

**TITLE XIII: GENERAL OFFENSES**

Chapter

**130. GENERAL OFFENSES**



## CHAPTER 130: GENERAL OFFENSES

### Section

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### § 130.01 CURFEW FOR MINORS.

(A) *Purpose.* The curfew for minors established by this section is maintained for four primary reasons:

- (1) To protect the public from illegal acts of minors committed during the curfew hours;
- (2) To protect minors from improper influences that prevail during the curfew hours, including involvement with gangs;
- (3) To protect minors from criminal activity that occurs during the curfew hours; and
- (4) To help parents control their minor children.

(B) *Definitions.* For the purpose of this section, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

***EMERGENCY ERRAND.*** A task that if not completed promptly threatens the health, safety, or comfort of the minor or a member of the minor's household. The term shall include, but shall not be limited to, seeking urgent medical treatment, seeking urgent assistance from law enforcement or fire department personnel, and seeking shelter from the elements or urgent assistance from a utility company due to a natural or human-made calamity.

***OFFICIAL CITY TIME.*** The time of day as determined by reference to the master clock used by the Police Department.

***PLACES OF AMUSEMENT, ENTERTAINMENT OR REFRESHMENT.*** Those places that include, but are not limited to, movie theaters, pinball arcades, shopping malls, nightclubs catering to minors, restaurants, and pool halls.

***PRIMARY CARE or PRIMARY CUSTODY.*** The person who is responsible for providing food, clothing, shelter, and other basic necessities to the minor. The person providing primary care or custody to the minor shall not be another minor.

***SCHOOL ACTIVITY.*** An event which has been placed on a school calendar by public or parochial school authorities as a school sanctioned event.

(C) *Hours.*

(1) *Minors under the age of 16 years.* No minor under the age of 16 years shall be in or upon the public streets, alleys, parks, playgrounds or other public grounds, public places, public buildings; nor in or upon places of amusement, entertainment or refreshment; nor in or upon any vacant lot, between the hours of 10:30 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. the following day, official city time.

(2) *Minors ages 16 years to 18 years.* No minor of the ages of 16 or 17 years shall be in or upon the public streets, alleys, parks, playgrounds or other public grounds, public places, public buildings; nor in or upon places of amusement, entertainment or refreshment; nor in or upon any vacant lot, between the hours of 12:00 midnight and 5:00 a.m. the following day, official city time.

(D) *Effect on control by adult responsible for minor.* Nothing in this section shall be construed to give a minor the right to stay out until the curfew hours designated in this section if otherwise directed by a parent, guardian, or other adult person having the primary care and custody of the minor; nor shall this section be construed to diminish or impair the control of the adult person having the primary care or custody of the minor.

(E) *Exceptions.* The provisions of this section shall not apply in the following situations:

(1) To a minor accompanied by his or her parent or guardian, or other adult person having the primary care and custody of the minor.

(2) To a minor who is upon an emergency errand at the direction of his or her parent, guardian, or other adult person having the primary care and custody of the minor.

(3) To a minor who is in any of the places described in this section if in connection with or as required by an employer engaged in a lawful business, trade, profession, or occupation; or to a minor traveling directly to or from the location of the business, trade, profession or occupation and the minor's residence. Minors who fall within the scope of this exception shall carry written proof of employment and proof of the hours the employer requires the minor's presence at work.

(4) To a minor who is participating in or traveling directly to or from an event which has been officially designated as a school activity by public or parochial school authorities; or who is participating

in or traveling directly to or from an official activity supervised by adults and sponsored by the city, a civic organization, school, religious institution, or similar entity that takes responsibility for the minor and with the permission of the minor's parent, guardian, or other adult person having the primary care and custody of the minor.

(5) To a minor who is passing through the city in the course of interstate travel during the hours of curfew.

(6) To a minor who is attending or traveling directly to or from an activity involving the exercise of First Amendment rights of free speech, freedom of assembly, or freedom of religion.

(7) To minors on the sidewalk abutting his or her residence or abutting the residence of a next-door neighbor if the neighbor does not complain to the city's designated law enforcement provider about the minor's presence.

(8) To a minor who is married or has been married, or is otherwise legally emancipated.

(F) *Duties of person legally responsible for minor.* No parent, guardian, or other adult having the primary care or custody of any minor shall permit any violation of the requirements of this section by the minor.

