

STOKES COUNTY NOISE ORDINANCE

SECTION I: PROHIBITED ACTS

A. The creation or allowance of any unreasonably loud and/or disturbing noise which serves no lawful purpose within the boundaries of Stokes County is hereby prohibited. Noise of such character, intensity and duration so as to be detrimental to the health, safety or welfare of any individual with reasonable sensitivities to sound is hereby prohibited.

B. The following acts or noises, among others, are declared to be unreasonably loud and/or disturbing noises which serve no lawful purpose in violation of this Ordinance; however, such enumeration shall not be deemed to be exclusive.

(1) Any loud, boisterous or raucous language or shouting which annoys or disturbs the quiet or comfort of any person with reasonable sensitivities to sound in the vicinity.

(2) The sounding of any horn, siren or signal device on any vehicle for a continuous, sustained or intermittent period of time except as a danger signal.

(3) The use of any vehicle so out of repair or in a manner other than its intended use so as to create loud noise which would not be created if the vehicle was in proper repair and used in the manner in which it was intended to be used by the manufacturer.

(4) The playing or operation of any radio, phonograph, stereo system, sound system or any musical instrument between the hours of 12:01 A.M. and 7:00 A.M. which is heard by any on-duty law enforcement officer within any dwelling, hotel, or other residence in which all doors and windows are closed.

(5) The keeping of any animal which, by causing frequent or long continued noise, shall disturb the peace and comfort of any person with reasonable sensitivities to sound in the vicinity.

(6) The making of any loud noise, the sole purpose of which is to harass or annoy another person.

SECTION II: ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES

A. Before any person shall be cited with a violation of this Ordinance, said person shall first receive an oral warning from an on-duty law enforcement officer to cease or abate the noise complained of. If the oral warning is not complied with, said person may be issued a citation for violation of this Ordinance by said law enforcement officer at any time within 30 days after the oral warning was received.

B. Any person cited for violating this Ordinance shall pay a civil penalty of \$100.00 for each violation. Each day that a violation of this Ordinance continues shall be considered a separate violation.

C. Citations shall be issued on a form as shown on the attached Exhibit A. If the civil penalty is not paid within 30 days after service of the citation upon the violator, then the County of Stokes may file a civil action against the violator, in which case the violator shall be liable for court costs and reasonable attorney fees in connection therewith.

D. In addition to the penalties provided in Section II B and C, violations of this Ordinance may be enjoined by civil action in Stokes County District Court by the County of Stokes and/or any person injured by said violation. Any person found in violation of this Ordinance and enjoined from further violation shall be taxed with Court costs including reasonable attorney fees incurred by the plaintiff.

Adopted this 3rd day of January, 1994.

Robert Q. Robertson

CHAIRMAN OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST:

Kimberly J. McClauderty
DEPUTY CLERK TO BOARD

