

CHAPTER VIII TOWN OF CAMDEN POLICE ORDINANCE

PART XII PUBLIC NOISE AND CONDUCT ORDINANCE

In accordance with the provisions of Title 30-A, Section 3001 of the Maine Revised Statutes, and by the authority granted therein under Section 3001, for the purpose of promoting the general welfare and providing for public safety and convenience, the Inhabitants of the Town of Camden adopt this Noise Ordinance.

The Town of Camden has determined by virtue of complaints to the Police Department and the Board of Selectmen from citizens, downtown merchants, and visitors to the Town, that certain conduct within portions of the Town designated in this ordinance, is preventing persons residing within those areas from fully enjoying their property and having a reasonable degree of quiet, particularly during nighttime hours, and is also preventing members of the public from enjoying public parks and other public spaces.

The Town further finds that reasonable regulations concerning noise are necessary in order to preserve a downtown area which is attractive to customers, visitors and residents and maintains a non-threatening environment within the downtown area, including public parks and public spaces.

The Town further finds that existing state laws and regulations do not fully and adequately address the difficulties experienced within the Town of Camden which are sought to be addressed by this ordinance, and that enforcement of such laws and regulations, when brought by officials not associated with the Town of Camden, is not sufficiently vigorous or timely in order to resolve the difficulties experienced in the Town.

Accordingly, exercising the home-rule powers conferred upon the Town, the Town does hereby adopt the following ordinance, which shall be referred to as the "Public Noise and Conduct Ordinance".

Section 2 - Prohibited Conduct and Acts

The following acts undertaken within the designated area of the Town of Camden as set forth in Section 4.0 (Exhibit A), are hereby declared to be a violation of this ordinance:

2.1 - Unreasonable, Loud and Raucous Noise

Yelling, shouting, hooting, whistling, singing, or the production of any other noise, in a loud and raucous manner, between the hours of 11:00 PM and 7:00 AM on the following morning within the area set forth in Section 4.0 (Exhibit A), so as to unreasonably annoy or disturb the quiet, comfort, or repose of any persons located more than fifty feet (50') from the source

Chapter 8 Police Ordinance 07/30/12 page 123the set

Section 3

operation of a motor vehicle shall be prohibited within the areas forth in Section 4.0 (Exhibit A).

of that noise shall be prohibited. **2.2 - Obstructions of a Public Way**
Knowingly and intentionally causing an unreasonable obstruction of a public way, road, street, sidewalk or walkway in a public park shall be prohibited within the designated area of the Town of Camden as set forth in Section 4.0 (Exhibit A).

2.3 - Unreasonably Loud Sound Production

The playing, using or operating of any radio, receiving set, musical instrument, or other machine or device for the production or reproduction of sound in such a manner as to unreasonably annoy or disturb the peace, quiet, comfort or repose of any other person located more than fifty feet (50') from the source of that sound shall be prohibited between the hours of 11:00 PM and 7:00 AM the following morning within the area set forth in Section 4.0 (Exhibit A).

2.4 - Unreasonable Sounds from Horns or Signaling Devices
The sounding of any horn or signaling device for an unnecessary or unreasonable length of time or for a purpose not associated with the proper and legitimate signaling activity undertaken in conjunction with

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Enforcement Procedure

3.1 which the Camden Police Department in the same form and in the same manner of prosecution as would be the case with a parking violation. The regulations governing prosecution of parking violations are set forth in the Camden Code, Chapter VIII, Section 15-A, sub-section 1. Actions shall be prosecuted by the Camden Police Officers or by the Town Attorney in the District Court for Knox County, located in Rockland, Maine.

3.2 For any first violation of this ordinance, there shall be a civil fine or penalty imposed in an amount not less than Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) and not more than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00). Each subsequent violation of this ordinance within a period of two (2) years from the date of the first violation, shall result in the imposition of a minimum civil fine or penalty of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) and a maximum fine or penalty of Two Hundred Fifty Dollars(\$250.00).

3.3 In addition to civil penalties for any violation of this ordinance, the Court shall require the violator to pay the Town reasonable attorney's fees incurred in connection with the prosecution of the violation, together with costs and filing fees incurred by the Town in

Any violations of this ordinance shall be a civil violation, shall be prosecuted through the issuance of a civil summons by

Chapter 8 Police Ordinance 07/30/12 page 124

connection with that prosecution.

Section 4 - Designated Area

The provisions of this ordinance shall apply to areas of the Town of Camden set forth in Exhibit A, attached to this ordinance and incorporated by reference herein. **Section 5 - Separability**

In the event that any provision of this ordinance shall be held illegal, it is intent that all remaining provisions of this ordinance, which are not declared illegal, shall remain in full force and effect.

EXHIBIT A Designated Area

The designated area of this ordinance shall be: 1. the following streets and ways or portions of streets and ways:

Atlantic Avenue Bayview Street: portion from Main to Frye Street Chestnut

Street: portion from Elm Street to Frye Street Commercial Street Elm

Street: portion from Main Street to School Street Free Street Main Street:

portion from Elm Street to Mountain Street Mechanic Street: portion from

Main Street to Knowlton Street Tannery Lane; and

2. All public sidewalks, public ways, public walkways, public parks, and real property owned by the Town of Camden or other public entity which abut such streets or ways. "Public parks" shall include, without limitation, Harbor Park and the dam site, the Camden Public Library grounds and Amphitheater, the Village Green, and the Public Landing.

Historical Note: Adopted June 13, 1995 at Town Meeting