of dogs. **(See Appendix I)** In addition the applicant must provide a colour photograph(s) of the dog at the time of application that shows the true likeness of the dog.

These breeds include, but are not necessarily limited to:

<b>Mastiff Breeds, including:</b>	Staffordshire Terrier,	<b>Other breeds:</b>
Rottweiler,	Staffordshire Bull Terrier,	Chinese Shar-Pei,
Japanese Tosa,	Bull Mastiff,	Mallanois,.
Dogo Argentino,	Neapolitan Mastiff,	Japanese Akita,
Fila Brasileiro,	Dogue de Bordeaux,	Catahoula Leopard Dog.
Pit Bull Terrier,	American Bulldog,	

#### **E. ELIGIBILITY FOR IMPORTATION**

These conditions apply to specified countries or territories in which rabies is absent or well controlled. These are as follows:

- a) **Countries and Territories recognised as being rabies free by the Cayman Islands Government:**  
Antigua, Australia, Barbados, Bermuda, Great Britain, Hawaii, Ireland (Rep), Jamaica, New Zealand, Northern Ireland, St Vincent.
- b) **Countries and Territories recognised where rabies is well controlled:**  
Anguilla, Aruba, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, British Virgin Islands, Canada, Curacao, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guadeloupe, Hawaii, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Martinique, Monaco, Montserrat, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia, St Martin, Sweden, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, US Virgin Islands, USA, Vatican.

Notwithstanding prohibitions on Section D (1), territories not listed on Section E may make representation to the Cayman Islands Department of Agriculture for inclusion in the above lists.

## F. IMPORT PERMIT

Completed application forms, all supporting documents and the non-refundable application fee must be submitted to the Department of Agriculture. Upon successful completion of the import requirements, an import permit will be issued.

**Single Entry Import Permit** \*(Non-refundable Application fee CI \$50.00 (US\$61.00)): this permit is valid for 14 days from the date of the Official Health Certificate. This permit is appropriate for dogs and cats moving to the Cayman Islands on a permanent or long-term basis and for all dogs and cats entering the Cayman Islands for the first time.

**\*There is a Multiple Entry Import Permit /Cayman Islands Animal Passport** (Non-refundable Application fee CI \$150.00 (US\$183.00)) **available:** valid for a period of one year. This permit is appropriate for dogs and cats travelling to and from the Cayman Islands more than three (3) times a year. With this permit, there is no need to apply for an import permit with each entry; however a new Official Veterinary Health Certificate must be obtained with each entry. **Your dog or cat must be resident in the Cayman Islands at the time of application for an Animal Passport.** Passports cannot be issued to dogs and cats entering the Cayman Islands for the first time. Application forms are available at the Department of Agriculture. **The passport is only for travel into the Cayman Islands, and is NOT accepted by any other country as an import permit.**

### NOTES ON ANIMAL PASSPORTS

- i. The Animal Passport expires one year after the date of issue and can be renewed on an annual basis provided that there is no lapse in the rabies booster vaccination and the rabies titre test with successful results.
- ii. When applying for renewal of the passport you must provide evidence of rabies vaccine history such as copies of both the current and the previous rabies vaccination certificates.
- iii. Laboratory tests to determine the level of protection must be performed every 12 months. It is recommended that these be performed 28 days after the date of that year's rabies vaccination. These test results must also be provided when applying for renewal of a multiple entry permit/passport.
- iv. If your dog or cat's stay outside the Cayman Islands is more than 14 days, a new Official Veterinary Health Certificate (Section C.) must be obtained and presented along with the passport every time the animal re-enters the Cayman Islands.
- v. Under most circumstances, a dog or cat qualifying under these conditions may leave and re-enter the Cayman Islands having obtained an Official Veterinary Health Certificate (Export Permit/ License) and treated for ticks and tapeworm provided the length of stay abroad is less than 14 days.

