

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-06

AMENDING AND ENACTING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF PART 3 TRAFFIC CODE AND PART 5 GENERAL OFFENSES CODE; INCORPORATING CHANGES IN STATE LAW AND OTHER RELATED PROVISIONS; AND AMENDING CHAPTER 113 OF THE BLUE ASH CODE OF ORDINANCES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the City of Blue Ash, Ohio, has determined a need to update certain portions of the Codified Ordinances for the City of Blue Ash; and

WHEREAS, the City has been working with The Walter H. Drane Co. (a legal publishing firm) to prepare and publish said updating in the form of amendments and enactments; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to incorporate said changes to be consistent with changes in State law and other related provisions, and to update Chapter 113 Property and Records to permit the sale of City-owned surplus real and personal property to be sold via resolution; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Chapter amendments and repeals affecting the Traffic Code (Part 3) and General Offenses Code (Part 5) and Chapter 113 were reviewed by representatives from the City Solicitor's office and the City Administration.

Be it ordained by the Council of the City of Blue Ash, Ohio, not less than five (5) members thereof concurring,

SECTION I.

Certain sections of Part 3 Traffic Code are hereby amended (or enacted) as reflected in the attachment hereto.

SECTION II.

Certain sections of Part 5 General Offenses Code are hereby amended (or enacted) as reflected in the attachment hereto.

SECTION III.

Certain sections of Chapter 113 Property and Records are hereby amended (or enacted) as reflected in the attachment hereto.

SECTION IV.

It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of City Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION V.

This ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety and welfare of the City of Blue Ash and its residents; the reason for the emergency being the immediate need to update the Codified Ordinances consistent with State law without undue delay, and to expedite the sale of real and surplus property and receipt of proceeds at the earliest possible time for the benefit of the citizens of the City of Blue Ash, Ohio. Therefore, this ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

PASSED this 14<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2022.

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Marc Sirkin, Mayor

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Jamie K. Eifert, Clerk of Council

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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Bryan E. Pacheco, Solicitor

## **CHAPTER 113**

### **Property and Records**

**113.01 Sale of surplus personal and real property.**

**113.02 Records disposition.**

**113.03 Parks and recreational facilities.**

#### **CROSS REFERENCES**

Purchases and contracts - see CHTR. Sec. 9.12

Maintenance of City records - see CHTR. Sec. 20.09

Photostat or microfilm recording - see Ohio R.C. 9.01

Recreation Board duties - see CHTR. Sec. 16.01; Ohio R.C. 755.13 et seq.

#### **113.01 SALE OF SURPLUS PERSONAL AND REAL PROPERTY.**

(a) Personal property of the City not needed for municipal purposes, the estimated value of which does not exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000), may be sold by the City Manager without formal advertisement on the best proposition for the City available. Personal property of the City not needed for municipal purposes, the estimated value of which exceeds five thousand dollars (\$5,000) but does not exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), may be sold by the City Manager without formal advertisement on the best proposition for the City available after report to Council and approval of such report by a majority of Council. Disposition of personal property valued in excess of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) shall be sold via a formal or internet bid process following **resolution** approval of Council.

(b) The City Manager is authorized to utilize City personal property for trade-ins on new or replacement City equipment/personal property to reduce acquisition costs.

(c) The City Manager is authorized to utilize internet-based auction systems or services to sell or dispose of obsolete or unnecessary City equipment, all subject to the valuation and approval requirements expressed in subsection (a) above.

(d) Any interest in real property held by the City not needed for municipal purposes may be sold, donated, disposed of, transferred, or traded by the City Manager by **resolution**. If such property is to be sold, City Council, by motion, shall make a determination whether bids shall be solicited.



# **MODEL TRAFFIC AND GENERAL OFFENSES CODE CHANGES**

**BLUE ASH, OHIO**

**Walter H. Drane Company**

**March 1, 2022**

EDITOR'S NOTE: Changes are highlighted. If there is no highlighting on the page, the page has been changed due to material being moved forward or back to accommodate additional text that was added. If there is a block of highlighting with no text it indicates material has been deleted.



- (o) "Public place" includes any street, sidewalk, park, cemetery, school yard, body of water or watercourse, public conveyance, or any other place for the sale of merchandise, public accommodation or amusement.
- (p) "Registered mail" includes certified mail and "certified mail" includes registered mail.  
(ORC 1.02(G))
- (q) "Rule" includes regulation. (ORC 1.59(F))
- (r) "Sidewalk" means that portion of the street between the curb line and the adjacent property line intended for the use of pedestrians.
- (s) "This State" or "the State" means the State of Ohio.  
(ORC 1.59(G))
- (t) "Street" includes alleys, avenues, boulevards, lanes, roads, highways, viaducts and all other public thoroughfares within the Municipality.
- (u) "Tenant" or "occupant", as applied to premises, includes any person holding a written or oral lease, or who actually occupies the whole or any part of such premises, alone or with others.
- (v) "Whoever" includes all persons, natural and artificial; partners; principals, agents and employees; and all officials, public or private.  
(ORC 1.02(A))
- (w) "Written" or "in writing" includes any representation of words, letters, symbols or figures. This provision does not affect any law relating to signatures.  
(ORC 1.59(J))

#### **101.03 RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.**

(a) Common and Technical Usage. Words and phrases shall be read in context and construed according to the rules of grammar and common usage. Words and phrases that have acquired a technical or particular meaning, whether by legislative definition or otherwise, shall be construed accordingly.  
(ORC 1.42)

(b) Singular and Plural; Gender; Tense. As used in the Codified Ordinances, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (1) The singular includes the plural, and the plural includes the singular.
- (2) Words of one gender include the other genders.
- (3) Words in the present tense include the future.  
(ORC 1.43)

(c) Calendar; Computation of Time.

- (1) Definitions.
  - A. "Week" means seven consecutive days.
  - B. "Year" means twelve consecutive months.  
(ORC 1.44)
- (2) If a number of months is to be computed by counting the months from a particular day, the period ends on the same numerical day in the concluding month as the day of the month from which the computation is begun, unless there are not that many days in the concluding month, in which case the period ends on the last day of that month.  
(ORC 1.45)





- (3) A. The time within which an act is required by law to be done shall be computed by excluding the first and including the last day; except that when the last day falls on Sunday or a legal holiday, then the act may be done on the next succeeding day that is not a Sunday or a legal holiday.
- B. When a public office, in which an act required by law is to be performed, is closed to the public for the entire day that constitutes the last day for doing the act or before its usual closing time on that day, the act may be performed on the next succeeding day that is not a Sunday or a legal holiday.
- C. As used in subsections (c)(1) and (c)(2) of this section, legal holiday means the following days:
1. The first day of January, known as New Year's Day;
  2. The third Monday in January, known as Martin Luther King, Jr. Day;
  3. The third Monday in February, known as Washington-Lincoln Day;
  4. The day designated in the "Act of June 28, 1968", 82 Stat. 250, 5 U.S.C. § 6103, as amended, for the commemoration of Memorial Day;
  5. The nineteenth day of June, known as Juneteenth day;
  6. The fourth day of July, known as Independence Day;
  7. The first Monday in September, known as Labor Day;
  8. The second Monday in October, known as Columbus Day;
  9. The eleventh day of November, known as Veteran's Day;
  10. The fourth Thursday in November, known as Thanksgiving Day;
  11. The twenty-fifth day of December, known as Christmas Day; and
  12. Any day appointed and recommended by the Governor of this state or the President of the United States as a holiday.
- D. If any day designated in this section as a legal holiday falls on a Sunday, the next succeeding day is a legal holiday.
- (ORC 1.14)
- (4) When legislation is to take effect or become operative from and after a day named, no part of that day shall be included.
- (ORC 1.15)
- (5) In all cases where the law shall require any act to be done in a reasonable time or reasonable notice to be given, such reasonable time or notice shall mean such time only as may be necessary for the prompt performance of such duty or compliance with such notice.

(d) Authority. When the law requires an act to be done which may by law as well be done by an agent as by the principal, such requirement shall be construed to include all such acts when done by an authorized agent.

(e) Joint Authority. All words purporting to give joint authority to three or more municipal officers or other persons shall be construed as giving such authority to a majority of such officers or other persons, unless it shall be otherwise expressly declared in the law giving the authority or inconsistent with State statute or Charter provisions.

(f) Exceptions. The rules of construction shall not apply to any law which shall contain any express provision excluding such construction, or when the subject matter or context of such law may be repugnant thereto.

#### **101.04 REVIVOR; EFFECT OF AMENDMENT OR REPEAL.**

(a) The repeal of a repealing ordinance does not revive the ordinance originally repealed nor impair the effect of any saving clause therein.

(ORC 1.57)

(b) An ordinance which is re-enacted or amended is intended to be a continuation of the prior ordinance and not a new enactment, so far as it is the same as the prior ordinance.  
(ORC 1.54)

(c) The re-enactment, amendment or repeal of an ordinance does not, except as provided in subsection (d) hereof:

- (1) Affect the prior operation of the ordinance or any prior action taken thereunder;
- (2) Affect any validation, cure, right, privilege, obligation or liability previously acquired, accrued, accorded or incurred thereunder;
- (3) Affect any violation thereof or penalty, forfeiture or punishment incurred in respect thereto, prior to the amendment or repeal;
- (4) Affect any investigation, proceeding or remedy in respect of any such privilege, obligation, liability, penalty, forfeiture or punishment; and the investigation, proceeding or remedy may be instituted, continued or enforced, and the penalty, forfeiture or punishment imposed, as if the ordinance had not been repealed or amended.

(d) If the penalty, forfeiture or punishment for any offense is reduced by a re-enactment or amendment of an ordinance, the penalty, forfeiture, or punishment, if not already imposed, shall be imposed according to the ordinance as amended.  
(ORC 1.58)

#### **101.05 CONSTRUCTION OF SECTION REFERENCES.**

(a) A reference to any portion of the Codified Ordinances applies to all re-enactments or amendments thereof. (ORC 1.55)

(b) If a section refers to a series of numbers or letters, the first and the last numbers or letters are included. (ORC 1.56)

(c) Wherever in a penalty section reference is made to a violation of a series of sections or of subsections of a section, such reference shall be construed to mean a violation of any section or subsection included in such reference.

References in the Codified Ordinances to action taken or authorized under designated sections of the Codified Ordinances include, in every case, action taken or authorized under the applicable legislative provision which is superseded by the Codified Ordinances.  
(ORC 1.23)

#### **101.06 CONFLICTING PROVISIONS.**

(a) If there is a conflict between figures and words in expressing a number, the words govern. (ORC 1.46)

(b) If a general provision conflicts with a special or local provision, they shall be construed, if possible, so that effect is given to both. If the conflict between the provisions is irreconcilable, the special or local provision prevails as an exception to the general provision, unless the general provision is the later adoption and the manifest intent is that the general provision prevail. (ORC 1.51)

- (c) (1) If ordinances enacted at different meetings of Council are irreconcilable, the ordinance latest in date of enactment prevails.
- (2) If amendments to the same ordinance are enacted at different meetings of Council, one amendment without reference to another, the amendments are to be harmonized, if possible, so that effect may be given to each. If the amendments are substantively irreconcilable, the latest in date of enactment prevails. The fact that a later amendment restates language deleted by an earlier amendment, or fails to include language inserted by an earlier amendment, does not of itself make the amendments irreconcilable. Amendments are irreconcilable only when changes made

by each cannot reasonably be put into simultaneous operation.  
(ORC 1.52)

**101.07 DETERMINATION OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT.**

- (a) In enacting an ordinance, it is presumed that:
- (1) Compliance with the constitutions of the State and of the United States is intended;
  - (2) The entire ordinance is intended to be effective;
  - (3) A just and reasonable result is intended;
  - (4) A result feasible of execution is intended.
- (ORC 1.47)

(b) An ordinance is presumed to be prospective in its operation unless expressly made retrospective. (ORC 1.48)

- (c) If an ordinance is ambiguous, the court, in determining the intention of Council may consider among other matters:
- (1) The object sought to be attained;
  - (2) The circumstances under which the ordinance was enacted;
  - (3) The legislative history;
  - (4) The common law or former legislative provisions, including laws upon the same or similar subjects;
  - (5) The consequences of a particular construction;
  - (6) The administrative construction of the ordinance.
- (ORC 1.49)

**101.08 SEVERABILITY.**

If any provision of a section of the Codified Ordinances or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect the other provisions or applications of the section or related sections which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions are severable.  
(ORC 1.50)

**101.09 VIOLATIONS OF ORDINANCES BY PERSONS UNDER THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN.**

Any person who is under the age of eighteen years at the time a complaint or citation is filed against such person for a violation of any provisions of the Codified Ordinances shall be deemed a "child," as defined in Ohio R.C. Chapter 2151, and, the complaint or citation shall be brought in juvenile court for the prosecution of such person as either a delinquent child or juvenile traffic offender, as provided by Ohio R.C. Chapter 2151.  
(Ord. 97-2. Passed 1-9-97.)

**101.99 GENERAL PENALTY.**

Whenever, in the Codified Ordinances or in any ordinance of the Municipality, any act is prohibited or is made or declared to be unlawful or an offense or a misdemeanor, or whenever the doing of any act is required or the failure to do any act is declared to be unlawful, where no specific penalty is otherwise provided, whoever violates any such provision shall be punished by a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars (\$100.00). A separate offense shall be deemed committed each day during or on which a violation continues or occurs.

## CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF BLUE ASH

### PART THREE - TRAFFIC CODE

#### TITLE ONE - Administration

Chap. 301. Definitions.  
 Chap. 303. Enforcement, Impounding and Penalty.  
 Chap. 305. Traffic Control.  
 Chap. 309. Parades and Assemblages.

