

TITLE 11

MUNICIPAL OFFENSES¹

CHAPTER

1. ALCOHOL.
2. OFFENSES AGAINST THE PERSON.
3. GAMBLING, FORTUNE TELLING, ETC.
4. INTERFERENCE WITH PUBLIC OPERATIONS AND PERSONNEL.
5. FIREARMS, WEAPONS AND MISSILES.
6. TRESPASSING, ETC.
7. DANGEROUS CONDITIONS ON PROPERTY.
8. OFFENSES AGAINST THE PEACE AND QUIET.

CHAPTER 1

ALCOHOL²

SECTION

- 11-101. Drinking alcoholic beverages in public, etc.
 11-102. Minors in beer places.

11-101. 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, theater, auditorium, stadium, baseball park, or other public place unless the place has an appropriate permit and/or license for on premises consumption. (1983 Code, § 10-228)

¹Municipal code references

- Animals and fowls: title 10.
- Housing and utilities: title 12.
- Fireworks and explosives: title 7.
- Health and sanitation: title 13.
- Traffic offenses: title 15.
- Streets and sidewalks (non-traffic): title 16.

²Municipal 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).

11-102. Minors in beer places. No person under the age of twenty-one (21) shall loiter in or around or otherwise frequent any place where beer is sold at retail for on premises consumption. (1983 Code, § 10-222, modified)

CHAPTER 2

OFFENSES AGAINST THE PERSON

SECTION

11-201. Assault and battery.

11-202. Coercing people not to work.

11-201. Assault and battery. It shall be unlawful for any person to commit an assault or an assault and battery upon any person. (1983 Code, § 10-201)

11-202. 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 expressly is not the purpose of this section to prohibit peaceful picketing. (1983 Code, § 10-229)

CHAPTER 3

GAMBLING, FORTUNE TELLING, ETC.

SECTION

11-301. Fortune telling, etc.

11-301. 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. (1983 Code, § 10-233)

CHAPTER 4

INTERFERENCE WITH PUBLIC OPERATIONS AND PERSONNEL

SECTION

11-401. Escape from custody or confinement.

11-402. Impersonating a government officer or employee.

11-403. Resisting or interfering with town personnel.

11-404. False emergency alarms.

11-401. Escape from custody or confinement. It shall be unlawful for any person under arrest or otherwise in custody of or confined by the municipality 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. (1983 Code, § 10-209)

11-402. Impersonating a government officer or employee. No person other than an official police officer of the municipality 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 municipality. Furthermore, no person shall deceitfully impersonate or represent that he is any government officer or employee. (1983 Code, § 10-211)

11-403. Resisting or interfering with town personnel. It shall be unlawful for any person knowingly to resist or in any way interfere with or attempt to interfere with any officer or employee of the municipality while such officer or employee is performing or attempting to perform his municipal duties. (1983 Code, § 10-210)

11-404. 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. (1983 Code, § 10-217)

CHAPTER 5

FIREARMS, WEAPONS AND MISSILES

SECTION

11-501. Air rifles, etc.

11-502. Throwing missiles.

11-503. Weapons and firearms generally.

11-501. Air rifles, etc. It shall be unlawful for any person in the municipality to discharge any air gun, air pistol, air rifle, "BB" gun, or sling shot capable of discharging a bullet or pellet, made of metal, plastic or any other kind of material, whether propelled by spring, compressed air, expanding gas, explosive, or other force-producing means or method. (1983 Code, § 10-213)

11-502. 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. (1983 Code, § 10-214)

11-503. 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. (1983 Code, § 10-212, modified)

CHAPTER 6

TRESPASSING, ETC.

SECTION

- 11-601. Trespassing.
- 11-602. Trespassing on trains.
- 11-603. Malicious mischief.
- 11-604. Wearing masks.
- 11-605. Blocking private parking lots.

11-601. Trespassing. 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 leave promptly the private premises of any person who requests or directs him to leave. (1983 Code, § 10-226)

11-602. 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. (1983 Code, § 10-221)

11-603. 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. (1983 Code, § 10-225)

11-604. Wearing masks. It shall be unlawful for any person to appear on or in any public way or place while wearing any mask, device, or hood whereby any portion of the face is so hidden or covered as to conceal the identity of the wearer. The following are exempted from the provisions of this section:

- (1) Children under the age of ten (10) years.
- (2) Workers while engaged in work wherein a face covering is necessary for health and/or safety reasons.
- (3) Persons wearing gas masks in civil defense drills and exercises or emergencies.

(4) Any person having a special permit issued by the city recorder to wear a traditional holiday costume. (1983 Code, § 10-234)

11-605. Blocking private parking lots. It shall be unlawful for any person to enter within or park any motor vehicle inside the bounds of any privately owned parking lot or facility without the express permission of the owner, or to obstruct in any manner or means the entrance to or the exit from the parking lot where the entrance and exit abuts the public street. (1983 Code, § 10-235)

CHAPTER 7

DANGEROUS CONDITIONS ON PROPERTY

SECTION

11-701. Abandoned refrigerators, etc.

11-702. Caves, wells, cisterns, etc.

11-701. 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. (1983 Code, § 10-223)

11-702. 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 placing thereon an adequate cover or safeguard. (1983 Code, § 10-230)

CHAPTER 8

OFFENSES AGAINST THE PEACE AND QUIET

SECTION

11-801. Disturbing the peace.

11-802. Anti-noise regulations.

11-801. 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. (1983 Code, § 10-202)

11-802. 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 signal device on any automobile, motorcycle, bus, truck, or other 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 persons 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 persons 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 municipal 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 municipality 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 municipality, 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 amplifier 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. (1983 Code, § 10-232)