

TITLE 11

MUNICIPAL OFFENSES¹

CHAPTER

1. MISDEMEANORS OF THE STATE ADOPTED.
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CHAPTER 1

MISDEMEANORS OF THE STATE ADOPTED

SECTION

11-101. Misdemeanors of the state adopted.

11-101. Misdemeanors of the state² adopted. All offenses against the State of Tennessee which are committed within the corporate limits and which are defined by the state law or are recognized by the Common Law to be misdemeanors are hereby designated and declared to be offenses against this city also. Any violation of any such law within the corporate limits is also a violation of this section. (1977 Code, § 10-101)

¹Municipal code references

Animals and fowls: title 10.

Housing and utilities: title 12.

Fireworks and explosives: title 7.

Traffic offenses: title 15.

Streets and sidewalks (non-traffic): title 16.

²State law reference

For the definition of "misdemeanor," see Tennessee Code Annotated, sections 39-11-110 and 39-11-111.

CHAPTER 2

ALCOHOL¹

SECTION

11-201. Public drunkenness.

11-202. Drinking alcoholic beverages in public, etc.

11-201. Public drunkenness. See Tennessee Code Annotated, section 39-17-310; see also title 33, chapter 8. (1977 Code, § 10-228)

11-202. Drinking alcoholic beverages in public, etc. It shall be unlawful for any person to drink, consume or have an open can or bottle of beer or intoxicating liquor in or on any public street, alley, avenue, highway, sidewalk, public park, public school ground or other public place unless the place has a beer permit and license for on premise consumption. (1977 Code, § 10-229)

¹Municipal code reference

Sale of alcoholic beverages, including beer: title 8.

State law reference

See Tennessee Code Annotated section 33-8-203 (Arrest for Public Intoxication, cities may not pass separate legislation).

CHAPTER 3

GAMBLING, FORTUNE TELLING, ETC.

SECTION

11-301. Gambling.

11-302. Fortune telling, etc.

11-301. Gambling. See Tennessee Code Annotated, section 39-17-501, et seq. (1977 Code, §§ 10-215 and 10-216, modified)

11-302. Fortune telling, etc. It shall be unlawful for any person to hold himself forth to the public as a fortune teller, clairvoyant, hypnotist, spiritualist, palmist, phrenologist, or other mystic endowed with supernatural powers. (1977 Code, § 10-235)

CHAPTER 4

OFFENSES AGAINST THE PERSON

SECTION

11-401. Assault and battery.

11-402. Coercing people not to work.

11-401. Assault and battery. It shall be unlawful for any person to commit an assault or an assault and battery upon another person. (1977 Code, § 10-201)

11-402. Coercing people not to work. It shall be unlawful for any person in association or agreement with any other person to assemble, congregate, or meet together in the vicinity of any premises where other persons are employed or reside for the purpose of inducing any such other person by threats, coercion, intimidation, or acts of violence to quit or refrain from entering a place of lawful employment. It is expressly not the purpose of this section to prohibit peaceful picketing. (1977 Code, § 10-231)

CHAPTER 5

OFFENSES AGAINST THE PEACE AND QUIET

SECTION

11-501. Disturbing the peace.

11-502. Anti-noise regulations.

11-501. Disturbing the peace. No person shall disturb, tend to disturb, or aid in disturbing the peace of others by violent, tumultuous, offensive, or obstreperous conduct, and no person shall knowingly permit such conduct upon any premises owned or possessed by him or under his control. (1977 Code, § 10-202)

11-502. Anti-noise regulations. Subject to the provisions of this section, the creating of any unreasonably loud, disturbing, and unnecessary noise is prohibited. Noise of such character, intensity, or duration as to be detrimental to the life or health of any individual, or in disturbance of the public peace and welfare, is prohibited.

(1) Miscellaneous prohibited noises enumerated. The following acts, among others, are declared to be loud, disturbing, and unnecessary noises in violation of this section, but this enumeration shall not be deemed to be exclusive, namely:

(a) Blowing horns. The sounding of any horn or other device on any automobile, motorcycle, bus, truck, or vehicle while not in motion except as a danger signal if another vehicle is approaching, apparently out of control, or if in motion, only as a danger signal after or as brakes are being applied and deceleration of the vehicle is intended; the creation by means of any such signal device of any unreasonably loud or harsh sound; and the sounding of such device for an unnecessary and unreasonable period of time.