## G. TRANSPORTATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. All animals travelling to the Cayman Islands must do so by the most direct route possible.
2. Animals travelling by air must be carried in an approved container, which meets standards set by the International Air Transport Association (IATA).
3. All documents accompanying the animal must be affixed to the container.
4. If travelling other than by direct route from the country of origin, **through a territory not on the approved list**, the door of the container must be sealed with a government approved seal in the country of origin before the animal is loaded onto the aircraft or vessel with the number on the seal entered onto the health certificate by an airline or government official (e.g., agriculture, customs).

## H. INSPECTION ON ARRIVAL

Possession of a valid Import Permit does not guarantee entry. All animals and documents are subject to examination at the port of entry by an Agricultural Health Inspector. Should the animal fail to meet entry requirements, the Chief Agricultural and Veterinary Officer (CAVO) or his designate may at his discretion and at the expense of the importer, order that the animal be refused entry and returned immediately or be destroyed. Detention or quarantine is **NOT** an option in the Cayman Islands.

## I. PENALTIES:

Failure to comply with the above import conditions is an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of five hundred dollars (CI\$500.00) and to imprisonment for six months. The animal(s) under Law may be ordered to be destroyed or otherwise dealt with at the discretion of the Chief Agricultural and Veterinary Officer (CAVO) or his designate.

**All dogs staying in the Cayman Islands for longer than 30 days must be licensed with the Cayman Islands Department of Agriculture.**



# APPLICATION FOR THE IMPORTATION OF DOGS AND CATS INTO THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

## The Animals Law (2011 Revision)

APPLICATION FOR SINGLE ENTRY PERMIT

One form should be completed for each dog or cat.

**I.**      Consignor: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Country: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Consignee: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address (in full): \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**II.**      Species of animal: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Age or date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sex: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Breed: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Colour and Markings: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Origin of Animal: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (State/Region/Country)

**Identification number (microchip number):** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Anatomical Site of Microchip:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Name of Animal:** \_\_\_\_\_

**III. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**(if unknown now submit information within 48 hours of arrival)

Carrier/Flight Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date and Time of Arrival: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contact Information: Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTES:**

1. When submitting your application, please include a full body, color photo of your dog or cat.
2. Please ensure that you have made the necessary copies of all documents submitted for your records, *prior* to submission to the Department of Agriculture.



# Appendix I DOG BREED DECLARATION

## THIS DECLARATION IS TO BE COMPLETED BY OR ON BEHALF OF AN IMPORTER OF A DOG INTO THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

Animals Law (2011 Revision) prohibits the importation into the Cayman Islands of any dog that belongs to or is crossed to one or more of the breeds or type of dog listed below.

### OWNER/AGENT INFORMATION

Full name of importer or importer's agent: .....

Date of Birth: .....

Home address: .....

Telephone (Home): ..... (Mobile): .....

### DOG INFORMATION

Name of dog: ..... Age: ..... Breed: .....

Sex: ..... Microchip #: .....

I, ..... solemnly and sincerely declare that to the best of my knowledge the dog to which this declaration relates does not belong to or is not a cross of one or more of the following prohibited breeds or type of dogs:

Prohibited breeds include, but are not necessarily limited to:

- |                                   |                             |                        |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Mastiff Breeds, including:</b> | Staffordshire Terrier,      | <b>Other breeds:</b>   |
| Rottweiler,                       | Staffordshire Bull Terrier, | Chinese Shar-Pei,      |
| Japanese Tosa,                    | Bull Mastiff,               | Mallanois,.            |
| Dogo Argentino,                   | Neapolitan Mastiff,         | Japanese Akita,        |
| Fila Brasileiro,                  | Dogue de Bordeaux,          | Catahoula Leopard Dog. |
| Pit Bull Terrier,                 | American Bulldog,           |                        |

I make this declaration believing it to be true and correct.

Date: .....

Signature of person making declaration: .....

Declared at [place]: .....

