

CHAPTER 46

MINORS

46.01 Curfew

46.02 Cigarettes and Tobacco

46.03 Contributing to Delinquency

46.01 CURFEW. The Council has determined that a curfew for minors is necessary to promote the public health, safety, morals and general welfare of the City and specifically to reinforce the primary authority and responsibility of adults responsible for minors; to protect the public from the illegal acts of minors committed after the curfew hour; and to protect minors from improper influences and criminal activity that prevail in public places after the curfew hour.

1. Definitions. For use in this section, the following terms are defined:
 - A. "Emergency errand" means, but is not limited to, an errand relating to a fire, a natural disaster, an automobile accident or any other situation requiring immediate action to prevent serious illness, bodily injury or loss of life.
 - B. "Knowingly" means knowledge which a responsible adult should reasonably be expected to have concerning the whereabouts of a minor in that responsible adult's custody. It is intended to continue to hold the neglectful or careless adult responsible for a minor to a reasonable standard of adult responsibility through an objective test. It is therefore no defense that an adult responsible for a minor was completely indifferent to the activities or conduct or whereabouts of the minor.
 - C. "Minor" means any unemancipated person under the age of eighteen (18) years.
 - D. "Nonsecured custody" means custody in an unlocked multipurpose area, such as a lobby, office or interrogation room which is not designed, set aside or used as a secure detention area, and the person arrested is not physically secured during the period of custody in the area; the person is physically accompanied by a law enforcement officer or a person employed by the facility where the person arrested is being held; and the use of the area is limited to providing nonsecured custody only while awaiting transfer to an appropriate juvenile facility or to court, for contacting of and release to the person's parents or other responsible adult or for other administrative purposes; but not for longer than six (6) hours without the oral or written order of a judge or magistrate authorizing the detention. A judge shall not extend the period of time in excess of six hours beyond the initial six-hour period.
 - E. "Public place" includes stores, parking lots, parks, playgrounds, streets, alleys and sidewalks dedicated to public use; and also includes such parts of buildings and other premises whether publicly or privately owned which are used by the general public or to which the general public is invited

commercially for a fee or otherwise; or in or on which the general public is permitted without specific invitation; or to which the general public has access. For purposes of this section, a vehicle or other conveyance is considered to be a public place when in the areas defined above.

F. “Responsible adult” means a parent, guardian or other adult specifically authorized by law or authorized by a parent or guardian to have custody or control of a minor.

G. “Unemancipated” means unmarried or still under the custody or control of a responsible adult.

2. Curfew Established. A curfew applicable to minors is established and shall be enforced as follows:

A. No minor fifteen (15) years of age and under shall remain in or upon any public places in the City between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. of the following day.

B. No minor age sixteen (16) or seventeen (17) shall remain in or upon any public place in the City between the hours of 12:30 a.m. and 5:00 a.m..

3. Exceptions. The following are exceptions to the curfew:

A. The minor is accompanied by a responsible adult.

B. The minor is on the sidewalk or property where the minor resides or on either side of the place where the minor resides and the adult responsible for the minor has given permission for the minor to be there.

C. The minor is present at or is traveling between home and one of the following:

(1) Minor’s place of employment in a business, trade or occupation in which the minor is permitted by law to be engaged or, if traveling, within one hour after the end or before the beginning of work;

(2) Minor’s place of religious activity or, if traveling, within one hour after the end or before the beginning of the religious activity;

(3) Governmental or political activity or, if traveling, within one hour after the end or before the beginning of the activity;

(4) School activity or, if traveling, within one hour after the end or before the beginning of the activity;

(5) Assembly such as a march, protest, demonstration, sit-in or meeting of an association for the advancement of economic, political, religious or cultural matters, or for any other activity protected by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution guarantees of free exercise of religion, freedom of speech, freedom of assembly or, if traveling, within one hour after the end or before the beginning of the activity.

D. The minor is on an emergency errand for a responsible adult;

E. The minor is engaged in interstate travel through the City beginning, ending or passing through the City when such travel is by direct route.

4. Responsibility of Adults. It is unlawful for any responsible adult knowingly to permit or to allow a minor to be in any public place in the City within the time periods prohibited by this section unless the minor's presence falls within one of the above exceptions.
5. Enforcement Procedures.
 - A. Determination of Age. In determining the age of the juvenile and in the absence of convincing evidence such as a birth certificate or driver's license, a law enforcement officer on the street shall, in the first instance, use his or her best judgment in determining age.
 - B. Grounds for Arrest; Conditions of Custody. Grounds for arrest are that the person refuses to sign the citation without qualification; persists in violating the ordinance; refuses to provide proper identification or to identify himself or herself; or constitutes an immediate threat to the person's own safety or to the safety of the public. A law enforcement officer who arrests a minor for a curfew violation may keep the minor in custody either in a shelter care facility or in any non-secured setting. The officer shall not place bodily restraints, such as handcuffs, on the minor unless the minor physically resists or threatens physical violence when being taken into custody. A minor shall not be placed in detention following a curfew violation.
 - C. Notification of Responsible Adult. After a minor is taken into custody, the law enforcement officer shall notify the adult responsible for the minor as soon as possible. The minor shall be released to the adult responsible for the minor upon the promise of such person to produce the child in court at such time as the court may direct.
 - D. Minor Without Adult Supervision. If a law enforcement officer determines that a minor does not have adult supervision because the law enforcement officer cannot locate the minor's parent, guardian or other person legally responsible for the care of the minor, within a reasonable time, the law enforcement officer shall attempt to place the minor with an adult relative of the minor, an adult person who cares for the child or another adult person who is known to the child.
6. Penalties.
 - A. Responsible Adult's First Violation. In the case of a first violation by a minor, the law enforcement officer shall, by certified mail, send to the adult responsible for the minor, written notice of the violation with a warning that any subsequent violation will result in full enforcement of the curfew ordinance against both the responsible adult and minor, with applicable penalties.
 - B. Responsible Adult's Second Violation. Any responsible adult as defined in this section who, following receipt of a warning, knowingly allows the minor to violate any of the provisions of this section is guilty of a simple misdemeanor.
 - C. Minor's First Violation. In the case of a first violation by a minor, the law enforcement officer shall give the minor a written warning, which states that any subsequent violation will result in full enforcement of the

curfew ordinance against the responsible adult and the minor, with applicable penalties.

D. Minor's Second Violation. For the minor's second and subsequent violations of any of the provisions of this section, the minor is guilty of a simple misdemeanor.

46.02 CIGARETTES AND TOBACCO. It is unlawful for any person under eighteen (18) years of age to smoke, use, possess, purchase or attempt to purchase any tobacco, tobacco products or cigarettes. Possession of cigarettes or tobacco products by a person under eighteen years of age shall not constitute a violation of this section if said person possesses the cigarettes or tobacco products as part of the person's employment and said person is employed by a person who holds a valid permit under Chapter 453A of the Code of Iowa and lawfully offers for sale or sells cigarettes or tobacco products.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 453A.2)

46.03 CONTRIBUTING TO DELINQUENCY. It is unlawful for any person to encourage any child under eighteen (18) years of age to commit any act of delinquency.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 709A.1)

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