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#### CHAPTER 301 Definitions

<b>301.01</b>	<b>Meaning of words and phrases.</b>	<b>301.251</b>	<b>Predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense.</b>
<b>301.02</b>	<b>Agricultural tractor.</b>	<b>301.26</b>	<b>Private road or driveway.</b>
<b>301.03</b>	<b>Alley.</b>	<b>301.27</b>	<b>Public safety vehicle.</b>
<b>301.031</b>	<b>Beacon; hybrid beacon.</b>	<b>301.28</b>	<b>Railroad.</b>
<b>301.04</b>	<b>Bicycle; motorized bicycle; moped; electric bicycle.</b>	<b>301.29</b>	<b>Railroad sign or signal.</b>
<b>301.05</b>	<b>Bus.</b>	<b>301.30</b>	<b>Railroad train.</b>
<b>301.06</b>	<b>Business district.</b>	<b>301.31</b>	<b>Residence district.</b>
<b>301.07</b>	<b>Commercial tractor.</b>	<b>301.32</b>	<b>Right of way.</b>
<b>301.08</b>	<b>Controlled-access highway.</b>	<b>301.321</b>	<b>Road service vehicle.</b>
<b>301.09</b>	<b>Crosswalk.</b>	<b>301.33</b>	<b>Roadway.</b>
<b>301.10</b>	<b>Driver or operator.</b>	<b>301.34</b>	<b>Safety zone.</b>
<b>301.11</b>	<b>Emergency vehicle.</b>	<b>301.35</b>	<b>School bus.</b>
<b>301.12</b>	<b>Explosives.</b>	<b>301.36</b>	<b>Semitrailer.</b>
<b>301.13</b>	<b>Expressway.</b>	<b>301.361</b>	<b>Shared-use path.</b>
<b>301.14</b>	<b>Flammable liquid.</b>	<b>301.37</b>	<b>Sidewalk.</b>
<b>301.15</b>	<b>Freeway.</b>	<b>301.38</b>	<b>State route.</b>
<b>301.16</b>	<b>Gross weight.</b>	<b>301.39</b>	<b>Stop (when required).</b>
<b>301.161</b>	<b>Highway maintenance vehicle.</b>	<b>301.40</b>	<b>Stopping or standing.</b>
<b>301.162</b>	<b>Highway traffic signal.</b>	<b>301.41</b>	<b>Stop intersection.</b>
<b>301.17</b>	<b>Intersection.</b>	<b>301.42</b>	<b>Street or highway; arterial street.</b>
<b>301.18</b>	<b>Laned street or highway.</b>	<b>301.43</b>	<b>Through street or highway.</b>
<b>301.183</b>	<b>Low-speed micromobility device.</b>	<b>301.44</b>	<b>Thruway.</b>
<b>301.185</b>	<b>Median.</b>	<b>301.45</b>	<b>Traffic.</b>
<b>301.19</b>	<b>Motorcycle.</b>	<b>301.46</b>	<b>Traffic control device.</b>
<b>301.20</b>	<b>Motor vehicle.</b>	<b>301.47</b>	<b>Traffic control signal.</b>
<b>301.201</b>	<b>Operate.</b>	<b>301.48</b>	<b>Trailer.</b>
<b>301.21</b>	<b>Park or parking.</b>	<b>301.49</b>	<b>Truck.</b>
<b>301.22</b>	<b>Pedestrian.</b>	<b>301.50</b>	<b>Urban district.</b>
<b>301.23</b>	<b>Person.</b>	<b>301.51</b>	<b>Vehicle.</b>
<b>301.24</b>	<b>Pole trailer.</b>	<b>301.52</b>	<b>Wheelchair, motorized.</b>
<b>301.25</b>	<b>Police officer.</b>	<b>301.53</b>	<b>Waste collection vehicle.</b>



**301.161 HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE VEHICLE.**

“Highway maintenance vehicle” means a vehicle used in snow and ice removal or road surface maintenance, including a snow plow, traffic line striper, road sweeper, mowing machine, asphalt distributing vehicle, or other such vehicle designed for use in specific highway maintenance activities. (ORC 4511.01(QQQ))

**301.162 HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SIGNAL.**

“Highway traffic signal” means a power-operated traffic control device by which traffic is warned or directed to take some specific action. “Highway traffic signal” does not include a power-operated sign, steadily illuminated pavement markers, warning light, or steady burning electric lamp. (ORC 4511.01(MMM))

**301.17 INTERSECTION.**

“Intersection” means:

- (a) The area embraced within the prolongation or connection of the lateral curb lines, or, if none, the lateral boundary lines of the roadways of two highways that join one another at, or approximately at, right angles, or the area within which vehicles traveling upon different highways that join at any other angle might come into conflict. The junction of an alley or driveway with a roadway or highway does not constitute an intersection unless the roadway or highway at the junction is controlled by a traffic control device.
- (b) If a highway includes two roadways that are thirty feet or more apart, then every crossing of each roadway of such divided highway by an intersecting highway constitutes a separate intersection. If both intersecting highways include two roadways thirty feet or more apart, then every crossing of any two roadways of such highways constitutes a separate intersection.
- (c) At a location controlled by a traffic control signal, regardless of the distance between the separate intersections as described in subsection (b) of this section:
  - (1) If a stop line, yield line, or crosswalk has not been designated on the roadway within the median between the separate intersections, the two intersections and the roadway and median constitute one intersection.
  - (2) Where a stop line, yield line, or crosswalk line is designated on the roadway on the intersection approach, the area within the crosswalk and any area beyond the designated stop line or yield line constitute part of the intersection.
  - (3) Where a crosswalk is designated on a roadway on the departure from the intersection, the intersection includes the area that extends to the far side of the crosswalk. (ORC 4511.01(KK))

**301.18 LANED STREET OR HIGHWAY.**

“Laned street or highway” means a street or highway the roadway of which is divided into two or more clearly marked lanes for vehicular traffic. (ORC 4511.01(GG))

**301.183 LOW-SPEED MICROMOBILITY DEVICE.**

“Low-speed micromobility device” means a device weighing less than 100 pounds that has handlebars, is propelled by an electric motor or human power, and has an attainable speed on a paved level surface of not more than twenty miles per hour when propelled by the electric motor.  
(ORC 4511.01(WWW))

**301.185 MEDIAN.**

"Median" means the area between two roadways of a divided highway, measured from edge of traveled way to edge of traveled way, but excluding turn lanes. The width of a median may be different between intersections, between interchanges, and at opposite approaches of the same intersection. (ORC 4511.01(NNN))

**301.19 MOTORCYCLE.**

"Motorcycle" means every motor vehicle, other than a tractor, having a seat or saddle for the use of the operator and designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact with the ground, including but not limited to, motor vehicles known as "motor-driven cycle," "motor scooter," "autocycle," "cab-enclosed motorcycle" or "motorcycle" without regard to weight or brake horsepower. (ORC 4511.01(C); Ord. 2017-10. Passed 8-10-17.)

**301.20 MOTOR VEHICLE.**

"Motor vehicle" means every vehicle propelled or drawn by power other than muscular power, except motorized bicycles, electric bicycles, road rollers, traction engines, power shovels, power cranes and other equipment used in construction work and not designed for or employed in general highway transportation, hole-digging machinery, well-drilling machinery, ditch-digging machinery, farm machinery, and trailers designed and used exclusively to transport a boat between a place of storage and a marina, or in and around a marina, when drawn or towed on a street or highway for a distance of no more than ten miles and at a speed of twenty-five miles per hour or less. (ORC 4511.01(B); Ord. 2019-1. Passed 5-9-19.)

**301.201 OPERATE.**

"Operate" means to cause or have caused movement of a vehicle.  
(ORC 4511.01(HHH))

**301.21 PARK OR PARKING.**

"Park or parking" means the standing of a vehicle, whether occupied or not, otherwise than temporarily for the purpose of and while actually engaged in loading or unloading merchandise or passengers.

**301.22 PEDESTRIAN.**

"Pedestrian" means any natural person afoot. The term includes a personal delivery device as defined in Ohio R.C. 4511.513 unless the context clearly suggests otherwise.  
(ORC 4511.01(X))

**301.23 PERSON.**

"Person" means every natural person, firm, copartnership, association or corporation.  
(ORC 4511.01(W))

**301.24 POLE TRAILER.**

"Pole trailer" means every trailer or semitrailer attached to the towing vehicle by means of a reach, pole or by being boomed or otherwise secured to the towing vehicle, and ordinarily used for transporting long or irregular shaped loads such as poles, pipes or structural members capable, generally, of sustaining themselves as beams between the supporting connection.  
(ORC 4511.01(O))

**301.25 POLICE OFFICER.**

"Police officer" means every officer authorized to direct or regulate traffic, or to make arrests for violations of traffic regulations.  
(ORC 4511.01(Z))



**301.47 TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNAL.**

"Traffic control signal" means any highway traffic signal by which traffic is alternately directed to stop and permitted to proceed.  
(ORC 4511.01(RR))

**301.48 TRAILER.**

"Trailer" means every vehicle designed or used for carrying persons or property wholly on its own structure and for being drawn by a motor vehicle, including any such vehicle when formed by or operated as a combination of a semitrailer and a vehicle of the dolly type, such as that commonly known as a trailer dolly, a vehicle used to transport agricultural produce or agricultural production materials between a local place of storage or supply and the farm when drawn or towed on a street or highway at a speed greater than twenty-five miles per hour and a vehicle designed and used exclusively to transport a boat between a place of storage and a marina, or in and around a marina, when drawn or towed on a street or highway for a distance of more than ten miles or at a speed of more than twenty-five miles per hour.  
(ORC 4511.01(M))

**301.49 TRUCK.**

"Truck" means every motor vehicle, except trailers and semitrailers, designed and used to carry property. (ORC 4511.01(K))

**301.50 URBAN DISTRICT.**

"Urban district" means the territory contiguous to and including any street or highway which is built up with structures devoted to business, industry or dwelling houses situated at intervals of less than 100 feet for distance of a quarter of a mile or more, and the character of such territory is indicated by official traffic control devices. (ORC 4511.01(PP))

**301.51 VEHICLE.**

"Vehicle" means every device, including a motorized bicycle and an electric bicycle, in, upon or by which any person or property may be transported or drawn upon a street or highway, except that "vehicle" does not include any motorized wheelchair, any electric personal assistive mobility device, any low-speed micromobility device, or any device, other than a bicycle, that is moved by human power. (ORC 4511.01(A))

**301.52 WHEELCHAIR, MOTORIZED.**

"Motorized wheelchair" means any self-propelled vehicle designed for, and used by, a handicapped person and that is incapable of a speed in excess of eight miles per hour.  
(ORC 4511.01(EEE))

**301.53 WASTE COLLECTION VEHICLE.**

"Waste collection vehicle" means a vehicle used in the collection of garbage, refuse, trash or recyclable materials. (ORC 4511.01(RRR); Ord. 2019-1. Passed 5-9-19.)



- (2) If the identity of the operator at the time of an alleged violation of Section 331.21(a) is established, the law enforcement agency has probable cause to issue either a written warning or a citation for that violation, and the agency shall issue a written warning or a citation to the operator.
- (3) If the identity of the operator of the vehicle at the time of the alleged violation cannot be established, the law enforcement agency may issue a warning to the person who owned the vehicle at the time of the alleged violation. However, in the case of a leased or rented vehicle, the law enforcement agency shall issue the written warning to the person who leased or rented the vehicle at the time of the alleged violation.
- (c)
  - (1) Whoever violates Section 331.21(a) based on a report filed under subsection (a) of this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor and shall be fined one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00).
  - (2) If a person who is issued a citation for a violation of Section 331.21(a) based on a report filed under subsection (a) of this section does not enter a written plea of guilty and does not waive the person's right to contest the citation but instead appears in person in the proper court to answer the charge, the trier of fact cannot find beyond a reasonable doubt that the person committed that violation unless the emergency personnel who filed the report appears in person in the court and testifies.
- (d) As used in this section:
  - (1) "License plate" includes any temporary **motor vehicle** license **registration** issued under Ohio R.C. 4503.182 or similar law of another jurisdiction.
  - (2) "Public safety vehicle" does not include an unmarked public safety vehicle or a vehicle used by a public law enforcement officer or other person sworn to enforce the criminal and traffic laws of the State or a vehicle used by the Motor Carrier Enforcement Unit for the enforcement of orders and rules of the Public Utilities Commission.  
(ORC 4511.454; Ord. 2017-10. Passed 8-10-17.)

### **331.22 DRIVING ONTO ROADWAY FROM PLACE OTHER THAN ROADWAY: DUTY TO YIELD.**

(a) Subject to compliance with any traffic control device, the operator of a vehicle about to enter or cross a highway from an alley or from any place other than another roadway shall yield the right of way to all traffic approaching on the roadway to be entered or crossed.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

If the offender commits the offense while distracted and the distracting activity is a contributing factor to the commission of the offense, the offender is subject to the additional fine established under Section 303.991 of the Traffic Code.  
(ORC 4511.44; Ord. 2019-1. Passed 5-9-19.)

**331.34 WEAVING; FAILURE TO GIVE FULL TIME AND ATTENTION TO OPERATION OF VEHICLE.**

(a) No person shall operate a vehicle in a weaving or zigzag course unless such course is necessary for safe operation of such vehicle or in compliance of law.

(b) No person shall operate a vehicle without giving his full time and attention to the operation of such vehicle. (Ord. 97-2. Passed 1-9-97.)

(c) Whoever violates any provision of this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor on a first offense; on a second offense within one year after the first offense, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree; on each subsequent offense within one year after the first offense, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

**331.35 OCCUPYING A MOVING TRAILER OR MANUFACTURED OR MOBILE HOME.**

(a) No person shall occupy any travel trailer or manufactured or mobile home while it is being used as a conveyance upon a street or highway.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (ORC 4511.701)

**331.36 EXCESSIVE TIRE ACCELERATION.**

(a) No person shall operate any motor vehicle, except in an emergency, in such a manner that the vehicle is so rapidly accelerated or started from a stopped position whereby the rubber tires of such vehicle squeal or leave tire marks on the roadway, commonly known as "peeling." (Ord. 97-2. Passed 1-9-97.)

(b) Whoever violates any provision of this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor on a first offense; on a second offense within one year after the first offense, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree; on each subsequent offense within one year after the first offense, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

**331.37 DRIVING UPON SIDEWALKS, STREET LAWNS OR BIKEPATHS.**

(a) (1) No person shall drive any vehicle, other than a bicycle or an electric bicycle if the motor is not engaged, upon a sidewalk or sidewalk area except upon a permanent or duly authorized temporary driveway.

(2) This prohibition does not apply to a law enforcement officer, other person sworn to enforce the criminal and traffic laws of the state, or a City employee, using an electric bicycle with the motor engaged while in the performance of their duties.

(3) Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting local authorities from regulating the operation of bicycles or electric bicycles, except that no local authority may require that bicycles or electric bicycles be operated on sidewalks. (ORC 4511.711(A))

(b) No person shall drive or propel a vehicle, other than a bicycle, upon a designated bikepath area.

(c) Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting local authorities from regulating the operation of bicycles.

(d) Whoever violates any provision of this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor on a first offense; on a second offense within one year after the first offense, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree; on each subsequent offense within one year after the first offense, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

If the offender commits the offense while distracted and the distracting activity is a contributing factor to the commission of the offense, the offender is subject to the additional fine established under Section 303.991 of the Traffic Code.  
(Ord. 2019-1. Passed 5-9-19.)

### **331.38 STOPPING FOR SCHOOL BUS; DISCHARGING CHILDREN.**

(a) The driver of a vehicle upon meeting or overtaking from either direction any school bus stopped for the purpose of receiving or discharging any school child, person attending programs offered by community boards of mental health and County boards of developmental disabilities, or child attending a program offered by a head start agency, shall stop at least ten feet from the front or rear of the school bus and shall not proceed until such school bus resumes motion, or until signaled by the school bus driver to proceed.

It is no defense to a charge under this subsection (a) hereof that the school bus involved failed to display or be equipped with an automatically extended stop warning sign as required by subsection (b) hereof.

(b) Every school bus shall be equipped with amber and red visual signals meeting the requirements of Ohio R.C. 4511.771, and an automatically extended stop warning sign of a type approved by the State Board of Education, which shall be actuated by the driver of the bus whenever but only whenever the bus is stopped or stopping on the roadway for the purpose of receiving or discharging school children, persons attending programs offered by community boards of mental health and County boards of developmental disabilities, or children attending programs offered by head start agencies. A school bus driver shall not actuate the visual signals or the stop warning sign in designated school bus loading areas where the bus is entirely off the roadway or at school buildings when children or persons attending programs offered by community boards of mental health and County boards of developmental disabilities are loading or unloading at curbside or at buildings when children attending programs offered by head start agencies are boarding or unloading at curbside. The visual signals and stop warning sign shall be synchronized or otherwise operated as required by rule of the Board.

(c) Where a highway has been divided into four or more traffic lanes, a driver of a vehicle need not stop for a school bus approaching from the opposite direction which has stopped for the purpose of receiving or discharging any school child, persons attending programs offered by community boards of mental health and County boards of developmental disabilities, or children attending programs offered by head start agencies. The driver of any vehicle overtaking the school bus shall comply with subsection (a) hereof.

(d) School buses operating on divided highways or on highways with four or more traffic lanes shall receive and discharge all school children, persons attending programs offered by community boards of mental health and County boards of developmental disabilities, and children attending programs offered by head start agencies on their residence side of the highway.

(e) No school bus driver shall start the driver's bus until after any child, person attending programs offered by community boards of mental health and County boards of developmental disabilities, or child attending a program offered by a head start agency who may have alighted therefrom has reached a place of safety on the child or person's residence side of the road.