(b) Radios, phonographs, etc. The playing of any radio, phonograph, or any musical instrument or sound device, including but not limited to loudspeakers or other devices for reproduction or amplification of sound, either independently of or in connection with motion pictures, radio, or television, in such a manner or with such volume, particularly during the hours between 11:00 P.M. and 7:00 A.M., as to annoy or disturb the quiet, comfort, or repose of person in any office or hospital, or in any dwelling, hotel, or other type of residence, or of any person in the vicinity.

(c) Yelling, shouting, etc. Yelling, shouting, whistling, or singing on the public streets, particularly between the hours of 11:00 P.M. and 7:00 A.M., or at any time or place so as to annoy or disturb the

quiet, comfort, or repose of any person in any hospital, dwelling, hotel, or other type of residence, or of any person in the vicinity.

(d) Pets. The keeping of any animal, bird, or fowl which by causing frequent or long continued noise shall disturb the comfort or repose of any person in the vicinity.

(e) Use of vehicle. The use of any automobile, motorcycle, truck, or vehicle so out of repair, so loaded, or in such manner as to cause loud and unnecessary grating, grinding, rattling, or other noise.

(f) Blowing whistles. The blowing of any steam whistle attached to any stationary boiler, except to give notice of the time to begin or stop work or as a warning of fire or danger, or upon request of proper city authorities.

(g) Exhaust discharge. To discharge into the open air the exhaust of any steam engine, stationary internal combustion engine, motor vehicle, or boat engine, except through a muffler or other device which will effectively prevent loud or explosive noises therefrom.

(h) Building operations. The erection (including excavation), demolition, alteration, or repair of any building in any residential area or section or the construction or repair of streets and highways in any residential area or section, other than between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 6:00 P.M. on week days, except in case of urgent necessity in the interest of public health and safety, and then only with a permit from the building inspector granted for a period while the emergency continues not to exceed thirty (30) days. If the building inspector should determine that the public health and safety will not be impaired by the erection, demolition, alteration, or repair of any building or the excavation of streets and highways between the hours of 6:00 P.M. and 7:00 A.M., and if he shall further determine that loss or inconvenience would result to any party in interest through delay, he may grant permission for such work to be done between the hours of 6:00 P.M. and 7:00 A.M. upon application being made at the time the permit for the work is awarded or during the process of the work.

(i) Noises near schools, hospitals, churches, etc. The creation of any excessive noise on any street adjacent to any hospital or adjacent to any school, institution of learning, church, or court while the same is in session.

(j) Loading and unloading operations. The creation of any loud and excessive noise in connection with the loading or unloading of any vehicle or the opening and destruction of bales, boxes, crates, and other containers.

(k) Noises to attract attention. The use of any drum, loudspeaker, or other instrument or device emitting noise for the purpose of attracting attention to any performance, show, or sale or display of merchandise.

(1) Loudspeakers or amplifiers on vehicles. The use of mechanical loudspeakers or amplifiers on trucks or other moving or standing vehicles for advertising or other purposes.

(2) Exceptions. None of the terms or prohibitions hereof shall apply to or be enforced against:

(a) Municipal vehicles. Any vehicle of the city while engaged upon necessary public business.

(b) Repair of streets, etc. Excavations or repairs of bridges, streets, or highways at night, by or on behalf of the city, the county, or the state, when the public welfare and convenience renders it impracticable to perform such work during the day.

(c) Noncommercial and nonprofit use of loudspeakers or amplifiers. The reasonable use of amplifiers or loudspeakers in the course of public addresses which are noncommercial in character and in the course of advertising functions sponsored by nonprofit organizations. However, no such use shall be made until a permit therefor is secured from the recorder. Hours for the use of an amplified or public address system will be designated in the permit so issued and the use of such systems shall be restricted to the hours so designated in the permit. (1977 Code, § 10-234)

CHAPTER 6

INTERFERENCE WITH PUBLIC OPERATIONS AND PERSONNEL

SECTION

11-601. Escape from custody or confinement.

11-602. Impersonating a government officer or employee.

11-603. Resisting or interfering with an officer.

11-604. False emergency alarms.

