

TITLE 11

MUNICIPAL OFFENSES

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CHAPTER 1

GENERALLY¹

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

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.

²State law reference

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

town also. Any violation of any such law within the corporate limits is also a violation of this section. (1985 Code, § 10-101)

CHAPTER 2

ALCOHOL

SECTION

11-201. Drinking alcoholic beverages on streets, etc.

11-201. Drinking alcoholic beverages on streets, etc. It shall be unlawful for any person to drink or consume, or have an open can or bottle of beer 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 premises consumption. (1985 Code, § 10-202)

CHAPTER 3

AGAINST THE PERSON

SECTION

11-301. Assault and battery.

11-302. Coercing people not to work.

11-301. Assault and battery. It shall be unlawful for any person to commit an assault and battery upon another person. (1985 Code, § 10-301)

11-302. 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 the section to prohibit peaceful picketing. (1985 Code, § 10-302)

CHAPTER 4

FORTUNE TELLING, ETC.

SECTION

11-401. Fortune telling, etc.

11-401. 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. (1985 Code, § 10-403)

CHAPTER 5

FIREARMS, WEAPONS AND MISSILES

SECTION

11-501. Weapons and firearms generally.

11-502. Air rifles, etc.

11-503. Throwing missiles.

11-501. 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. It shall also be unlawful for any unauthorized person to discharge a firearm within the town. (1985 Code, § 10-501)

11-502. Air rifles, etc. It shall be unlawful for any person in the town to discharge any air gun, air pistol, air rifle, "BB" gun, or sling shot capable of discharging a metal bullet or pellet, whether propelled by spring, compressed air, expanding gas, explosive, or other force-producing means or method. (1985 Code, § 10-502)

11-503. Throwing missiles. It shall be unlawful for any person to maliciously 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. (1985 Code, § 10-503)

CHAPTER 6

OBSCENITY, MORALS

SECTION

11-601. Disorderly houses.

11-602. Immoral conduct.

11-603. Obscene literature, etc.

11-604. Indecent or improper exposure or dress.

11-601. Disorderly houses. It shall be unlawful for any person to keep a disorderly house or house of ill fame for the purpose of prostitution or lewdness or where drunkenness, quarrelling, fighting, or other breaches of the peace are carried out to the disturbance of others. Furthermore, it shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly visit any such house. (1985 Code, § 10-601)

11-602. Immoral conduct. No person shall commit, offer, or agree to commit, nor shall any person secure or offer another for the purpose of committing, a lewd or adulterous act or any act of prostitution or moral perversion; nor shall any person knowingly transport or direct or offer to transport or direct any person to any place or building for the purpose of committing any lewd act or act of prostitution or moral perversion; nor shall any person knowingly receive, or offer or agree to receive any person into any place or building for the purpose of performing a lewd act or an act of prostitution or moral perversion, or knowingly permit any person to remain in any place or building for any such purpose. (1985 Code, § 10-602)

11-603. Obscene literature, etc. It shall be unlawful for any person to publish, sell, exhibit, distribute, or possess for the purpose of loaning, selling or otherwise circulating or exhibiting, any book, pamphlet, ballad, movie film, filmstrip, phonograph record, or other written, printed, or filmed matter containing obscene language, prints, pictures, or descriptions manifestly intended to corrupt the morals. (1985 Code, § 10-603)

11-604. Indecent or improper exposure or dress. It shall be unlawful for any person to publicly appear naked, or to otherwise make any indecent exposure of his or her person. (1985 Code, § 10-604, modified)

CHAPTER 7

INTERFERENCE WITH PUBLIC OPERATIONS AND PERSONNEL

SECTION

11-701. Escape from custody or confinement.

11-702. Resisting or interfering with an officer.

11-703. Impersonating a government officer or employee.

11-704. Interfering with traffic.

11-705. False emergency alarms.

11-701. Escape from custody or confinement. It shall be unlawful for any person under arrest or otherwise in custody of or confined by the town 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. (1985 Code, § 10-701)

11-702. Resisting or interfering with an officer. It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly resist or in any way interfere with or attempt to interfere with any officer or employee of the town while such officer or employee is performing or attempting to perform his municipal duties. (1985 Code, § 10-702)

11-703. Impersonating a government officer or employee. No person other than an official police officer of the town 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 town. Furthermore no person shall deceitfully impersonate or represent that he is any other government officer or employee. (1985 Code, § 10-703)

11-704. Interfering 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 unreasonably prevent, obstruct, or interfere with the free passage of pedestrian or vehicular traffic thereon. (1985 Code, § 10-704)

11-705. 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 an act. (1985 Code, § 10-705)

CHAPTER 8

TRESPASSING

SECTION

11-801. Trespassing.

11-802. Malicious mischief.

11-801. 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 promptly leave the private premises of any person who requests or directs him to leave.¹ (1985 Code, § 10-801)

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. (1985 Code, § 10-802)

¹Municipal code reference
Peddlers, etc.: title 9, chapter 1.

CHAPTER 9

DANGEROUS CONDITIONS ON PROPERTY; POSTING NOTICES

SECTION

11-901. Abandoned refrigerators, etc.

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

11-903. Posting notices, etc.

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. (1985 Code, § 10-901)

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. (1985 Code, § 10-902)

11-903. Posting notices, etc. No person shall fasten, in any way, any show-card, poster, or other advertising device upon any public or private property unless legally authorized to do so. (1985 Code, § 10-903)

CHAPTER 10

AGAINST THE PEACE AND QUIET

SECTION

11-1001. Disturbing the peace.

11-1002. Anti-noise regulations.

11-1001. 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. (1985 Code, § 10-1001)

11-1002. 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 loud-speakers 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, hooting, etc. Yelling, shouting, hooting, whistling, or singing on the public streets, particularly between the hours of 11:00 P.M. and 7:00 A.M. or 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 town 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 town, 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. (1985 Code, § 10-1002)

CHAPTER 11

MINORS

SECTION

11-1101. Curfew for minors.

11-1102. Minors in beer places.

11-1101. Curfew for minors. It shall be unlawful for any minor, under the age of eighteen (18) years, to be abroad at night between 11:00 P.M. and 5:00 A.M. unless going directly to or from a lawful activity or upon a legitimate errand for, or accompanied by, a parent, guardian, or other adult person having legal custody of such minor. (1985 Code, § 10-1101)

11-1102. Minors in beer places.¹ No minors under twenty-one (21) years of age shall loiter in or around, or otherwise frequent any place where beer is sold at retail for consumption on the premises. (1985 Code, § 10-1102)

¹Municipal code reference

Beer in the town: title 8, chapter 2.

Public drunkenness: 11-201.