- B. As used in this section, "school" means all of the following:
1. Any school chartered under Ohio R.C. 3301.16;
  2. Any nonchartered school that during the preceding year filed with the Department of Education in compliance with O.A.C. § 3301-35-08, a copy of the school's report for the parents of the school's pupils certifying that the school meets state minimum standards for nonchartered, nontax-supported schools and presents evidence of this filing to the jurisdiction from which it is requesting the establishment of a school zone;
  3. Any special elementary school that in writing requests the County Engineer to create a school zone at the location of the school. Upon receipt of such written request, the County Engineer shall create a school zone at that location by erecting appropriate signs;
  4. Any preschool education program operated by an educational service center that is located on a street or highway with a speed limit of forty-five miles per hour or more, when the educational service center in writing requests that the County Engineer create a school zone at the location of that program. Upon receipt of such a written request, the County Engineer shall create a school zone at that location by erecting the appropriate signs.
- C. As used in this section, "school zone" means that portion of a street or highway passing a school fronting upon the street or highway that is encompassed by projecting the school property lines to the fronting street or highway. Upon request from the Municipality for streets and highways under its jurisdiction, the Ohio Director of Transportation may extend the traditional school zone boundaries. The distances in subsections (b)(1)C.1. to 3. hereof shall not exceed 300 feet per approach per direction and are bounded by whichever of the following distances or combinations thereof the Director approves as most appropriate:
1. The distance encompassed by projecting the school building lines normal to the fronting highway and extending a distance of 300 feet on each approach direction;
  2. The distance encompassed by projecting the school property lines intersecting the fronting highway and extending a distance of 300 feet on each approach direction;
  3. The distance encompassed by the special marking of the pavement for a principal school pupil crosswalk plus a distance of 300 feet on each approach direction of highway;
- Nothing in this section shall be construed to invalidate the Director's initial action on August 9, 1976, establishing all school zones at the traditional school zone boundaries defined by projecting school property lines, except when those boundaries are extended as provided in subsections (b)(1)A. and C. hereof.
- D. As used in this subsection, "crosswalk" has the meaning given that term in Section 301.09. The Director may, upon request by the City Manager or his designee, and upon submission by the

Municipality of such engineering, traffic and other information as the Director considers necessary, designate a school zone on any portion of a State route lying within the Municipality that includes a crosswalk customarily used by children going to or leaving a school during recess and opening and closing hours, whenever the distance, as measured in a straight line, from the school property line nearest the crosswalk to the nearest point of the crosswalk is no more than 1,320 feet. Such a school zone shall include the distance encompassed by the crosswalk and extending 300 feet on each approach direction of the State route;

- (2) Twenty-five miles per hour in all other portions of the Municipality, except on State routes outside business districts, through highways outside business districts and alleys;
- (3) Thirty-five miles per hour on all State routes or through highways within the Municipality outside business districts, except as provided in subsections (b)(4) and (5) hereof;
- (4) Fifty miles per hour on controlled-access highways and expressways within the Municipality, except as provided in subsections (b)(8) to (b)(12) of this section;
- (5) Fifty miles per hour on State routes within the Municipality outside urban districts unless a lower prima-facie speed is established as further provided in this section;
- (6) Fifteen miles per hour on all alleys within the Municipality;
- (7) Fifty-five miles per hour on freeways with paved shoulders inside the Municipality other than freeways as provided in subsection (b)(10) and (12);
- (8) Sixty miles per hour on rural expressways with traffic control signals and on all portions of rural divided highways, except as provided in subsections (b)(9) and (10) of this section;
- (9) Sixty-five miles per hour on all rural expressways without traffic control signals;
- (10) Seventy miles per hour on all rural freeways;
- (11) Fifty-five miles per hour on all portions of freeways or expressways in congested areas as determined by the Director and that are located within a municipal corporation or within an interstate freeway outerbelt, except as provided in subsection (b)(12) of this section;
- (12) Sixty-five miles per hour on all portions of freeways or expressways without traffic control signals in urbanized areas.

(c) It is prima-facie unlawful for any person to exceed any of the speed limitations in subsection (b)(1)A. to (b)(6) hereof, or any declared or established pursuant to this section by the Director or local authorities and it is unlawful for any person to exceed any of the speed limitations in subsection (d) hereof. No person shall be convicted of more than one violation of this section for the same conduct, although violations of more than one provision of this section may be charged in the alternative in a single affidavit.

- (d) No person shall operate a motor vehicle upon a street or highway as follows:
- (1) At a speed exceeding fifty-five miles per hour, except upon a highway, expressway or freeway as provided in subsection (b)(8), (9), (10) and (12) hereof;
  - (2) At a speed exceeding sixty miles per hour upon a highway as provided in subsection (b)(8) hereof;

- (2) If the offender's driver's or commercial driver's license or permit or, in a case involving the operation of a motorcycle by the offender, the offender's driver's or commercial driver's license bearing the motorcycle endorsement or the offender's restricted license was expired at the time of the offense, except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the offense is a minor misdemeanor. If, within three years of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to two or more violations of Ohio R.C. 4510.12 or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, the offense is a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(d) The court shall not impose a license suspension for a first violation of this section or if more than three years have passed since the offender's last violation of Ohio R.C. 4510.12 or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance.

(e) If the offender is sentenced under subsection (c)(2) hereof, if within three years of the offense the offender previously was convicted of or pleaded guilty to one or more violations of Ohio R.C. 4510.12 or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, and if the offender's license was expired for more than six months at the time of the offense, the court may impose a class seven suspension of the offender's driver's license, commercial driver's license, temporary instruction permit, probationary license, or nonresident operating privilege from the range specified in division (A)(7) of Ohio R.C. 4510.02.  
(ORC 4510.12)

### **335.02 PERMITTING OPERATION WITHOUT VALID LICENSE; ONE LICENSE PERMITTED.**

(a) No person shall permit the operation of a motor vehicle upon any public or private property used by the public for purposes of vehicular travel or parking knowing the operator does not have a valid driver's license issued to the operator by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles **or a Deputy Registrar** under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4507 or a valid commercial driver's license issued under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4506.

(b) (1) No person shall receive a driver's license, or a motorcycle operator's endorsement of a driver's or commercial driver's license, temporary instruction permit, or identification card unless and until the person surrenders to the Registrar or a deputy registrar all valid licenses, temporary instruction permits, and identification cards issued to the person by another jurisdiction recognized by this state.

(2) The Registrar shall report the cancellation of a license, temporary instruction permit, or identification card to the issuing authority, together with information that the license, temporary instruction permit, or identification card is now issued in this state. The Registrar or a deputy registrar shall destroy any such license, temporary instruction permit, or identification card that is not returned to the issuing authority.

(3) No person shall possess more than one valid license, temporary instruction permit, or identification card at any time.  
(ORC 4507.02(A))

(c) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, whoever violates subsection (a) hereof is guilty of an unclassified misdemeanor. When the offense is an unclassified misdemeanor, the offender shall be sentenced pursuant to Ohio R.C. 2929.21 to 2929.28, except that the offender shall not be sentenced to a jail term; the offender shall not be sentenced to a community residential sanction pursuant to Ohio R.C. 2929.26;



notwithstanding division (A)(2)(a) of Ohio R.C. 2929.28, the offender may be fined up to one thousand dollars (\$1,000) and, notwithstanding division (A)(3) of Ohio R.C. 2929.27, the offender may be ordered pursuant to division (C) of that section to serve a term of community service of up to five hundred hours. The failure of an offender to complete a term of community service imposed by the court may be punished as indirect criminal contempt under division (A) of Ohio R.C. 2705.02 that may be filed in the underlying case. If, within three years of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to two or more violations of Ohio R.C. 4507.02 or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, the offense is a misdemeanor of the first degree.

- (2) Whoever violates subsection (b) hereof is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree. (ORC 4507.02; 4507.99)

### **335.021 OHIO DRIVER'S LICENSE REQUIRED FOR IN STATE RESIDENTS.**

(a) Any person who becomes a resident of this State, within thirty days of becoming a resident, shall surrender any driver's license, temporary instruction permit, or identification card issued by another state to the Registrar of Motor Vehicles or a Deputy Registrar. If such a person intends to operate a motor vehicle upon the public roads or highways, the person shall apply for a temporary instruction permit or driver's license in this State. If the person fails to apply for a driver's license or temporary instruction permit within thirty days of becoming a resident, the person shall not operate any motor vehicle in this municipality under a license or permit issued by another state.

- (b) (1) Whoever violates subsection (a) of this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.
- (2) The offense established under subsection (b)(1) of this section is a strict liability offense and strict liability is a culpable mental state for purposes of Ohio R.C. 2901.20. The designation of this offense as a strict liability offense shall not be construed to imply that any other offense, for which there is no specified degree of culpability, is not a strict liability offense.

(c) For purposes of subsection (a) of this section, "resident" means any person to whom any of the following applies:

- (1) The person maintains their principal residence in this State and does not reside in this State as a result of the person's active service in the United States Armed Forces.
- (2) The person is determined by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles to be a resident in accordance with standards adopted by the Registrar under Ohio R.C. 4507.01. (ORC 4507.213; Ord. 2017-10. Passed 8-10-17.)

### **335.03 DRIVING WITH TEMPORARY INSTRUCTION PERMIT; CURFEW.**

(a) No holder of a temporary instruction permit issued under Ohio R.C. 4507.05(A) shall operate a motor vehicle upon a highway or any public or private property used by the public for purposes of vehicular travel or parking in violation of the following conditions:

- (1) If the permit is issued to a person who is at least fifteen years six months of age, but less than sixteen years of age:
- A. The permit and identification card are in the holder's immediate possession;
- B. The holder is accompanied by an eligible adult who actually occupies the seat beside the permit holder and does not have a prohibited concentration of alcohol in the whole blood, blood serum or plasma, breath, or urine as provided in Ohio R.C. 4511.19(A);

- C. The total number of occupants of the vehicle does not exceed the total number of occupant restraining devices originally installed in the motor vehicle by its manufacturer, and each occupant of the vehicle is wearing all of the available elements of a properly adjusted occupant restraining device.
- (2) If the permit is issued to a person who is at least sixteen years of age:
  - A. The permit and identification card are in the holder's immediate possession;
  - B. The holder is accompanied by a licensed operator who is at least twenty-one years of age and is actually occupying a seat beside the driver and does not have a prohibited concentration of alcohol in the whole blood, blood serum or plasma, breath, or urine as provided in Ohio R.C. 4511.19(A);
  - C. The total number of occupants of the vehicle does not exceed the total number of occupant restraining devices originally installed in the motor vehicle by its manufacturer, and each occupant of the vehicle is wearing all of the available elements of a properly adjusted occupant restraining device.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (b) hereof, no holder of a temporary instruction permit that is issued under Ohio R.C. 4507.05(A) and that is issued on or after July 1, 1998, and who has not attained the age of eighteen years, shall operate a motor vehicle upon a highway or any public or private property used by the public for purposes of vehicular travel or parking between the hours of midnight and six a.m.

The holder of a permit issued under Ohio R.C. 4507.05(A) on or after July 1, 1998, who has not attained the age of eighteen years, may operate a motor vehicle upon a highway or any public or private property used by the public for purposes of vehicular travel or parking between the hours of midnight and six a.m. if, at the time of such operation, the holder is accompanied by the holder's parent, guardian, or custodian, and the parent, guardian or custodian holds a current valid driver's or commercial driver's license issued by this State and is actually occupying a seat beside the permit holder, and does not have a prohibited concentration of alcohol in the whole blood, blood serum or plasma, breath, or urine as provided in Section 333.01(a).

- (c) As used in this section:
  - (1) "Eligible adult" means any of the following:
    - A. An instructor of a driver education course approved by the Department of Education or a driver training course approved by the Department of Public Safety;
    - B. Any of the following persons who holds a current valid driver's or commercial driver's license issued by this State:
      - 1. A parent, guardian or custodian of the permit holder;
      - 2. A person twenty-one years of age or older who acts in loco parentis of the permit holder.
  - (2) "Occupant restraining device" has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 4513.263.

- (d) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.(ORC 4507.05)

### **335.031 DRIVING WITH PROBATIONARY LICENSE; CURFEW.**

- (a) (1) A. No holder of a probationary driver's license who has held the license for less than twelve months shall operate a motor vehicle upon a highway or any public or private property used by the public for purposes of vehicular travel or parking between the hours of midnight and six a.m. unless the holder is accompanied by the holder's parent or guardian.

- B. No holder of a probationary driver's license who has held the license for twelve months or longer shall operate a motor vehicle upon a highway or any public or private property used by the public for purposes of vehicular travel or parking between the hours of one a.m. and five a.m. unless the holder is accompanied by the holder's parent or guardian.
- (2) A. Subject to subsection (c)(1) of this section, subsection (a)(1)A. of this section does not apply to the holder of a probationary driver's license who is doing either of the following:
  - 1. Traveling to or from work between the hours of midnight and six a.m. provided that the holder has in the holder's immediate possession written documentation from the holder's employer.
  - 2. Traveling to or from an official function sponsored by the school the holder attends between the hours of midnight and six a.m., provided that the holder has in the holder's immediate possession written documentation from an appropriate official of the school;
  - 3. Traveling to or from an official religious event between the hours of midnight and six a.m., provided that the holder has in the holder's immediate possession written documentation from an appropriate official affiliated with the event.
- B. Subsection (a)(1)B. of this section does not apply to the holder of a probationary driver's license who is doing either of the following:
  - 1. Traveling to or from work between the hours of one a.m. and five a.m., provided that the holder has in the holder's immediate possession written documentation from the holder's employer.
  - 2. Traveling to or from an official function sponsored by the school the holder attends between the hours of one a.m. and five a.m., provided that the holder has in the holder's immediate possession written documentation from an appropriate official of the school;
  - 3. Traveling to or from an official religious event between the hours of one a.m. and five a.m., provided that the holder has in the holder's immediate possession written documentation from an appropriate official affiliated with the event.
- (3) An employer, school official or official affiliated with a religious event is not liable in damages in a civil action for any injury, death or loss to person or property that allegedly arises from, or is related to, the fact that the employer, school official, or official affiliated with a religious event provided the holder of a probationary driver's license with the written documentation described in subsection (a)(2) of this section.

The Registrar of Motor Vehicles shall make available at no cost a form to serve as the written documentation described in subsection (a)(2) of this section, and employers, school officials, officials affiliated with religious events, and holders of probationary driver's licenses may utilize that form or may choose to utilize any other written documentation to meet the requirements of that subsection.

- (5) In any application for an identification card, driver's or commercial driver's license, temporary instruction permit or commercial driver's license temporary instruction permit, or any renewal, reprint, or duplicate thereof, knowingly conceal a material fact, or present any physician's statement required under Ohio R.C. 4507.08 or 4507.081 when knowing the same to be false or fictitious.
- (b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree. (ORC 4507.30)

**335.05 WRONGFUL ENTRUSTMENT OF A MOTOR VEHICLE.**

(a) No person shall permit a motor vehicle owned by the person or under the person's control to be driven by another if any of the following apply:

- (1) The offender knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the other person does not have a valid driver's or commercial driver's license or permit or valid nonresident driving privileges.
- (2) The offender knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the other person's driver's or commercial driver's license or permit or nonresident operating privileges have been suspended or canceled under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4510, or any other provision of the Ohio Revised Code or this Traffic Code.
- (3) The offender knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the other person's act of driving the motor vehicle would violate any prohibition contained in Ohio R.C. Chapter 4509.
- (4) The offender knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the other person's act of driving would violate Ohio R.C. 4511.19 or any substantially equivalent municipal ordinance.
- (5) The offender knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the vehicle is the subject of an immobilization waiver order issued under Ohio R.C. 4503.235 and the other person is prohibited from operating the vehicle under that order.