11-601. Escape from custody or confinement. It shall be unlawful for any person under arrest or otherwise in custody of or confined by the city to escape or attempt to escape, or for any other person to assist or encourage such person to escape or attempt to escape from such custody or confinement. (1977 Code, § 10-209)

11-602. Impersonating a government officer or employee. No person other than an official police officer of the city shall wear the uniform, apparel, or badge, or carry any identification card or other insignia of office like or similar to, or a colorable imitation of that adopted and worn or carried by the official police officers of the city. Furthermore, no person shall deceitfully impersonate or represent that he is any government officer or employee. (1977 Code, § 10-211)

11-603. Resisting or interfering with an officer. It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly resist or in any way physically interfere with or attempt to physically interfere with any officer or employee of the city while such officer or employee is performing or attempting to perform his municipal duties. (1977 Code, § 10-210, as replaced by Ord. #514, Aug. 1998)

11-604. False emergency alarms. It shall be unlawful for any person to intentionally make, turn in, or give a false alarm of fire, or of need for police or ambulance assistance, or to aid or abet in the commission of such act. (1977 Code, § 10-217)

CHAPTER 7

FIREARMS, WEAPONS AND MISSILES

SECTION

11-701. Throwing missiles.

11-702. Weapons and firearms generally.

11-703. Target practice and the discharge of firearms.

11-701. Throwing missiles. It shall be unlawful for any person maliciously to throw any stone, snowball, bottle, or any other missile upon or at any vehicle, building, tree, or other public or private property or upon or at any person. (1977 Code, § 10-214)

11-702. Weapons and firearms generally. It shall be unlawful for any person to carry in any manner whatever, with the intent to go armed, any razor, dirk, knife, blackjack, brass knucks, pistol, revolver, or any other dangerous weapon or instrument. However, the foregoing prohibition shall not apply to members of the United States Armed Forces carrying such weapons as are prescribed by applicable regulations nor to any officer or policemen engaged in his official duties, in the execution of process, or while searching for or engaged in arresting persons suspected of having committed crimes. Furthermore, the prohibition shall not apply to persons who may have been summoned by such officer or policemen to assist in the discharge of his duties. (1977 Code, § 10-212)

11-703. Target practice and the discharge of firearms. It shall be unlawful to target practice with a firearm without the express written consent of the owner of the property, either public or private, where such target practice occurs. Such written consent shall be on the person of the shooter while shooting. It shall further be unlawful to discharge a firearm on any property, public or private, with or without consent, wherein such discharge endangers adjacent or neighboring property, either public or private, or the owners or tenants thereof. It shall further be unlawful to discharge a firearm on any property, public or private, with or without such written consent, wherein such discharge disturbs or endangers nearby residents or businesses.

For the purposes of this section the term "firearms" shall mean any weapon from which a shot is discharged by force of an explosive or a weapon which acts by force of gunpowder, and shall also include all weapons which expel a projectile by means of the expansion of compressed air and/or carbon dioxide; the term "disturbs" shall mean to create a loud or obnoxious noise; the term "endangers" shall mean to discharge a firearm in a manner that shot or projectiles cross or fall on other properties; and the term "nearby" shall mean any property within six hundred (600) feet of the point of firearm discharge.

This section does not apply to any firing range owned and operated by the city for the benefit of its police department or other agencies. (1977 Code, § 10-213, as amended by Ord. #974, May 2013)

CHAPTER 8

TRESPASSING, MALICIOUS MISCHIEF AND INTERFERENCE WITH TRAFFIC

SECTION

- 11-801. Trespassing.
- 11-802. Malicious mischief.
- 11-803. Interference with traffic.
- 11-804. Trespassing on trains.

11-801. Trespassing.¹ The owner or person in charge of any lot or parcel of land or any building or other structure within the corporate limits may post the same against trespassers. It shall be unlawful for any person to go upon any such posted lot or parcel of land or into any such posted building or other structure without the consent of the owner or person in charge.

