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## ORDINANCE NO.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA, ADDING CHAPTER 1.18 TO THE RIVERSIDE MUNICIPAL CODE ESTABLISHING ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE CITY'S FIREWORKS LAWS AND AMENDING SECTION 1.17.231 OF THE RIVERSIDE MUNICIPAL CODE.

The City Council of the City of Riverside does ordain as follows:

<u>Section 1</u>: In enacting this ordinance, the City Council finds and takes legislative notice as follows:

- 1. That the Fire Chief has determined that the use, storage, and disposal of fireworks have reached critical proportions in the City of Riverside, thereby, endangering the public safety of its citizens.
- 2. That the use of illegal fireworks in the City is an immediate public peace, health, and safety concern.
- 3. That between July 1, 2015 and July 5, 2015, the Riverside Fire and Police Departments teamed up for citywide patrols to respond to fireworks-related calls. Officers responded to 205 calls and confiscated 620 pounds of fireworks.
- 4. That between July 1, 2016 and July 14, 2016, Riverside Fire and Police Department personnel investigated 160 fireworks incidents and confiscated approximately 800 pounds of fireworks.
- 5. That although fascinating to many children and adults, fireworks can be extremely dangerous. According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission's June 2015 annual death and injury report on fireworks, approximately 35 percent of fireworks injuries in 2014 occurred to children younger than 15 years of age.
- 6. That fireworks are often stored without safety precautions in residential neighborhoods.
- 7. That fireworks can be disassembled for the explosive powder they contain to make bombs and other explosive devices.
- 8. That fireworks often come from countries where safety regulations for making fireworks are not as stringent as those for fireworks manufactured in the United States.
- 9. That immediate action is needed to increase the penalties for the use and storage of fireworks in the City to deter illegal activities and preserve the public peace, health, safety, and welfare.
- 10. That the imposition of an administrative citation to any person constitutes but one remedy of the City to redress violations of the City's fireworks prohibition. By adopting this ordinance, the City does not intent to limit its authority to employ any other remedy, civil or criminal, to redress any violation of this ordinance which the City may otherwise pursue.
- 11. That fines collected pursuant to this chapter related to "dangerous fireworks" shall be subject to Health and Safety Code Section 12726, which section currently provides that 65 percent of all administrative fines or penalties collected by the City shall be forwarded to the Controller of the State of California for deposit in the State Fire Marshal Fireworks Enforcement and

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G. "Pyrotechnic special effects material" means a low explosive material, other than detonating cord, commonly used in motion picture, television, theatrical or group entertainment production for which a permit from the Chief is required for use or storage.

## 1.18.020 Seizure and disposal.

- A. It shall be the duty of the Police Department, Fire Department, and Code Enforcement Division to enforce the provisions of this Chapter. The City Manager may designate others to enforce this Chapter.
- B. The Fire Chief and his or her authorized representatives and the Police Chief and his or her authorized representatives shall have the authority to seize, take, and remove any fireworks. The Fire Chief and his or her authorized representative and the Police Chief and his or her authorized representative may charge any person whose fireworks are seized pursuant to this section a disposal fee to cover the cost of transporting, storing, handling, and disposing of the seized fireworks.

## 1.18.030 Special events.

Every person who applies for and receives a permit for special events to use City streets, parks, facilities and services pursuant to Chapter 2.28 of this Code or similar license or approval required by the City to close a street or otherwise reserve or use a piece of city property shall make all reasonable efforts necessary to ensure that dangerous fireworks are not used at said event.

## 1.18.040 Penalties.

- A. In addition to any remedy available at law, any person in violation of any provision of this Chapter or Section 16.32.375 of this Code involving 25 pounds or less of fireworks is subject to the issuance of an administrative citation of not less than one-thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) and a disposal fee of up two-hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00).
- B. A responsible person is subject to the issuance of an administrative citation for causing a code violation to occur or allowing a violation to exist or continue, by his or her action or failure to act, or whose agent, employee or independent contractor causes a violation to occur, or allows a violation to exist or continue.
- C. Every parent, guardian or other person, having the legal care, custody or control of any person under the age of 18 years, who knows or reasonably should know that a minor is in violation of this Chapter, is subject to the issuance of an administrative citation in addition to any that may be issued to the offending minor.
- D. A person is guilty of a separate offense for each and every day or portion thereof during which he or she commits, continues, or permits a violation of this chapter.
- E. Any person, irrespective of age, found in violation of any provision of this chapter may be issued an administrative citation in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter.
- F. Fines collected pursuant to administrative citations shall be subject to cost reimbursement to the Office of the State Fire Marshal to the extent mandated by state law.
- G. Fines collected pursuant to administrative citations shall not subject to Health and Safety Code Section 12706.
- H. Nothing in this chapter shall be intended to limit any of the penalties provided for under the Health and Safety Code, Penal Code, or other sections of this Code with regard any person

other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	I, Colleen J. Nicol, City Clerk of the City of Riverside, California, hereby certify that the foregoing ordinance was duly and regularly introduced at a meeting of the City Council on the day of, 20, and that thereafter the said ordinance was duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the City Council on the day of, 20, by the following vote, to wit:  Ayes:  Noes: Absent: Abstain: IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of the
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12	City of Riverside, California, this day of, 20
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14	City Clerk of the City of Riverside
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