(b) Without limiting or precluding the consideration of any other evidence in determining whether a violation of subsection (a)(1), (2), (3), or (4) of this section has occurred, it shall be prima-facie evidence that the offender knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the operator of the motor vehicle owned by the offender or under the offender's control is in a category described in subsection (a)(1), (2), (3) or (4) of this section if any of the following applies:

- (1) Regarding an operator allegedly in the category described in subsection (a)(1) or (3) of this section, the offender and the operator of the motor vehicle reside in the same household and are related by consanguinity or affinity.
- (2) Regarding an operator allegedly in the category described in subsection (a)(2) of this section, the offender and the operator of the motor vehicle reside in the same household, and the offender knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the operator has been charged with or convicted of any violation of law or ordinance, or has committed any other act or omission, that would or could result in the suspension or cancellation of the operator's license, permit or privilege.
- (3) Regarding an operator allegedly in the category described in subsection (a)(4) of this section, the offender and the operator of the motor vehicle occupied the motor vehicle together at the time of the offense.

- (6) Except as otherwise provided in Ohio R.C. Chapter 4505 and Chapter 4517, sell at wholesale a motor vehicle the ownership of which is not evidenced by an Ohio certificate of title, or the current certificate of title issued for the motor vehicle, or the manufacturer's certificate of origin, and all title assignments that evidence the seller's ownership of the motor vehicle, and an odometer disclosure statement that complies with Ohio R.C. 4505.06 and subchapter IV of the "Motor Vehicle Information and Cost Savings Act", 86 Stat. 961 (1972), 15 U.S.C. 1981;
- (7) Operate in this Municipality a motor vehicle knowing that the certificate of title to the vehicle or ownership of the vehicle as otherwise reflected in the automated title processing system has been canceled.

(b) This section does not apply to persons engaged in the business of warehousing or transporting motor vehicles for the purpose of salvage disposition.

(c) Whoever violates this section shall be fined not more than two hundred dollars (\$200.00) or imprisoned not more than ninety days, or both.  
(ORC 4505.18)

### **335.09 DISPLAY OF LICENSE PLATES OR VALIDATION STICKERS; REGISTRATION.**

- (a)
  - (1) No person who is the owner or operator of a motor vehicle shall fail to display in plain view on the rear of the motor vehicle a license plate that displays the distinctive number and registration mark assigned to the motor vehicle by the Ohio Director of Public Safety, including any county identification sticker and any validation sticker **when required by and issued under Ohio R.C. 4503.19 and 4503.191. However a commercial tractor shall display the license plate on the front of the commercial tractor.**
  - (2) The license plate shall be securely fastened so as not to swing, and shall not be covered by any material that obstructs its visibility.
  - (3) No person to whom a temporary **motor vehicle license registration** has been issued for the use of a motor vehicle under Ohio R.C. 4503.182, and no operator of that motor vehicle, shall fail to display the temporary **motor vehicle license registration** in plain view from the rear of the vehicle either in the rear window or on an external rear surface of the motor vehicle.
  - (4) **No person shall cover a temporary motor vehicle license registration by any material that obstructs its visibility.**  
(ORC 4503.21(A))
- (b)
  - (1) Whoever violates subsection (a) of this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.
  - (2) The **offenses** established under subsection (a) of this section **are** strict liability **offenses** and Ohio R.C. 2901.20 does not apply. The designation of **these offenses as strict liability offenses** shall not be construed to imply that any other offense, for which there is no specified degree of culpability, is not a strict liability offense.  
(ORC 4503.21(B), (C))

## TITLE NINE - Pedestrians, Bicycles and Motorcycles

Chap. 371. Pedestrians.

Chap. 373. Bicycles and Motorcycles.

Chap. 375. Snowmobiles, Off-Highway Motorcycles, and  
All Purpose Vehicles.

### CHAPTER 371 Pedestrians

<b>371.01</b>	<b>Right of way in crosswalk.</b>	<b>371.09</b>	<b>Walking on highway while under the influence.</b>
<b>371.02</b>	<b>Right of way of blind person.</b>	<b>371.10</b>	<b>On bridges or railroad crossings.</b>
<b>371.03</b>	<b>Crossing roadway outside crosswalk; diagonal crossings at intersections.</b>	<b>371.11</b>	<b>Persons operating motorized wheelchairs.</b>
<b>371.04</b>	<b>Moving upon right half of crosswalk.</b>	<b>371.12</b>	<b>Electric personal assistive mobility devices.</b>
<b>371.05</b>	<b>Walking along highways.</b>	<b>371.13</b>	<b>Operation of personal delivery device on sidewalks and crosswalks.</b>
<b>371.06</b>	<b>Use of highway for soliciting; riding on outside of vehicles.</b>	<b>371.14</b>	<b>Low-speed micromobility devices.</b>
<b>371.07</b>	<b>Right of way on sidewalk.</b>		
<b>371.08</b>	<b>Yielding to public safety vehicle.</b>		

#### CROSS REFERENCES

See sectional histories for similar State law

Pedestrian defined - see TRAF. 301.22

Pedestrian prohibited on freeways - see TRAF. 303.06

Obedience to traffic control devices - see TRAF. 313.01, 313.03

Pedestrian control signals - see TRAF. 313.05

#### **371.01 RIGHT OF WAY IN CROSSWALK.**

(a) When traffic control signals are not in place, not in operation or are not clearly assigning the right of way, the driver of a vehicle shall yield the right of way, slowing down or stopping if need be to so yield or if required by Section 313.09, to a pedestrian crossing the roadway within a crosswalk when the pedestrian is upon the half of the roadway upon which the vehicle is traveling, or when the pedestrian is approaching so closely from the opposite half of the roadway as to be in danger.

(b) No pedestrian shall suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and walk or run into the path of a vehicle which is so close as to constitute an immediate hazard.

(c) Subsection (a) hereof does not apply under the conditions stated in Section 371.03(b).

- B. If the court does not issue an impoundment order pursuant to subsection (f)(2)A. hereof, issue an order prohibiting the offender from operating any electric personal assistive mobility device on the public streets, highways, sidewalks, and paths and portions of roadways set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles for not less than one day but not more than thirty days.

(g) Whoever violates subsection (d) hereof is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.  
(ORC 4511.512)

### **371.13 OPERATION OF PERSONAL DELIVERY DEVICE ON SIDEWALKS AND CROSSWALKS.**

(a) As used in this section:

- (1) "Eligible entity" means a corporation, partnership, association, firm, sole proprietorship, or other entity engaged in business.
- (2) "Personal delivery device" means an electrically powered device to which all of the following apply:
  - A. The device is intended primarily to transport property and cargo on sidewalks and crosswalks.
  - B. The device weighs less than 250 pounds excluding any property or cargo being carried in the device.
  - C. The device has a maximum speed of ten miles per hour.
  - D. The device is equipped with technology that enables the operation of the device with active control or monitoring by a person, without active control or monitoring by a person, or both with or without active control or monitoring by a person.
- (3) "Personal delivery device operator" means an agent of an eligible entity who exercises direct physical control over, or monitoring of, the navigation and operation of a personal delivery device. The phrase does not include, with respect to a delivery or other service rendered by a personal delivery device, the person who requests the delivery or service. The phrase also does not include a person who only arranges for and dispatches a personal delivery device for a delivery or other service.

(b) An eligible entity may operate a personal delivery device on sidewalks and crosswalks so long as all of the following requirements are met:

- (1) The personal delivery device is operated in accordance with all regulations, if any, established by each local authority within which the personal delivery device is operated.
- (2) A personal delivery device operator is actively controlling or monitoring the navigation and operation of the personal delivery device.
- (3) The eligible entity maintains an insurance policy that includes general liability coverage of not less than one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) for damages arising from the operation of the personal delivery device by the eligible entity and any agent of the eligible entity.
- (4) The device is equipped with all of the following:
  - A. A marker that clearly identifies the name and contact information of the eligible entity operating the personal delivery device and a unique identification number;
  - B. A braking system that enables the personal delivery device to come to a controlled stop;

- C. If the personal delivery device is being operated between sunset and sunrise, a light on both the front and rear of the personal delivery device that is visible in clear weather from a distance of at least 500 feet to the front and rear of the personal delivery device when directly in front of low beams of headlights on a motor vehicle.

(c) No personal delivery device operator shall allow a personal delivery device to do any of the following:

- (1) Fail to comply with traffic or pedestrian control devices and signals;
- (2) Unreasonably interfere with pedestrians or traffic;
- (3) Transport any hazardous material that would require a permit issued by the Public Utilities Commission;
- (4) Operate on a street or highway, except when crossing the street or highway within a crosswalk.

(d) A personal delivery device has all of the rights and obligations applicable to a pedestrian under the same circumstances, except that a personal delivery device shall yield the right-of-way to human pedestrians on sidewalks and crosswalks.

- (e) (1) No person shall operate a personal delivery device unless the person is authorized to do so under this section and complies with the requirements of this section.

(2) An eligible entity is responsible for both of the following:

- A. Any violation of this section that is committed by a personal delivery device operator; and
  - B. Any other circumstance, including a technological malfunction, in which a personal delivery device operates in a manner prohibited by divisions (c)(1) to (c)(4) of this section.
- (ORC 4511.513)

### **371.14 LOW-SPEED MICROMOBILITY DEVICES.**

- (a) (1) A low-speed micromobility device may be operated on the public streets, highways, sidewalks, and shared-use paths, and may be operated on any portions of roadways set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles in accordance with this section.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in this section, those sections of this title that by their nature could apply to a low-speed micromobility device do apply to the device and the person operating it whenever it is operated upon any public street, highway, sidewalk, or shared-use path, or upon any portion of a roadway set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles.

(b) No operator of a low-speed micromobility device shall do any of the following:

- (1) Fail to yield the right-of-way to all pedestrians at all times;
- (2) Fail to give an audible signal before overtaking and passing a pedestrian;
- (3) Operate the device at night unless the device or its operator is equipped with or wearing both of the following:
  - A. A lamp pointing to the front that emits a white light visible from a distance of not less than 500 feet;
  - B. A red reflector facing the rear that is visible from all distances from 100 feet to 600 feet when directly in front of lawful lower beams of head lamps on a motor vehicle.



- (c) (1) No person who is under sixteen years of age shall rent a low-speed micromobility device.
- (2) No person shall knowingly rent a low-speed micromobility device to a person who is under sixteen years of age.
- (3) No person shall knowingly rent a low-speed micromobility device on behalf of a person who is under sixteen years of age.
- (d) No person shall operate a low-speed micromobility device at a speed greater than twenty miles per hour.
- (e) (1) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.
- (2) Unless a mens rea is otherwise specified in this section, an offense established under this section is a strict liability offense and Ohio R.C. 2901.20 does not apply. The designation of that offense as a strict liability offense shall not be construed to imply that any other offense, for which there is no specified degree of culpability, is not a strict liability offense.
- (f) Notwithstanding subsection (a)(1) of this section, the municipality, may do any of the following:
- (1) Regulate or prohibit the operation of low-speed micromobility devices on public streets, highways, sidewalks, and shared-use paths, and portions of roadways set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles, under its jurisdiction;
- (2) Include low-speed micromobility devices that are adapted to expand access for people with various physical limitations into a shared bicycle, shared electric bicycle, or similar vehicle sharing program, under its jurisdiction;
- (3) Require the owner or operator of a low-speed micromobility device rental service or low-speed micromobility device sharing program to maintain commercial general liability insurance related to the operation of the devices, with limits of up to one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence and two million dollars (\$2,000,000) per aggregate.
- (ORC 4511.514)

- (1) Without due regard for the safety and rights of pedestrians and drivers and occupants of all other vehicles, and so as to endanger the life, limb or property of any person while in the lawful use of the streets or sidewalks or any other public or private property;
- (2) Without exercising reasonable and ordinary control over such bicycle;
- (3) In a weaving or zigzag course unless such irregular course is necessary for safe operation in compliance with law;
- (4) Without both hands upon the handle grips except when necessary to give the required hand and arm signals, or as provided in Section 373.02(d);
- (5) At a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the conditions then existing.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor on a first offense; on a second offense within one year after the first offense, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree; on each subsequent offense within one year after the first offense, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.  
(Ord. 2019-1. Passed 5-9-19.)

### **373.09 PARKING OF BICYCLE.**

(a) No person shall park a bicycle or electric bicycle upon a sidewalk in such a manner so as to unduly interfere with pedestrian traffic or upon a roadway so as to unduly interfere with vehicular traffic.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor on a first offense; on a second offense within one year after the first offense, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree; on each subsequent offense within one year after the first offense, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.  
(Ord. 2019-1. Passed 5-9-19.)

### **373.10 MOTORIZED BICYCLE OPERATION, EQUIPMENT AND LICENSE.**

(a) No person shall operate a motorized bicycle upon any street or highway or any public or private property used by the public for purposes of vehicular travel or parking, unless all of the following conditions are met:

- (1) The person is fourteen or fifteen years of age and holds a valid probationary motorized bicycle license issued after the person has passed the test provided for in Ohio R.C. 4511.521, or the person is sixteen years of age or older and holds either a valid commercial driver's license issued under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4506, or a driver's license issued under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4507, or a valid motorized bicycle license issued after the person has passed the test provided for in Ohio R.C. 4511.521, except that if a person is sixteen years of age, has a valid probationary motorized bicycle license and desires a motorized bicycle license, the person is not required to comply with the testing requirements provided for in Ohio R.C. 4511.521;
- (2) The motorized bicycle is equipped in accordance with rules adopted by the Ohio Director of Public Safety and is in proper working order;
- (3) The person, if under eighteen years of age, is wearing a protective helmet on the person's head with the chin strap properly fastened, and the motorized bicycle is equipped with a rear-view mirror; and
- (4) The person operates the motorized bicycle when practicable within three feet of the right edge of the roadway obeying all traffic rules applicable to vehicles.

(b) No person operating a motorized bicycle shall carry another person upon the motorized bicycle.

(c) The protective helmet and rearview mirror required by subsection (a)(3) of this section shall, on and after January 1, 1985, conform with rules adopted by the Ohio Director of Public Safety.

(d) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. (ORC 4511.521)

### **373.11 PATHS EXCLUSIVELY FOR BICYCLES.**

(a) No person shall operate a motor vehicle, snowmobile, or all-purpose vehicle upon any path set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles, when an appropriate sign giving notice of such use is posted on the path.

Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect any rule of the Ohio Director of Natural Resources governing the operation of motor vehicles, snowmobiles, all-purpose vehicles, and bicycles on lands under the Director's jurisdiction.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

If the offender commits the offense while distracted and the distracting activity is a contributing factor to the commission of the offense, the offender is subject to the additional fine established under Section 303.991 of the Traffic Code.  
(ORC 4511.713; Ord. 2019-1. Passed 5-9-19.)

### **373.12 RIDING BICYCLES; HELMETS.**

(a) No person under the age of sixteen (16) years shall operate a bicycle within the City of Blue Ash unless such person is wearing a protective helmet on his/her head with the chin strap fastened under the chin. Such helmets shall be appropriately fitted to the size of the operator and shall meet or exceed the standards set by ANSI (American National Standards Institute) or SNELL (Snell Memorial Foundation).

(b) No person under the age of sixteen (16) years shall be a passenger on a bicycle within the City of Blue Ash unless such person is wearing a protective helmet on his/her head, with the chin strap fastened under the chin. Such helmet shall be appropriately fitted to the size of the passenger and shall meet or exceed the standards set by ANSI (American National Standards Institute) or SNELL (Snell Memorial Foundation).

(c) No parent, guardian, or legal custodian of a person under the age of sixteen (16) years who fails to comply with subsections (a) or (b) shall knowingly aid, abet, cause, encourage, or permit such conduct.

(d) This section shall not be applicable to the operation of a bicycle on private residential property.

(e) A bicycle rider under the age of sixteen (16) years of age who violates this section and the parent, guardian, or legal custodian of said rider, may be given a written warning detailing the violation along with information concerning the dangers which result when a bicycle accident occurs to a person who is not wearing a helmet. A second violation of this section shall result in a fine upon the rider's parent, guardian, or legal custodian in an amount not to exceed twenty-five dollars (\$25.00). For each and every subsequent violation of this section the rider's parent, guardian, or legal custodian shall be subject to a fine in an amount not to exceed fifty dollars (\$50.00). (Ord. 2003-79. Passed 10-9-03.)