It shall also be unlawful and deemed to be a trespass for any peddler, canvasser, solicitor, transient merchant, or other person to fail to promptly leave the private premises of any person who requests or directs him to leave. (1977 Code, § 10-226)

11-802. Malicious mischief. It shall be unlawful and deemed to be malicious mischief for any person to willfully, maliciously, or wantonly damage, deface, destroy, conceal, tamper with, remove, or withhold real or personal property which does not belong to him. (1977 Code, § 10-225)

11-803. Interference with traffic. It shall be unlawful for any person to stand, sit, or engage in any activity whatever on any public street, sidewalk, bridge, or public ground in such a manner as to prevent, obstruct, or interfere with the free passage of pedestrian or vehicular traffic thereon. (1977 Code, § 10-233)

11-804. Trespassing on trains. It shall be unlawful for any person to climb, jump, step, stand upon, or cling to, or in any other way attach himself to any locomotive engine or railroad car unless he works for the railroad corporation and is acting in the scope of his employment or unless he is a lawful passenger or is otherwise lawfully entitled to be on such vehicle. (1977 Code, § 10-221)

¹State law reference
Tennessee Code Annotated, section 39-14-405.

CHAPTER 9

OFFENSES AGAINST THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, WELFARE

SECTION

11-901. Abandoned refrigerators, etc.

11-902. Caves, wells, cisterns, etc.

11-903. Posting notices, etc.

11-904. Spitting.

11-905. Curfew for minors.

11-906. Smoking.

11-907. Camping on city property.

11-901. Abandoned refrigerators, etc. It shall be unlawful for any person to leave in any place accessible to children any abandoned, unattended, unused, or discarded refrigerator, icebox, or other container with any type latching or locking door without first removing therefrom the latch, lock, or door. (1977 Code, § 10-223)

11-902. Caves, wells, cisterns, etc. It shall be unlawful for any person to permit to be maintained on property owned or occupied by him any cave, well, cistern, or other such opening in the ground which is dangerous to life and limb without an adequate cover or safeguard. (1977 Code, § 10-232)

11-903. Posting notices, etc. No person shall paint, make, or fasten, in any way, any show-card, poster, or other advertising device or sign upon any public or private property unless legally authorized to do so. (1977 Code, § 10-227)

11-904. Spitting. It shall be unlawful for any person to spit upon any public street or sidewalk or upon the floors or walks of any public place. (1977 Code, § 10-230)

11-905. Curfew for minors. It shall be unlawful for any minor, under the age of eighteen (18) years, to be abroad at night after 11:00 p.m. unless upon a legitimate errand for, or accompanied by, a parent, guardian, or other adult person having lawful custody of such minor. (1977 Code, § 10-224)

11-906. Smoking. Smoking shall be prohibited in all pavilions and playgrounds located within city-owned parks. (as added by Ord. #976, June 2013)

11-907. Camping on city property. (1) "Camping" means the erection or use of temporary structures such as tents, tarps, and other temporary shelters

for living accommodation activities such as sleeping, or making preparations to sleep. "Camping" includes, but is not limited to, the laying down of bedding for the purpose of sleeping, storing personal belongings, making any fire, doing any digging or earth breaking or carrying on cooking activities, whether by fire or use of artificial means such as a propane stove or other heat-producing portable cooking equipment.

(2) It is unlawful for a person to engage in the activity of camping on property owned, operated, leased, or controlled by the city that is not specifically designated for use as a camping area by the city, including but not limited to: any public right-of-way (including public sidewalks), public walking trails, public parks, unless issued a valid and current permit as provided herein.

(3) The city manager, or his/her designee, may issue a permit for camping as provided under this section when, from a consideration of the application, and such other information as may otherwise be required and/or obtained, he or she finds that:

(a) Adequate sanitary facilities are provided and accessible at or near the proposed campsite;

(b) Adequate trash receptacles and trash collection are provided; and

(c) The camping activity will not unreasonably disturb or interfere with the safety, peace, comfort and repose of private property owners or the general public.

(d) The organization granted a permit has insurance coverage in an amount satisfactory to the city manager and can provide adequate proof of the same.

Permits may only be issued to Boy Scout, Girl Scout, church or civic youth organizations or other organizations determined by the city manager or his/her designee to be of a similar nature.

(4) The city manager, or his/her designee, is authorized to revoke or refuse to issue a permit that has been issued if he or she finds lack of current or past compliance with any of the requirements of this section, or of any rule or regulation promulgated in of any ordinance or statute. (as added by Ord. #1100, July 2021 *Ch8_07-19-21*)