**Penalties: Prohibited dogs illegally imported into the Cayman Islands based on a false declaration will be immediately destroyed. Failure to comply with the above import conditions is an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of five hundred dollars (CI\$500.00) and to imprisonment for six months.**



## Appendix II DOG AND CAT IMPORT CHECKLIST

### Checklist for Cats and Dogs being prepared for importation into the Cayman Islands

Use the checklist to verify if your pet meets the import conditions for the Cayman Islands

IMPORT CONDITION	Yes	No
<b>MICROCHIPPING</b>		
My pet has been microchipped.		
I have proof of the date of microchip implant (receipt/certificate).		
The microchip can be read (check with your vet).		
<b>RABIES VACCINATION</b>		
My pet was vaccinated in accordance with the recommendation on the vaccine manufacturer's data sheet		
The rabies vaccination certificate has the make, serial number and expiration date on it.		
My pet was vaccinated against rabies after it was fitted with a microchip.		
The microchip number has been entered correctly by the veterinarian on the rabies vaccination certificate.		
<b>RABIES TITRE TEST</b>		
The blood sample was taken (at least 30 days) after the rabies vaccination.		
My pet has had a satisfactory blood test at an OIE approved laboratory.		
I have a certified copy of the blood test result showing the correct microchip number and the date the blood was taken.		
<b>DOCUMENTATION</b>		
An accredited veterinarian has correctly filled in all the details listed in Section C of the requirements of the official veterinary health certificate.		
The certificate has been endorsed by an official government veterinarian.		
When travelling, I will have my pet's vaccination record and blood test result both showing the microchip number.		
<b>TICK AND TAPEWORM TREATMENT</b>		
My pet was treated on the day of examination, for the official veterinary health certificate, with approved treatments within 14 days prior to travel.		
The products used to treat for ticks and tapeworms have been recorded on the official veterinary health certificate.		
<b>TRAVELLING TO THE CAYMAN ISLANDS</b>		
If travelling through a non-listed country or territory, my pet's crate/travelling case has been officially sealed.		
The animal must travel according to the rules of the airline (IATA) and my carrying container and paperwork conform to IATA rules and regulations.		



## Appendix III LIST OF OIE APPROVED LABORATORIES in the USA & UK

Kansas State University (Civilians)  
The Rabies Laboratory  
Kansas State University  
2005 Research Park Circle  
Manhattan, KS 66502

Phone: 785-532-4483

Fax: 785-532-4474

Fax: 785-532-4522

<http://www.vet.k-state.edu/depts/dmp/service/rabies/favn.htm>

Biobest Laboratories Ltd 6 Charles Darwin House  
The Edinburgh Technopole  
Milton Bridge  
Nr Penicuik EH26 0PY  
Tel: + 44 (0) 131 440 2628  
Fax: + 44 (0) 131 440 9587  
email: [enquiry@biobest.co.uk](mailto:enquiry@biobest.co.uk)  
[www.biobest.co.uk](http://www.biobest.co.uk)

Animal Health & Veterinary  
Laboratories Agency  
New Haw  
Addlestone  
Weybridge  
Surrey KT15 3NB  
United Kingdom  
Tel: +44 (0) 1932 357345  
Fax: + 44 (0) 1932 359519  
email: [lab.services@ahvla.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:lab.services@ahvla.gsi.gov.uk)  
[www.defra.gov.uk/ahvla](http://www.defra.gov.uk/ahvla)

For USA Military only  
United States Army Public Health Command  
DoD Food Analysis & Diagnostic Laboratory (FADL)  
PHCR-SOUTH  
ATTN: Diagnostics Lab  
2899 Schofield Road  
Suite 2630  
Fort Sam Houston, TX 78234-7583  
[http://www.vetlab.army.mil/documents/pet\\_docs.html](http://www.vetlab.army.mil/documents/pet_docs.html)

Please contact the Cayman Islands Department of Agriculture for a list of other laboratories if needed.