### **373.13 ELECTRIC BICYCLES.**

- (a)
  - (1) The operation of a class 1 electric bicycle and a class 2 electric bicycle is permitted on a path set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles or on a shared-use path, unless the Municipality by resolution, ordinance, or rule prohibits the use of a class 1 electric bicycle or class 2 electric bicycle on such a path.
  - (2) No person shall operate a class 3 electric bicycle on a path set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles or a shared-use path unless that path is within or adjacent to a highway or the Municipality by resolution, ordinance, or rule authorizes the use of a class 3 electric bicycle on such a path.
  - (3) No person shall operate a class 1 electric bicycle, a class 2 electric bicycle or a class 3 electric bicycle on a path that is intended to be used primarily for mountain biking, hiking, equestrian use, or other similar uses, or any other single track or natural surface trail that has historically been reserved for nonmotorized use, unless the Municipality by resolution, ordinance or rule authorizes the use of a class 1 electric bicycle, a class 2 electric bicycle, or a class 3 electric bicycle on such a path.
  - (4) Subsections (a)(2) and (a)(3) of this section do not apply to a law enforcement officer, or other person sworn to enforce the criminal and traffic laws of the state, using an electric bicycle while in the performance of the officer's duties.
- (b)
  - (1) No person under sixteen years of age shall operate a class 3 electric bicycle; however, a person under sixteen years of age may ride as a passenger on a class 3 electric bicycle that is designed to accommodate passengers.
  - (2) No person shall operate or be a passenger on a class 3 electric bicycle unless the person is wearing a protective helmet that meets the standards established by the Consumer Product Safety Commission or the American Society for Testing and Materials.
- (c)
  - (1) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, whoever operates an electric bicycle in a manner that is prohibited under subsection (a) of this section and whoever violates subsection (b) of this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

- (2) The offenses established under subsection (c)(1) of this section are strict liability offenses and strict liability is a culpable mental state for purposes of Ohio R.C. 2901.20. The designation of these offenses as strict liability offenses shall not be construed to imply that any other offense, for which there is no specified degree of culpability, is not a strict liability offense. (ORC 4511.522; Ord. 2019-1. Passed 5-9-19.)

(c) No person who confines or who is the custodian or caretaker of a companion animal shall negligently do any of the following:

- (1) Torture, torment or commit an act or cruelty against the companion animal;
- (2) Deprive the companion animal of necessary sustenance, or confine the companion animal without supplying it during the confinement with sufficient quantities of good, wholesome food and water, if it can reasonably be expected that the companion animal would become sick or suffer in any other way as a result of or due to the deprivation or confinement;
- (3) Impound or confine the companion animal without affording it, during the impoundment or confinement, with access to shelter from heat, cold, wind, rain, snow, or excessive direct sunlight if it can reasonably be expected that the companion animal would become sick or suffer in any other way as a result of or due to the lack of adequate shelter.

(d) No owner, manager or employee of a dog kennel who confines or is the custodian or caretaker of a companion animal shall negligently do any of the following:

- (1) Torture, torment, or commit an act of cruelty against the companion animal;
- (2) Deprive the companion animal of necessary sustenance, or confine the companion animal without supplying it during the confinement with sufficient quantities of good, wholesome food and water, if it can reasonably be expected that the companion animal would become sick or suffer in any other way as a result of or due to the deprivation or confinement;
- (3) Impound or confine the companion animal without affording it, during the impoundment or confinement, with access to shelter from heat, cold, wind, rain, snow or excessive direct sunlight if it can reasonably be expected that the companion animal would become sick or suffer in any other way as a result of or due to the lack of adequate shelter.

(e) Subsections (b), (c) and (d) of this section do not apply to any of the following:

- (1) A companion animal used in scientific research conducted by an institution in accordance with the federal animal welfare act and related regulations;
- (2) The lawful practice of veterinary medicine by a person who has been issued a license, temporary permit, or registration certificate to do so under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4741;
- (3) Dogs being used or intended for use for hunting or field trial purposes, provided that the dogs are being treated in accordance with usual and commonly accepted practices for the care of hunting dogs;
- (4) The use of common training devices, if the companion animal is being treated in accordance with usual and commonly accepted practices for the training of animals;
- (5) The administering of medicine to a companion animal that was properly prescribed by a person who has been issued a license, temporary permit, or registration certificate under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4741.

(f) Notwithstanding any section of the Ohio Revised Code that otherwise provides for the distribution of fine moneys, the Clerk of Court shall forward all fines the Clerk collects that are so imposed for any violation of this section to the Treasurer of the municipality, whose county humane society or law enforcement agency is to be paid the fine money as determined under this section. The Treasurer shall pay the fine moneys to the county humane society or the county, township, municipal corporation, or state law enforcement agency in this state that primarily was responsible for or involved in the investigation and prosecution of the violation. If a county humane society receives any fine moneys under this section, the county humane society shall use the fine moneys either to provide the training that is required for humane society agents under Ohio R.C. 1717.061 or to provide additional training for humane society agents. (ORC 959.131)

- (g)
- (1) Whoever violates subsection (b) hereof is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree on a first offense. On each subsequent offense such person is guilty of a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law.
  - (2) Whoever violates subsection (c) hereof is guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree on a first offense and a misdemeanor of the first degree on each subsequent offense.
  - (3) Whoever violates subsection (d) hereof is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.
  - (4)
    - A. A court may order a person who is convicted of or pleads guilty to a violation of this section to forfeit to an impounding agency, as defined in Ohio R.C. 959.132, any or all of the companion animals in that person's ownership or care. The court also may prohibit or place limitations on the person's ability to own or care for any companion animals for a specified or indefinite period of time.
    - B. A court may order a person who is convicted of or pleads guilty to a violation of this section to reimburse an impounding agency for the reasonably necessary costs incurred by the agency for the care of a companion animal that the agency impounded as a result of the investigation or prosecution of the violation, provided that the costs were not otherwise paid under Ohio R.C. 959.132.
  - (5) If a court has reason to believe that a person who is convicted of or pleads guilty to a violation of this section suffers from a mental or emotional disorder that contributed to the violation, the court may impose as a community control sanction or as a condition of probation a requirement that the offender undergo psychological evaluation or counseling. The court shall order the offender to pay the costs of the evaluation or counseling. (ORC 959.99; Ord. 2017-10. Passed 8-10-17.)

#### **505.08 NUISANCE CONDITIONS PROHIBITED.**

(a) No person shall keep or harbor any animal or fowl in the Municipality so as to create noxious, or offensive odors or unsanitary conditions which are a menace to the health, comfort or safety of the public.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.

#### **505.09 BARKING OR HOWLING DOGS.**

(a) No owner, keeper or harbinger of a dog shall permit or allow that dog to annoy or disturb two or more persons by frequent or habitual howling, yelping, barking or making of any other such noises by the dog within the corporation limits. (Ord. 2006-38. Passed 5-11-06.)

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.

**509.07 MAKING FALSE ALARMS.**

(a) No person shall do any of the following:

- (1) Initiate or circulate a report or warning of an alleged or impending fire, explosion, crime or other catastrophe, knowing that the report or warning is false and likely to cause public inconvenience or alarm;
- (2) Knowingly cause a false alarm of fire or other emergency to be transmitted to or within any organization, public or private, for dealing with emergencies involving a risk of physical harm to persons or property;
- (3) Report to any law enforcement agency an alleged offense or other incident within its concern, knowing that such offense did not occur.
- (4) Initiate or circulate a report or warning of an alleged or impending fire, explosion, crime, or other catastrophe, knowing that the report or warning is false and likely to impede the operation of a critical infrastructure facility.

(b) This section does not apply to any person conducting an authorized fire or emergency drill.

(c) Whoever violates this section is guilty of making false alarms, a misdemeanor of the first degree. If a violation of this section results in economic harm of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more, or if a violation of this section pertains to a purported, threatened, or actual use of a weapon of mass destruction, making false alarms is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law.

(d) Any act that is a violation of this section and any other section of the Codified Ordinances may be prosecuted under this section, the other section, or both sections.

(e) As used in this section:

- (1) "Critical infrastructure facility" has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 2911.21.
- (2) "Economic harm" and "weapon of mass destruction" have the same meaning as in Section 509.06. (ORC 2917.32)

**509.08 DISTURBING THE PEACE; INTOXICATION.**

(a) No person shall be found in a state of intoxication or, being intoxicated, shall disturb the peace and good order, or shall conduct himself in a disorderly manner. (Ord. 82-111. Passed 11-11-82.)

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.

**509.09 DISTURBING THE PEACE: ACTIVITY.**

(a) Definitions:

- (1) "Completely enclosed structure" is a building that has no openings from the inside of the building to the outside. A building that has doors and windows that are completely closed or otherwise sealed is a completely enclosed structure.
- (2) "Construction" includes any site preparation, assembly, erection, repair, alteration, or similar action, or demolition of buildings or structures.
- (3) "Emergency work" is any work or action necessary to deliver essential services including, but not limited to, repairing water, gas, electric, and other utilities or public transportation facilities, removing fallen trees on public rights-of-way, or abating life-threatening conditions.



## CHAPTER 513 Drug Abuse Control

<b>513.01</b>	<b>Definitions.</b>	<b>513.11</b>	<b>Possessing nitrous oxide in motor vehicle.</b>
<b>513.02</b>	<b>Gift of marihuana; trafficking in marihuana.</b>	<b>513.12</b>	<b>Drug paraphernalia.</b>
<b>513.03</b>	<b>Possession or use of a controlled substance.</b>	<b>513.121</b>	<b>Marihuana drug paraphernalia.</b>
<b>513.04</b>	<b>Possessing drug abuse instruments.</b>	<b>513.13</b>	<b>Counterfeit controlled substances.</b>
<b>513.05</b>	<b>Permitting drug abuse.</b>	<b>513.14</b>	<b>Illegal use, sale or possession of toxic glue.</b>
<b>513.06</b>	<b>Illegal cultivation of marihuana.</b>	<b>513.15</b>	<b>Hallucinogens.</b>
<b>513.07</b>	<b>Possessing or using harmful intoxicants.</b>	<b>513.16</b>	<b>Barbiturates and amphetamines.</b>
<b>513.08</b>	<b>Illegal dispensing of drug samples.</b>	<b>513.17</b>	<b>Prohibition against possession of dangerous drugs.</b>
<b>513.09</b>	<b>Controlled substance or prescription labels.</b>	<b>513.18</b>	<b>Offender may be required to pay for controlled substance tests.</b>
<b>513.10</b>	<b>Hypodermic possession, display and dispensing.</b>	<b>513.19</b>	<b>Sale of dextromethorphan.</b>
		<b>513.99</b>	<b>Penalty.</b>

### CROSS REFERENCES

See sectional histories for similar State law  
 Federal prosecution bar to local prosecution - see Ohio R.C. 2925.50, 3719.19  
 Analysis report and notarized statement as evidence - see Ohio R.C. 2925.51  
 Criteria for granting probation - see Ohio R.C. 3719.70(B)  
 Adulterating food with drug of abuse - see GEN. OFF. 537.13  
 Using weapons while under the influence - see GEN. OFF. 549.03.

### **513.01 DEFINITIONS.**

For the purpose of this chapter, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning. Words, terms and phrases and their derivatives used in this chapter which are not defined in this section shall have the meanings given to them in the Ohio Revised Code.

- (a) "Administer." Has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 3719.01.
- (b) "Adulterate." To cause a drug to be adulterated as described in Ohio R.C. 3715.63.
- (c) "Bulk amount." Of a controlled substance, means any of the following:
  - (1) For any compound, mixture, preparation, or substance included in Schedule I, Schedule II, or Schedule III, with the exception of any controlled substance analog, marihuana, cocaine, L.S.D., heroin, any fentanyl-related compound, and hashish and except as provided in subsection (c)(2), (5), or (6) of this definition, whichever of the following is applicable:

- (7) A person who has been issued a cosmetologist's license, hair designer's license, manicurist's license, esthetician's license, natural hair stylist's license, advanced cosmetologist's license, advanced hair designer's license, advanced manicurist's license, advanced esthetician's license, advanced natural hair stylist's license, cosmetology instructor's license, hair design instructor's license, manicurist instructor's license, esthetics instructor's license, natural hair style instructor's license, independent contractor's license, or tanning facility permit under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4713;
- (8) A person who has been issued a license to practice dentistry, a general anesthesia permit, a conscious sedation permit, a limited resident's license, a limited teaching license, a dental hygienist's license or a dental hygienist's teacher's certificate under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4715;
- (9) A person who has been issued an embalmer's license, a funeral director's license, a funeral home license or a crematory license, or who has been registered for an embalmer's or funeral director's apprenticeship under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4717;
- (10) A person who has been licensed as a registered nurse or practical nurse, or who has been issued a certificate for the practice of nurse-midwifery under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4723;
- (11) A person who has been licensed to practice optometry or to engage in optical dispensing under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4725;
- (12) A person licensed to act as a pawnbroker under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4727;
- (13) A person licensed to act as a precious metals dealer under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4728;
- (14) A person licensed under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4729 as a pharmacist or pharmacy intern or registered under that chapter as a registered pharmacy technician, certified pharmacy technician, or pharmacy technician trainee;
- (15) A person licensed under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4729 as a manufacturer of dangerous drugs, outsourcing facility, third-party logistics provider, repackager of dangerous drugs, wholesale distributor of dangerous drugs, or terminal distributor of dangerous drugs;
- (16) A person who is authorized to practice as a physician assistant under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4730;
- (17) A person who has been issued a license to practice medicine and surgery, osteopathic medicine and surgery, or podiatric medicine and surgery under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4731 or has been issued a certificate to practice a limited branch of medicine under that chapter;
- (18) A person licensed as a psychologist or school psychologist under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4732;
- (19) A person registered to practice the profession of engineering or surveying under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4733;
- (20) A person who has been issued a license to practice chiropractic under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4734;
- (21) A person licensed to act as a real estate broker or real estate salesperson under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4735;
- (22) A person registered as a registered environmental health specialist under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4736;
- (23) A person licensed to operate or maintain a junkyard under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4737;
- (24) A person who has been issued a motor vehicle salvage dealer's license under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4738;
- (25) A person who has been licensed to act as a steam engineer under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4739;

**513.16 BARBITURATES AND AMPHETAMINES.**

(a) No person shall, with intent to produce intoxication, elation, paralysis, irrational conduct or the changing, distortion or disturbance of the thinking process, judgment, balance or coordination, use any barbiturate or amphetamine, as defined in Ohio R. C. 3719.41. Provided however, this section does not apply to the use of any barbiturate or amphetamine by licensed manufacturers, wholesalers, pharmacists, owners of pharmacies, physicians and other persons for research, clinical or medicinal purposes authorized by federal law or State law or any rules or regulations adopted pursuant thereto.

(b) No person shall induce or attempt to induce another person to unlawfully use any barbiturate or amphetamine; or employ, induce or use a minor to unlawfully transport, carry, dispense, produce or manufacture any barbiturate or amphetamine; or induce or attempt to induce a minor to violate any of the provisions of this section. (Ord. 82-111. Passed 11-11-82.)

(c) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

**513.17 PROHIBITION AGAINST POSSESSION OF DANGEROUS DRUGS.**

(a) No person, except a licensed terminal distributor of dangerous drugs or a practitioner, shall purchase for the purpose of resale, possess for sale or sell, at retail, dangerous drugs.

The possession by any person, other than a practitioner, registered wholesale distributor of dangerous drugs, or licensed terminal distributor of dangerous drugs, of any dangerous drugs other than insulin or drugs obtained lawfully for medical purposes from or upon the prescription of a practitioner, shall constitute presumptive evidence that such person is in violation of this section.

