

### **DIVISION 3. EXOTIC ANIMALS**

#### **Sec. 10-91. Definition of exotic animals.**

*Exotic animal* means those species of animals that are exotic to humans. Exotic animals include:

- (1) Class Mammalia.
  - a. Order Artiodactyla (only hippopotamuses and giraffes).
  - b. Order Carnivora (only those specified below).
    1. Family Felidae [(all species except domestic cats) this includes lions, tigers, cougars, leopards, ocelots, servals].
    2. Family Canidae (only wolves, coyotes and jackals).
    3. Family Ursidae (all bears).
    4. Family Hyaenidae (hyenas).
  - c. Order Perissodactyla (only rhinoceroses).
  - d. Order Primates (only gorillas).
  - e. Order Proboscidae (elephants).
- (2) Class Reptilia.
  - a. Order Squamata (only varanidae family animals specified below).

- b. Family Varanidae (only water monitors and crocodile monitors).
- c. Order Crocodylia (such as crocodiles, alligators, caimans, gavials, etc.) all species.

(Ord. No. 02-7, § 1, 1-14-2003)

**Sec. 10-92. Prohibition.**

It shall be unlawful to keep, maintain, or have in his or her possession or control within the unincorporated portion of Lexington County any exotic animal as defined herein.

(Ord. No. 02-7, § 2, 1-14-2003)

**Sec. 10-93. Provisions.**

The provisions of section 10-92 shall not apply to Riverbanks Zoo and Lexington County approved circuses that are within the unincorporated area of the county.

(Ord. No. 02-7, § 3, 1-14-2003)

**Sec. 10-94. Penalty.**

Any person violating the provisions of section 10-92 shall be subject to the maximum penalty as authorized by the magistrate's court and as further set forth in the general penalty, section 1-8 of the Lexington County Code of Ordinances. Lexington County Animal Services may take immediate possession of an exotic animal and transfer the exotic animal to a rescue group outside of Lexington County.

(Ord. No. 02-7, § 4, 1-14-2003)