(G) *Duties of other persons.* No person operating or in charge of any place of amusement, entertainment, or refreshment shall permit any minor to enter or remain in his or her place of business during the hours prohibited by this section unless the minor is accompanied by his or her parent, guardian or other adult person having primary care or custody of the minor, or unless one of the exceptions to this section applies.

(H) *Defense.* It shall be a defense to prosecution under this section that the owner, operator, or employee of an establishment promptly notified the city's designated law enforcement provider that a minor was present on the premises of the establishment during curfew hours and refused to leave. Penalty, see § 10.99

## § 130.02 LOITERING.

(A) A person commits a violation if he or she loiters or prowls in a place, at a time, or in a manner not usual for law-abiding individuals under circumstances that warrant alarm for the safety of persons or property in the vicinity. Among the circumstances which may be considered in determining whether alarm is warranted is the fact that the person takes flight upon appearance of a police officer, refuses to identify himself or herself, or manifestly endeavors to conceal himself or herself or any object. Unless flight by the person or other circumstances makes it impractical, a police officer shall, prior to any arrest for an offense under this section, afford the person an opportunity to dispel any alarm which would otherwise be warranted, by requesting the person to identify himself or herself and to explain his or her presence or conduct. No person shall be convicted of an offense under this section if the police officer did not comply with the preceding sentence, or if it appears at trial that the explanation given by the

person was true and, if it had been believed by the police officer at the time, would have dispelled the alarm. Any police officer may arrest any person suspected of being a loiterer or prowler without a warrant if it reasonably appears that the delay in arresting the suspect caused by obtaining a warrant would result in the suspect's escape.

(B) It shall be unlawful for any person, after first being warned by a police officer, or where a "no loitering" sign or signs have been posted, to loiter, stand, sit, or lie in or upon any public or quasi-public sidewalk, street, curb, cross-walk, walkway area, mall or that portion of private property utilized for public use, so as to hinder or obstruct unreasonably the free passage of pedestrians or vehicles thereon. It shall be unlawful for any person to block, obstruct, or prevent free access to the entrance to any building open to the public.

(C) For the purpose of this section, **PUBLIC PLACE** has the following definition unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning: an area generally visible to public view, including streets, sidewalks, bridges, alleys, plazas, parks, driveways, parking lots, automobiles (whether moving or not), and buildings open to the general public, including those which serve food or drink or provide entertainment, and the doorways and entrances to buildings or dwellings and the grounds enclosing them. Penalty, see § 10.99

### § 130.03 EXPLOSIVES.

It shall be unlawful for any person, persons or copartnership to keep any explosives within the city, except under the conditions following: any person, persons, copartnership wishing to keep explosives of any kind for sale or otherwise within the city shall notify the Chief of the Fire Department of the city, whose duty it shall be to consult the person with reference to the best means and place to keep the explosives without danger to the live or property of any person, which Chief shall designate a place suitable for the explosive to be kept and keep a record of the same posted in the engine house where the same can be read, so that, in case of fire, the loss of life and property can be guarded against. (Ord. 15, passed 5-29-1901) Penalty, see § 10.99

### § 130.04 DISORDERLY CONDUCT, NOISE AND THE LIKE.

(A) It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to engage in any disorderly conduct, riot, quarrel or tumultuous assembly, with intent to injure or disturb the good order and public peace of the city within the corporate limits thereof, either upon the public grounds or within any public or private buildings or dwellings.

(B) It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to disturb, interrupt or disquiet any assemblage of people at any picnic or other public gathering.

(C) No person or persons shall disturb any religious meeting, by uttering any profane discourse, committing any rude or indecent act or make any unnecessary noise either within the place where the meeting is held or so near to it so as to disturb the order and solemnity of the meeting.  
(Ord. 7, passed 5-29-1901) Penalty, see § 10.99

**§ 130.05 FIREARMS AND DANGEROUS WEAPONS.**

It shall be unlawful for any minor person to carry or use any pistol, shot gun, rifle, revolver or other firearm of any kind or character, and the carrying and use thereof by any minor person within the corporate limits of the city is hereby declared to be unlawful and is prohibited.  
(Ord. 4, passed 5-29-1901) Penalty, see § 10.99