(b) "Dangerous drug" means any drug which, under the "Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act," federal narcotic law, Ohio R. C. 3715.01 to 3715.72 or Ohio R. C. Chapter 3719, may be dispensed only upon a prescription. (Ord. 87-50. Passed 4-23-87.)

(c) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

**513.18 OFFENDER MAY BE REQUIRED TO PAY FOR CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE TESTS.**

In addition to the financial sanctions authorized or required under Ohio R.C. 2929.18 and 2929.28 and to any costs otherwise authorized or required under any provision of law, the court imposing sentence upon an offender who is convicted of or pleads guilty to a drug abuse offense may order the offender to pay to the state, municipal, or county law enforcement agencies that handled the investigation and prosecution all of the costs that the state, municipal corporation, or county reasonably incurred in having tests performed under Ohio R.C. 2925.51, or in any other manner on any substance that was the basis of, or involved in, the offense to determine whether the substance contained any amount of a controlled substance if the results of the tests indicate that the substance tested contained any controlled substance. No court shall order an offender under this section to pay the costs of tests performed on a substance if the results of the tests do not indicate that the substance tested contained any controlled substance.

The court shall hold a hearing to determine the amount of costs to be imposed under this section. The court may hold the hearing as part of the sentencing hearing for the offender. (ORC 2925.511)

**513.19 SALE OF DEXTROMETHORPHAN.**

(a) As used in this section:

- (1) "Dextromethorphan" means the dextrorotatory isomer of 3-methoxy-N-methylmorphinan, including its salts, but not including its racemic or levorotatory forms.
- (2) "Evidence of majority and identity" means a document issued by the federal government or a state, county, or municipal government, or a subdivision or agency of any of the foregoing, including a driver's or commercial driver's license, an identification card issued under Ohio R.C. 4507.50 to 4507.52, a military identification card, or any other form of identification that bears the name, date of birth, description and picture of the person identified.
- (3) "Retailer" means a place of business that offers consumer products for sale to the general public, including a terminal distributor of dangerous drugs that is licensed under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4729 and operated as a pharmacy.

(b) No retailer or employee of a retailer shall knowingly supply, deliver, give or otherwise provide a drug, material, compound, mixture, preparation or substance containing any quantity of dextromethorphan through the sale of any product to a person under eighteen years of age, unless the person has been issued a prescription for the product being purchased.

(c) For purposes of subsection (b) of this section, the person making the sale of a product containing dextromethorphan shall require and obtain evidence of majority and identity from the purchaser, unless from the purchaser's outward appearance the person making the sale would reasonably presume the purchaser to be twenty-five years of age or older. Proof that the person making the sale demanded, was shown, and acted in reasonable reliance on the purchaser's evidence of majority and identity is a defense to any charge of a violation of subsection (b) of this section.

(d) A retailer or employee of a retailer is not liable for damages in a civil action for injury, death or loss to person or property that allegedly arises from an act or omission associated with a failure to prevent the sale of a product containing dextromethorphan to a person under eighteen years of age, unless the act or omission constitutes willful or wanton misconduct.

(e) Whoever violates subsection (b) of this section is guilty of illegally selling dextromethorphan, a minor misdemeanor.  
(ORC 2925.62)

**513.99 PENALTY.**

(EDITOR'S NOTE: See Section 501.99 for penalties applicable to any misdemeanor classification.)

## CHAPTER 517 Gambling

<b>517.01</b>	<b>Definitions.</b>	<b>517.11</b>	<b>Bingo or game of chance records.</b>
<b>517.02</b>	<b>Gambling.</b>	<b>517.12</b>	<b>Bingo operator prohibitions.</b>
<b>517.03</b>	<b>Operating a gambling house.</b>	<b>517.13</b>	<b>Bingo exceptions.</b>
<b>517.04</b>	<b>Public gaming.</b>	<b>517.14</b>	<b>Instant bingo conduct by a veteran's or fraternal organization.</b>
<b>517.05</b>	<b>Cheating.</b>	<b>517.15</b>	<b>Skill-based amusement machines.</b>
<b>517.06</b>	<b>Methods of conducting a bingo game; prohibitions.</b>	<b>517.16</b>	<b>Electronic instant bingo; prohibited conduct.</b>
<b>517.07</b>	<b>Instant bingo conduct.</b>	<b>517.99</b>	<b>Penalty.</b>
<b>517.08</b>	<b>Raffles.</b>		
<b>517.09</b>	<b>Charitable instant bingo organizations.</b>		
<b>517.10</b>	<b>Location of instant bingo.</b>		

### CROSS REFERENCES

See sectional histories for similar State law  
 Lotteries prohibited; exception - see Ohio Const., Art. XV,  
     Sec. 6  
 Contributing to delinquency of minors - see Ohio R.C. 2151.41  
 Search warrants - see Ohio R.C. 2933.21(E)  
 Licensing charitable bingo games - see Ohio R.C. 2915.08

### **517.01 DEFINITIONS.**

For the purpose of this chapter, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

- (a) "Bet" means the hazarding of anything of value upon the result of an event, undertaking, or contingency, but does not include a bona fide business risk.
- (b) "Bingo" means either of the following:
  - (1) A game with all of the following characteristics:
    - A. The participants use bingo cards or sheets, including paper formats and electronic representation or image formats, that are divided into twenty-five (25) spaces arranged in five (5) horizontal and five (5) vertical rows of spaces, with each space, except the central space, being designated by a combination of a letter and a number and with the central space being designated as a free space;
    - B. The participants cover the spaces on the bingo cards or sheets that correspond to combinations of letters and numbers that are announced by a bingo game operator;

- C. A bingo game operator announces combinations of letters and numbers that appear on objects that a bingo game operator selects by chance, either manually or mechanically, from a receptacle that contains seventy-five (75) objects at the beginning of each game, each object marked by a different combination of a letter and a number that corresponds to one of the seventy-five (75) possible combinations of a letter and a number that can appear on the bingo cards or sheets;
- D. The winner of the bingo game includes any participant who properly announces during the interval between the announcements of letters and numbers, as described in subsection (b)(1)C. hereof, that a predetermined and pre-announced pattern of spaces has been covered on a bingo card or sheet being used by the participant.
- (2) Instant bingo, electronic instant bingo, and raffles.
- (c) "Bingo game operator" means any person, except security personnel, who performs work or labor at the site of bingo including but not limited to collecting money from participants, handing out bingo cards or sheets or objects to cover spaces on bingo cards or sheets, selecting from a receptacle the objects that contain the combination of letters and numbers that appear on bingo cards or sheets, calling out the combinations of letters and numbers, distributing prizes, selling or redeeming instant bingo tickets or cards, selling or redeeming electronic instant bingo tickets, credits, or vouchers, accessing an electronic instant bingo system other than as a participant, supervising the operation of a punch board, selling raffle tickets, selecting raffle tickets from a receptacle and announcing the winning numbers in a raffle, and preparing, selling, and serving food or beverages. □ "Bingo game operator" does not include a person who is installing, maintaining, updating, or repairing an electronic instant bingo system.
- (d) "Bingo session" means a period that includes both of the following:
- (1) Not to exceed five (5) continuous hours for the conduct of one or more games described in subsection (d)(1) hereof the definition of "bingo" in this section, instant bingo, and electronic instant bingo;
- (2) A period for the conduct of instant bingo and electronic instant bingo for not more than two (2) hours before and not more than two (2) hours after the period described in subsection (d)(1) hereof.
- (e) "Bingo supplies" means bingo cards or sheets; instant bingo tickets or cards; electronic bingo aids; raffle tickets; punch boards; seal cards; instant bingo ticket dispensers; electronic instant bingo systems; and devices for selecting or displaying the combination of bingo letters and numbers or raffle tickets. Items that are "bingo supplies" are not gambling devices if sold or otherwise provided, and used, in accordance with this chapter or Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915. For purposes of this chapter, "bingo supplies" are not to be considered equipment used to conduct a bingo game.
- (f) "Bookmaking" means the business of receiving or paying off bets.
- (g) "Chamber of Commerce" means any organization of individuals, professionals, and businesses that has the purpose to advance the commercial, financial, industrial, and civic interests of the community and that is, and has received from the Internal Revenue Service a determination letter that currently is in effect stating that the organization is, exempt from federal income taxation under IRC 501(a) and described in IRC 501(c)(6).

- (h) “Charitable bingo game” means any bingo game described in subsections (b)(1) or (2) hereof that is conducted by a charitable organization that has obtained a license pursuant to Ohio R.C. 2915.08 and the proceeds of which are used for a charitable purpose.
- (i) “Charitable instant bingo organization” means an organization that is exempt from federal income taxation under IRC 501(a) and described in IRC 501(c)(3) and is a charitable organization as defined in this section. The term does not include a charitable organization that is exempt from federal income taxation under IRC 501(a) and described in IRC 501(c)(3) and that is created by a veteran’s organization, a fraternal organization, or a sporting organization in regards to bingo conducted or assisted by a veteran’s organization, a fraternal organization, or a sporting organization pursuant to Section 517.14.
- (j) “Charitable organization” means:
  - (1) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, “charitable organization” means either of the following:
    - A. An organization that is exempt from federal income taxation under IRC 501(a) and described in IRC 501(c)(3);
    - B. A volunteer rescue service organization, volunteer firefighter’s organization, veteran’s organization, fraternal organization, or sporting organization that is exempt from federal income taxation under IRC 501(c)(4), 501(c)(7), 501(c)(8), 501(c)(10) or 501(c)(19).
  - (2) To qualify as a charitable organization, an organization shall have been in continuous existence as such in this state for a period of two (2) years immediately preceding either the making of an application for a bingo license under Ohio R.C. 2915.08 or the conducting of any game of chance as provided Section 517.02(d).
- (k) “Charitable purpose” means that the net profit of bingo, other than instant bingo or electronic instant bingo, is used by, or is given, donated, or otherwise transferred to, any of the following:
  - (1) Any organization that is described in IRC 509(a)(1), 509(a)(2), or 509(a)(3) and is either a governmental unit or an organization that is tax exempt under IRC 501(a) and described in IRC 501(c)(3);
  - (2) A veteran’s organization that is a post, chapter, or organization of veterans, or an auxiliary unit or society of, or a trust or foundation for, any such post, chapter, or organization organized in the United States or any of its possessions, at least seventy-five percent (75%) of the members of which are veterans and substantially all of the other members of which are individuals who are spouses, widows, or widowers of veterans, or such individuals, provided that no part of the net earnings of such post, chapter, or organization inures to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual, and further provided that the net profit is used by the post, chapter, or organization for the charitable purposes set forth in Ohio R.C. 5739.02(B)(12), is used for awarding scholarships to or for attendance at an institution mentioned in that division of the Ohio Revised Code, is donated to a governmental agency, or is used for nonprofit youth activities, the purchase of United States or Ohio flags that are donated to schools, youth groups, or other bona fide nonprofit organizations, promotion of patriotism, or disaster relief;

- (3) A fraternal organization that has been in continuous existence in this state for fifteen (15) years and that uses the net profit exclusively for religious, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes, or for the prevention of cruelty to children or animals, if contributions for such use would qualify as a deductible charitable contribution under IRC 170;
- (4) A volunteer firefighter's organization that uses the net profit for the purposes set forth in the definition of "volunteer firefighter's organization" in this section.
- (l) "Community action agency" has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 122.66.
- (m) "Conduct" means to back, promote, organize, manage, carry on, sponsor, or prepare for the operation of bingo or a game of chance, a scheme of chance, or a sweepstakes.
- (n) "Deal" means a single game of instant bingo tickets, or a single game of electronic instant bingo tickets, all with the same serial number.
- (o) "Distributor" means any person who purchases or obtains bingo supplies and who does either of the following:
  - (1) Sells, offers for sale, or otherwise provides or offers to provide the bingo supplies to another person for use in this state;
  - (2) Modifies, converts, adds to, or removes parts from the bingo supplies to further their promotion or sale for use in this state.
- (p) "Electronic bingo aid" means:
  - (1) An electronic device used by a participant to monitor bingo cards or sheets purchased at the time and place of a bingo session and that does all of the following:
    - A. It provides a means for a participant to input numbers and letters announced by a bingo caller.
    - B. It compares the numbers and letters entered by the participant to the bingo faces previously stored in the memory of the device.
    - C. It identifies a winning bingo pattern.
  - (2) The term does not include any device into which a coin, currency, token, or an equivalent is inserted to activate play.
- (q) "Electronic instant bingo" means:
  - (1) A form of bingo that consists of an electronic or digital representation of instant bingo in which a participant wins a prize if the participant's electronic instant bingo ticket contains a combination of numbers or symbols that was designated in advance as a winning combination, and to which all of the following apply:
    - A. Each deal has a predetermined, finite number of winning and losing tickets and a predetermined prize amount and deal structure, provided that there may be multiple winning combinations in each deal and multiple winning tickets.
    - B. Each electronic instant bingo ticket within a deal has a unique serial number that is not regenerated.
    - C. Each electronic instant bingo ticket within a deal is sold for the same price.
    - D. After a participant purchases an electronic instant bingo ticket, the combination of numbers or symbols on the ticket is revealed to the participant.



- E. The reveal of numbers or symbols on the ticket may incorporate an entertainment or bonus theme, provided that the reveal does not include spinning reels that resemble a slot machine.
- F. The reveal theme, if any, does not require additional consideration or award any prize other than any predetermined prize associated with the electronic instant bingo ticket.
- (2) The term shall not include any of the following:
  - A. Any game, entertainment, or bonus theme that replicates or simulates any of the following:
    - 1. The gambling games of keno, blackjack, roulette, poker, craps, other casino-style table games;
    - 2. Horse racing;
    - 3. Gambling games offered in this state on slot machines or video lottery terminals. As used in this division, "video lottery terminal" has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 3770.21.
  - B. Any device operated by dropping one or more coins or tokens into a slot and pulling a handle or pushing a button or touchpoint on a touchscreen to activate one to three or more rotating reels marked into horizontal segments by varying symbols, where the predetermined prize amount depends on how and how many of the symbols line up when the rotating reels come to a rest;
  - C. Any device that includes a coin or token slot, tray, or hopper and the ability to dispense coins, cash, tokens, or anything of value other than a credit ticket voucher.
- (r) "Electronic instant bingo system" means both of the following:
  - (1) A mechanical, electronic, digital, or video device and associated software to which all of the following apply:
    - A. It is used by not more than one player at a time to play electronic instant bingo on a single screen that is physically connected to the device;
    - B. It is located on the premises of the principal place of business of a veteran's or fraternal organization that holds a type II or type III bingo license to conduct electronic instant bingo at that location issued under Ohio R.C. 2915.08.
  - (2) Any associated equipment or software used to manage, monitor, or document any aspect of electronic instant bingo.
- (s) "Expenses" means the reasonable amount of gross profit actually expended for all of the following:
  - (1) The purchase or lease of bingo supplies;
  - (2) The annual license fee required under Ohio R.C. 2915.08;
  - (3) Bank fees and service charges for a bingo session or game account described in Ohio R.C. 2915.10;
  - (4) Audits and accounting services;
  - (5) Safes;
  - (6) Cash registers;
  - (7) Hiring security personnel;
  - (8) Advertising bingo;
  - (9) Renting premises in which to conduct a bingo session;

- (10) Tables and chairs;
- (11) Expenses for maintaining and operating a charitable organization's facilities, including but not limited to a post home, club house, lounge, tavern, or canteen and any grounds attached to the post home, club house, lounge, tavern, or canteen;
- (12) Payment of real property taxes and assessments that are levied on a premises on which bingo is conducted;
- (13) Any other product or service directly related to the conduct of bingo that is authorized in rules adopted by the Attorney General under Ohio R.C. 2915.08(F)(1).
- (t) "Fraternal organization" means any society, order, state headquarters, or association within this state, except a college or high school fraternity, that is not organized for profit, that is a branch, lodge, or chapter of a national or state organization, that exists exclusively for the common business or sodality of its members.
- (u) "Gambling device" means any of the following:
  - (1) A book, totalizer, or other equipment used for recording bets;
  - (2) A ticket, token, or other device representing a chance, share, or interest in a scheme of chance or evidencing a bet;
  - (3) A deck of cards, dice, gaming table, roulette wheel, slot machine, or other apparatus designed for use in connection with a game of chance;
  - (4) Any equipment, device, apparatus, or paraphernalia specially designed for gambling purposes;
  - (5) Bingo supplies sold or otherwise provided, or used, in violation of this chapter or Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915.
- (v) "Gambling offense" means any of the following:
  - (1) A violation of Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915;
  - (2) A violation of an existing or former municipal ordinance or law of this or any other state or of the United States substantially equivalent to any provision of this chapter or Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915 or a violation of Ohio R.C. 2915.06 as it existed prior to July 1, 1996;
  - (3) An offense under an existing or former municipal ordinance or law of this or any other state or of the United States, of which gambling is an element;
  - (4) A conspiracy or attempt to commit, or complicity in committing, any offense under subsections (v)(1), (2), or (3) hereof.
- (w) "Game flare" means the board or placard, or electronic representation of a board or placard, that accompanies each deal of instant bingo or electronic instant bingo tickets and that includes the following information for the game:
  - (1) The name of the game;
  - (2) The manufacture's name or distinctive logo;
  - (3) The form number;
  - (4) The ticket count;
  - (5) The prize structure, including the number of winning tickets by denomination and the respective winning symbol or number combinations for the winning tickets;
  - (6) The cost per play;
  - (7) The serial number of the game.
- (x) "Game of chance" means poker, craps, roulette, or other game in which a player gives anything of value in the hope of gain, the outcome of which is determined largely by chance, but does not include bingo.

- (y) “Game of chance conducted for profit” means any game of chance designed to produce income for the person who conducts or operates the game of chance, but does not include bingo.
- (z) “Gross annual revenues” means the annual gross receipts derived from the conduct of bingo described in subsection (b)(1) hereof plus the annual net profit derived from the conduct of bingo described subsection (b)(2) hereof.
- (aa) “Gross profit” means gross receipts minus the amount actually expended for the payment of prize awards.
- (bb) “Gross receipts” means all money or assets, including admission fees, that a person receives from bingo without the deduction of any amounts for prizes paid out or for the expenses of conducting bingo. The term does not include any money directly taken in from the sale of food or beverages by a charitable organization conducting bingo, or by a bona fide auxiliary unit or society of a charitable organization conducting bingo, provided all of the following apply:
  - (1) The auxiliary unit or society has been in existence as a bona fide auxiliary unit or society of the charitable organization for at least two (2) years prior to conducting bingo.
  - (2) The person who purchases the food or beverage receives nothing of value except the food or beverage and items customarily received with the purchase of that food or beverage.
  - (3) The food and beverages are sold at customary and reasonable prices.
- (cc) “Historic railroad” means all or a portion of the tracks and right-of-way of a railroad that was owned and operated by a for profit common carrier in this state at any time prior to January 1, 1950.
- (dd) “Instant bingo” means a form of bingo that shall use folded or banded tickets or paper cards with perforated break-open tabs, a face of which is covered or otherwise hidden from view to conceal a number, letter, or symbol, or set of numbers, letters, or symbols, some of which have been designated in advance as prize winners, and may also include games in which some winners are determined by the random selection of one or more bingo numbers by the use of a seal card or bingo blower. □ “Instant bingo” also includes a punch board game. In all “instant bingo” the prize amount and structure shall be predetermined. The term does not include electronic instant bingo or any device that is activated by the insertion of a coin, currency, token, or an equivalent, and that contains as one of its components a video display monitor that is capable of displaying numbers, letters, symbols, or characters in winning or losing combinations.
- (ee) “Instant bingo ticket dispenser” means a mechanical device that dispenses an instant bingo ticket or card as the sole item of value dispensed and that has the following characteristics:
  - (1) It is activated upon the insertion of United States currency.
  - (2) It performs no gaming functions.
  - (3) It does not contain a video display monitor or generate noise.
  - (4) It is not capable of displaying any numbers, letters, symbols, or characters in winning or losing combinations.
  - (5) It does not simulate or display rolling or spinning reels.
  - (6) It is incapable of determining whether a dispensed bingo ticket or card is a winning or non-winning ticket or card and requires a winning ticket or card to be paid by a bingo game operator.

- (7) It may provide accounting and security features to aid in accounting for the instant bingo tickets or cards it dispenses.
- (8) It is not part of an electronic network and is not interactive.
- (ff) “Internal Revenue Code (IRC)” means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 100 Stat. 2085, 26 U.S.C. 1 et seq., as now or hereafter amended.
- (gg) “Manufacturer” means any person who assembles completed bingo supplies from raw materials, other items, or subparts or who modifies, converts, adds to, or removes parts from bingo supplies to further their promotion or sale.
- (hh) “Merchandise prize” means any item of value, but shall not include any of the following:
- (1) Cash, gift cards, or any equivalent thereof;
  - (2) Plays on games of chance, state lottery tickets, or bingo;
  - (3) Firearms, tobacco, or alcoholic beverages; or
  - (4) A redeemable voucher that is redeemable for any of the items listed in subsections (hh)(1), (2) or (3) hereof.
- (ii) “Net profit” means gross profit minus expenses.
- (jj) “Net profit from the proceeds of the sale of instant bingo or electronic instant bingo” means gross profit minus the ordinary, necessary, and reasonable expense expended for the purchase of bingo supplies for the purpose of conducting instant bingo or electronic instant bingo, and, in the case of instant bingo or electronic instant bingo conducted by a veteran’s, fraternal, or sporting organization, minus the payment by that organization of real property taxes and assessments levied on a premises on which instant bingo or electronic instant bingo is conducted.
- (kk) “Participant” means any person who plays bingo.
- (ll) “Person” has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 1.59 and includes any firm or any other legal entity, however organized.
- (mm) “Pool not conducted for profit” means a scheme in which a participant gives a valuable consideration for a chance to win a prize and the total amount of consideration wagered is distributed to a participant or participants.
- (nn) “Punch board” means a form of instant bingo that uses a board containing a number of holes or receptacles of uniform size in which are placed, mechanically and randomly, serially numbered slips of paper that may be punched or drawn from the hole or receptacle. A player may punch or draw the numbered slips of paper from the holes or receptacles and obtain the prize established for the game if the number drawn corresponds to a winning number or, if the punch board includes the use of a seal card, a potential winning number.
- (oo) “Raffle” means a form of bingo in which the one or more prizes are won by one or more persons who have purchased a raffle ticket. The one or more winners of the raffle are determined by drawing a ticket stub or other detachable section from a receptacle containing ticket stubs or detachable sections corresponding to all tickets sold for the raffle. The term does not include the drawing of a ticket stub or other detachable section of a ticket purchased to attend a professional sporting event if both of the following apply:
- (1) The ticket stub or other detachable section is used to select the winner of a free prize given away at the professional sporting event; and
  - (2) The cost of the ticket is the same as the cost of a ticket to the professional sporting event on days when no free prize is given away.
- (pp) “Redeemable voucher” means any ticket, token, coupon, receipt, or other noncash representation of value.

- (qq) “Religious organization” means any church, body of communicants, or group that is not organized or operated for profit and that gathers in common membership for regular worship and religious observances.
- (rr) “Revoke” means to void permanently all rights and privileges of the holder of a license issued under Ohio R.C. 2915.08, 2915.081, or 2915.082 or a charitable gaming license issued by another jurisdiction.
- (ss) “Scheme of chance” means:
- (1) A slot machine unless authorized under Ohio R.C. Chapter 3772, lottery unless authorized under Ohio R.C. Chapter 3770, numbers game, pool conducted for profit, or other scheme in which a participant gives a valuable consideration for a chance to win a prize, but does not include bingo, a skill-based amusement machine, or a pool not conducted for profit. “Scheme of chance” includes the use of an electronic device to reveal the results of a game entry if valuable consideration is paid, directly or indirectly, for a chance to win a prize. Valuable consideration is deemed to be paid for a chance to win a prize in the following instances:
- A. Less than fifty percent (50%) of the goods or services sold by a scheme of chance operator in exchange for game entries are used or redeemed by participants at any one location;
- B. Less than fifty percent (50%) of participants who purchase goods or services at any one location do not accept, use, or redeem the goods or services sold or purportedly sold;
- C. More than fifty percent (50%) of prizes at any one location are revealed to participants through an electronic device simulating a game of chance or a “casino game” as defined in Ohio R.C. 3772.01;
- D. The good or service sold by a scheme of chance operator in exchange for a game entry cannot be used or redeemed in the manner advertised;
- E. A participant pays more than fair market value for goods or services offered by a scheme of chance operator in order to receive one or more game entries;
- F. A participant may use the electronic device to purchase additional game entries;
- G. A participant may purchase additional game entries by using points or credits won as prizes while using the electronic device;
- H. A scheme of chance operator pays out in prize money more than twenty percent (20%) of the gross revenue received at one location; or
- I. A participant makes a purchase or exchange in order to obtain any good or service that may be used to facilitate play on the electronic device.
- (2) As used in this subsection, “electronic device” means a mechanical, video, digital, or electronic machine or device that is capable of displaying information on a screen or other mechanism and that is owned, leased, or otherwise possessed by any person conducting a scheme of chance, or by that person’s partners, affiliates, subsidiaries, or contractors. □ “Electronic device” does not include an electronic instant bingo system.

- (tt) "Seal card" means a form of instant bingo that uses instant bingo tickets in conjunction with a board or placard that contains one or more seals that, when removed or opened, reveal predesignated winning numbers, letters, or symbols.
- (uu) "Security personnel" includes any person who either is a Sheriff, deputy sheriff, Marshal, deputy marshal, township constable, or member of an organized police department of a municipal corporation or has successfully completed a peace officer's training course pursuant to Ohio R.C. 109.71 through 109.79 and who is hired to provide security for the premises on which bingo is conducted.
- (vv) "Skill-based amusement machine" means:
- (1) A. A mechanical, video, digital, or electronic device that rewards the player or players, if at all, only with merchandise prizes or with redeemable vouchers redeemable only for merchandise prizes, provided that with respect to rewards for playing the game all of the following apply:
    1. The wholesale value of a merchandise prize awarded as a result of the single play of a machine does not exceed ten dollars (\$10.00);
    2. Redeemable vouchers awarded for any single play of a machine are not redeemable for a merchandise prize with a wholesale value of more than ten dollars (\$10.00);
    3. Redeemable vouchers are not redeemable for a merchandise prize that has a wholesale value of more than ten dollars (\$10.00) times the fewest number of single plays necessary to accrue the redeemable vouchers required to obtain that prize; and
    4. Any redeemable vouchers or merchandise prizes are distributed at the site of the skill-based amusement machine at the time of play.
  - B. A card for the purchase of gasoline is a redeemable voucher for purposes of subsection (vv)(1) hereof even if the skill-based amusement machine for the play of which the card is awarded is located at a place where gasoline may not be legally distributed to the public or the card is not redeemable at the location of, or at the time of playing, the skill-based amusement machine.
- (2) A device shall not be considered a skill-based amusement machine and shall be considered a slot machine if it pays cash or one or more of the following apply:
- A. The ability of a player to succeed at the game is impacted by the number or ratio of prior wins to prior losses of players playing the game;
  - B. Any reward of redeemable vouchers is not based solely on the player achieving the object of the game or the player's score;
  - C. The outcome of the game, or the value of the redeemable voucher or merchandise prize awarded for winning the game, can be controlled by a source other than any player playing the game;
  - D. The success of any player is or may be determined by a chance event that cannot be altered by player actions;
  - E. The ability of any player to succeed at the game is determined by game features not visible or known to the player;

- F. The ability of the player to succeed at the game is impacted by the exercise of a skill that no reasonable player could exercise.
- (3) All of the following apply to any machine that is operated as described in subsection (vv)(1) hereof:
- A. As used in this definition of “skill-based amusement machine”, “game” and “play” mean one event from the initial activation of the machine until the results of play are determined without payment of additional consideration. An individual utilizing a machine that involves a single game, play, contest, competition, or tournament may be awarded redeemable vouchers or merchandise prizes based on the results of play.
- B. Advance play for a single game, play, contest, competition, or tournament participation may be purchased. The cost of the contest, competition, or tournament participation may be greater than a single non-contest, competition, or tournament play.
- C. To the extent that the machine is used in a contest, competition, or tournament, that contest, competition, or tournament has a defined starting and ending date and is open to participants in competition for scoring and ranking results toward the awarding of redeemable vouchers or merchandise prizes that are stated prior to the start of the contest, competition, or tournament.
- (4) For purposes of subsection (vv)(1) hereof, the mere presence of a device, such as a pinsetting, ball-releasing, or scoring mechanism, that does not contribute to or affect the outcome of the play of the game does not make the device a skill-based amusement machine.
- (ww) “Slot machine” means:
- (1) Either of the following:
- A. Any mechanical, electronic, video, or digital device that is capable of accepting anything of value, directly or indirectly, from or on behalf of a player who gives the thing of value in the hope of gain;
- B. Any mechanical, electronic, video, or digital device that is capable of accepting anything of value, directly or indirectly, from or on behalf of a player to conduct bingo or a scheme or game of chance.
- (2) The term does not include a skill-based amusement machine, an instant bingo ticket dispenser, or an electronic instant bingo system.
- (xx) “Sporting organization” means a hunting, fishing, or trapping organization, other than a college or high school fraternity or sorority, that is not organized for profit, that is affiliated with a state or national sporting organization, including but not limited to the League of Ohio Sportsmen, and that has been in continuous existence in this state for a period of three (3) years.
- (yy) “Suspend” means to interrupt temporarily all rights and privileges of the holder of a license issued under Ohio R.C. 2915.08, 2915.081, or 2915.082 or a charitable gaming license issued by another jurisdiction.
- (zz) “Sweepstakes” means any game, contest, advertising scheme or plan, or other promotion where consideration is not required for a person to enter to win or become eligible to receive any prize, the determination of which is based upon chance. □ “Sweepstakes” does not include bingo as authorized under Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915, pari-mutuel wagering as authorized by Ohio R.C. Chapter 3769, lotteries conducted by the State Lottery Commission as authorized by Ohio R.C. Chapter 3770, and casino gaming as authorized by Ohio R.C. Chapter 3772.



(aaa) "Sweepstakes terminal device" means:

(1) A mechanical, video, digital, or electronic machine or device that is owned, leased, or otherwise possessed by any person conducting a sweepstakes, or by that person's partners, affiliates, subsidiaries, or contractors, that is intended to be used by a sweepstakes participant, and that is capable of displaying information on a screen or other mechanism. A device is a sweepstakes terminal device if any of the following apply:

- A. The device uses a simulated game terminal as a representation of the prizes associated with the results of the sweepstakes entries.
- B. The device utilizes software such that the simulated game influences or determines the winning of or value of the prize.
- C. The device selects prizes from a predetermined finite pool of entries.
- D. The device utilizes a mechanism that reveals the content of a predetermined sweepstakes entry.
- E. The device predetermines the prize results and stores those results for delivery at the time the sweepstakes entry results are revealed.
- F. The device utilizes software to create a game result.
- G. The device reveals the prize incrementally, even though the device does not influence the awarding of the prize or the value of any prize awarded.
- H. The device determines and associates the prize with an entry or entries at the time the sweepstakes is entered.

(2) As used in this definition and in Section 517.02:

- A. "Enter" means the act by which a person becomes eligible to receive any prize offered in a sweepstakes.
- B. "Entry" means one event from the initial activation of the sweepstakes terminal device until all the sweepstakes prize results from that activation are revealed.
- C. "Prize" means any gift, award, gratuity, good, service, credit, reward, or any other thing of value that may be transferred to a person, whether possession of the prize is actually transferred, or placed on an account or other record as evidence of the intent to transfer the prize.

(bbb) "Sweepstakes terminal device" means any location in this state where a sweepstakes terminal device is provided to a sweepstakes participant, except as provided in Ohio R.C. 2915.02(G).

(ccc) "Veteran's organization" means any individual post or state headquarters of a national veteran's association or an auxiliary unit of any individual post of a national veteran's association, which post, state headquarters, or auxiliary unit is incorporated as a nonprofit corporation and either has received a letter from the state headquarters of the national veteran's association indicating that the individual post or auxiliary unit is in good standing with the national veteran's association or has received a letter from the national veteran's association indicating that the state headquarters is in good standing with the national veteran's association. As used in this definition, "National Veterans' Association" means any veteran's association that has been in continuous existence as such for a period of at least five (5) years and either is incorporated by an act of the United States Congress or has a national dues-paying membership of at least 5,000 persons.



- (ddd) "Volunteer firefighter's organization" means any organization of volunteer firefighters, as defined in Ohio R.C. 146.01, that is organized and operated exclusively to provide financial support for a volunteer fire department or a volunteer fire company and that is recognized or ratified by a county, municipal corporation, or township.
- (eee) "Volunteer rescue service organization" means any organization of volunteers organized to function as an emergency medical service organization, as defined in Ohio R.C. 4765.01.
- (fff) "Youth athletic organization" means any organization, not organized for profit, that is organized and operated exclusively to provide financial support to, or to operate, athletic activities for persons who are twenty-one (21) years of age or younger by means of sponsoring, organizing, operating, or contributing to the support of an athletic team, club, league, or association.
- (ggg) "Youth athletic park organization" means any organization, not organized for profit, that satisfies both of the following:
  - (1) It owns, operates, and maintains playing fields that satisfy both of the following:
    - A. The playing fields are used for athletic activities by one or more organizations, not organized for profit, each of which is organized and operated exclusively to provide financial support to, or to operate, athletic activities for persons who are eighteen (18) years of age or younger by means of sponsoring, organizing, operating, or contributing to the support of an athletic team, club, league, or association.
    - B. The playing fields are not used for any profit-making activity at any time during the year.
  - (2) It uses the proceeds of bingo it conducts exclusively for the operation, maintenance, and improvement of its playing fields of the type described in subsection (ggg)(1) hereof.

(ORC 2915.01)

#### **517.02 GAMBLING.**

- (a) No person shall do any of the following:
  - (1) Engage in bookmaking, or knowingly engage in conduct that facilitates bookmaking;
  - (2) Establish, promote, or operate or knowingly engage in conduct that facilitates any game of chance conducted for profit or any scheme of chance;
  - (3) Knowingly procure, transmit, exchange, or engage in conduct that facilitates the procurement, transmission, or exchange of information for use in establishing odds or determining winners in connection with bookmaking or with any game of chance conducted for profit or any scheme of chance;
  - (4) Engage in betting or in playing any scheme or game of chance as a substantial source of income or livelihood;
  - (5) Conduct, or participate in the conduct of, a sweepstakes with the use of a sweepstakes terminal device at a sweepstakes terminal device facility and either:
    - A. Give to another person any item described in subsection (hh)(1), (2), (3) or (4) of Section 517.01 as a prize for playing or participating in a sweepstakes; or

- B. Give to another person any merchandise prize, or a redeemable voucher for a merchandise prize, the wholesale value of which is in excess of ten dollars (\$10.00) and which is awarded as a single entry for playing or participating in a sweepstakes. Redeemable vouchers shall not be redeemable for a merchandise prize that has a wholesale value of more than ten dollars (\$10.00).
- (6) Conduct, or participate in the conduct of, a sweepstakes with the use of a sweepstakes terminal device at a sweepstakes terminal device facility without first obtaining a current annual "certificate of registration" from the Attorney General as required by division (F) of Ohio R.C. 2915.02.
- (7) With purpose to violate subsection (a)(1), (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of this section, acquire, possess, control, or operate any gambling device.

(b) For purposes of subsection (a)(1) of this section, a person facilitates bookmaking if the person in any way knowingly aids an illegal bookmaking operation, including, without limitation, placing a bet with a person engaged in or facilitating illegal bookmaking. For purposes of subsection (a)(2) of this section, a person facilitates a game of chance conducted for profit or a scheme of chance if the person in any way knowingly aids in the conduct or operation of any such game or scheme, including, without limitation, playing any such game or scheme.

(c) This section does not prohibit conduct in connection with gambling expressly permitted by law.

(d) This section does not apply to any of the following:

(1) Games of chance, if all of the following apply:

- A. The games of chance are not craps for money or roulette for money.
- B. The games of chance are conducted by a charitable organization that is, and has received from the Internal Revenue Service a determination letter that is currently in effect, stating that the organization is, exempt from Federal income taxation under subsection 501(a) and described in subsection 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- C. The games of chance are conducted at festivals of the charitable organization that are conducted not more than a total of five days a calendar year, and are conducted on premises owned by the charitable organization for a period of no less than one year immediately preceding the conducting of the games of chance, on premises leased from a governmental unit, or on premises that are leased from a veteran's or fraternal organization and that have been owned by the lessor veteran's or fraternal organization for a period of no less than one year immediately preceding the conducting of the games of chance.

A charitable organization shall not lease premises from a veteran's or fraternal organization to conduct a festival described in subsection (d)(1)C. hereof if the veteran's or fraternal organization has already leased the premises twelve times during the preceding year to charitable organizations for that purpose. If a charitable organization leases premises from a veteran's or fraternal organization to conduct a festival described in subsection (d)(1)C. hereof, the charitable organization shall not pay a rental rate for the premises per day of the festival that exceeds the rental rate per bingo session that a charitable organization may pay under Section 517.06(b)(1) when it leases premises from another charitable organization to conduct bingo games.

- D. All of the money or assets received from the games of chance after deduction only of prizes paid out during the conduct of the games of chance are used by, or given, donated or otherwise transferred to, any organization that is described in subsection 509(a)(1), (2) or (3) of the Internal Revenue Code and is either a governmental unit or an organization that is tax exempt under subsection 501(a) and described in subsection 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code;
- E. The games of chance are not conducted during, or within ten hours of, a bingo game conducted for amusement purposes only pursuant to Section 517.13.

No person shall receive any commission, wage, salary, reward, tip, donations, gratuity or other form of compensation, directly or indirectly, for operating or assisting in the operation of any game of chance.

- (2) Any tag fishing tournament operated under a permit issued under Ohio R.C. 1533.92, as "tag fishing tournament" is defined in Ohio R.C. 1531.01.
- (3) Bingo conducted by a charitable organization that holds a license issued under Ohio R.C. 2915.08.

(e) Subsection (d) hereof shall not be construed to authorize the sale, lease or other temporary or permanent transfer of the right to conduct games of chance, as granted by subsection (d) hereof, by any charitable organization that is granted that right.

(f) Whoever violates this section is guilty of gambling, a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the offender previously has been convicted of a gambling offense, gambling is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law. (ORC 2915.02)

### **517.03 OPERATING A GAMBLING HOUSE.**

(a) No person, being the owner or lessee, or having custody, control or supervision of premises, shall:

- (1) Use or occupy such premises for gambling in violation of Section 517.02;
- (2) Recklessly permit such premises to be used or occupied for gambling in violation of Section 517.02.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of operating a gambling house, a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the offender previously has been convicted of a gambling offense, operating a gambling house is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law.

(c) Premises used or occupied in violation of this section constitute a nuisance subject to abatement pursuant to Ohio R.C. Chapter 3767. (ORC 2915.03)

#### **517.04 PUBLIC GAMING.**

(a) No person, while at a hotel, restaurant, tavern, store, arena, hall, or other place of public accommodation, business, amusement, or resort shall make a bet or play any game of chance or scheme of chance.

(b) No person, being the owner or lessee, or having custody, control, or supervision, of a hotel, restaurant, tavern, store, arena, hall, or other place of public accommodation, business, amusement, or resort shall recklessly permit those premises to be used or occupied in violation of subsection (a) of this section.

(c) Subsections (a) and (b) of this section do not prohibit conduct in connection with gambling expressly permitted by law.

(d) Whoever violates this section is guilty of public gaming. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, public gaming is a minor misdemeanor. If the offender previously has been convicted of any gambling offense, public gaming is a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.

(e) Premises used or occupied in violation of subsection (b) of this section constitute a nuisance subject to abatement under Ohio R.C. Chapter 3767. (ORC 2915.04)

#### **517.05 CHEATING.**

(a) No person, with purpose to defraud or knowing that the person is facilitating a fraud, shall engage in conduct designed to corrupt the outcome of any of the following:

- (1) The subject of a bet;
- (2) A contest of knowledge, skill, or endurance that is not an athletic or sporting event;
- (3) A scheme or game of chance;
- (4) Bingo.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of cheating. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection cheating is a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the potential gain from the cheating is one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more, or if the offender previously has been convicted of any gambling offense or of any theft offense as defined in Ohio R.C. 2913.01, cheating is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law. (ORC 2915.05)

#### **517.06 METHODS OF CONDUCTING A BINGO GAME; PROHIBITIONS.**

(a) No charitable organization that conducts bingo shall fail to do any of the following:

- (1) Own all of the equipment used to conduct bingo or lease that equipment from a charitable organization that is licensed to conduct bingo, or from the landlord of a premises where bingo is conducted, for a rental rate that is not more than is customary and reasonable for that equipment;

- (2) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (a)(3) of this section, use all of the gross receipts from bingo for paying prizes, for reimbursement of expenses for or for renting premises in which to conduct bingo, for reimbursement of expenses for or for purchasing or leasing bingo supplies used in conducting bingo, for reimbursement of expenses for or for hiring security personnel, for reimbursement of expenses for or for advertising bingo, or for reimbursement of other expenses or for other expenses listed in the definition for "expenses" in Section 517.01(s), provided that the amount of the receipts so spent is not more than is customary and reasonable for a similar purchase, lease, hiring, advertising, or expense. If the building in which bingo is conducted is owned by the charitable organization conducting bingo and the bingo conducted includes a form of bingo described in the definition of "bingo" in Section 517.01(b)(1), the charitable organization may deduct from the total amount of the gross receipts from each session a sum equal to the lesser of six hundred dollars (\$600.00) or forty-five percent (45%) of the gross receipts from the bingo described in that division as consideration for the use of the premises;
- (3) Use, or give, donate, or otherwise transfer, all of the net profit derived from bingo described in Section 517.01(b)(1), for a charitable purpose listed in its license application and described in Section 517.02(k), or distribute all of the net profit from the proceeds of the sale of instant bingo or electronic instant bingo as stated in its license application and in accordance with Ohio R.C. 2915.101, as applicable.

(b) No charitable organization that conducts a bingo game described in Section 517.01(b)(1) shall fail to do any of the following:

- (1) Conduct the bingo game on premises that are owned by the charitable organization, on premises that are owned by another charitable organization and leased from that charitable organization for a rental rate not in excess of the lesser of six hundred dollars (\$600.00) per bingo session or forty-five percent (45%) of the gross receipts of the bingo session, on premises that are leased from a person other than a charitable organization for a rental rate that is not more than is customary and reasonable for premises that are similar in location, size, and quality but not in excess of four hundred fifty dollars (\$450.00) per bingo session, or on premises that are owned by a person other than a charitable organization, that are leased from that person by another charitable organization, and that are subleased from that other charitable organization by the charitable organization for a rental rate not in excess of four hundred fifty dollars (\$450.00) per bingo session. No charitable organization is required to pay property taxes or assessments on premises that the charitable organization leases from another person to conduct bingo sessions. If the charitable organization leases from a person other than a charitable organization the premises on which it conducts bingo sessions, the lessor of the premises shall provide the premises to the organization and shall not provide the organization with bingo game operators, security personnel, concessions or concession operators, bingo supplies, or any other type of service. A charitable organization shall not lease or sublease premises that it owns or leases to more than three (3) other charitable organizations per calendar week for

conducting bingo sessions on the premises. A person that is not a charitable organization shall not lease premises that it owns, leases, or otherwise is empowered to lease to more than three (3) charitable organizations per calendar week for conducting bingo sessions on the premises. In no case shall more than nine (9) bingo sessions be conducted on any premises in any calendar week.

- (2) Display its license conspicuously at the premises where the bingo session is conducted;
- (3) Conduct the bingo session in accordance with the definition of bingo set forth in Section 517.01(b)(1).

(c) No charitable organization that conducts a bingo game described in Section 517.01(b)(1) shall do any of the following:

- (1) Pay any compensation to a bingo game operator for operating a bingo session that is conducted by the charitable organization or for preparing, selling, or serving food or beverages at the site of the bingo session, permit any auxiliary unit or society of the charitable organization to pay compensation to any bingo game operator who prepares, sells, or serves food or beverages at a bingo session conducted by the charitable organization, or permit any auxiliary unit or society of the charitable organization to prepare, sell, or serve food or beverages at a bingo session conducted by the charitable organization, if the auxiliary unit or society pays any compensation to the bingo game operators who prepare, sell, or serve the food or beverages;
- (2) Pay consulting fees to any person for any services performed in relation to the bingo session;
- (3) Pay concession fees to any person who provides refreshments to the participants in the bingo session;
- (4) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (c)(4) of this section, conduct more than three bingo sessions in any seven-day period. A volunteer firefighter's organization or a volunteer rescue service organization that conducts not more than five (5) bingo sessions in a calendar year may conduct more than three (3) bingo sessions in a seven-day period after notifying the Attorney General when it will conduct the sessions;
- (5) Pay out more than six thousand dollars (\$6,000) in prizes for bingo games described in Section 517.01(b)(1) during any bingo session that is conducted by the charitable organization. "Prizes" does not include awards from the conduct of instant bingo;
- (6) Conduct a bingo session at any time during the eight-hour period between 2:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m., at any time during, or within ten (10) hours of, a bingo game conducted for amusement only pursuant to Ohio R.C. 2915.12, at any premises not specified on its license, or on any day of the week or during any time period not specified on its license. Subsection (c)(6) of this section does not prohibit the sale of instant bingo tickets beginning at 9:00 a.m. for a bingo session that begins at 10:00 a.m. If circumstances make it impractical for the charitable organization to conduct a bingo session at the premises, or on the day of the week or at the time, specified on its license or if a charitable organization wants to conduct bingo sessions on a day of the week or at a time other than the day or time specified on its license, the charitable organization may apply in writing to the Attorney

General for an amended license, pursuant to division (J) of Ohio R.C. 2915.08. A charitable organization may apply twice in each calendar year for an amended license to conduct bingo sessions on a day of the week or at a time other than the day or time specified on its license. If the amended license is granted, the organization may conduct bingo sessions at the premises, on the day of the week, and at the time specified on its amended license;

- (7) Permit any person whom the charitable organization knows, or should have known, is under the age of eighteen (18) to work as a bingo game operator;
- (8) Permit any person whom the charitable organization knows, or should have known, has been convicted of a felony or gambling offense in any jurisdiction to be a bingo game operator;
- (9) Permit the lessor of the premises on which the bingo session is conducted, if the lessor is not a charitable organization, to provide the charitable organization with bingo game operators, security personnel, concessions, bingo supplies, or any other type of service;
- (10) Purchase or lease bingo supplies from any person except a distributor issued a license under Ohio R.C. 2915.081;
- (11) A. Use or permit the use of electronic bingo aids except under the following circumstances:
  - 1. For any single participant, not more than ninety (90) bingo faces can be played using an electronic bingo aid or aids.
  - 2. The charitable organization shall provide a participant using an electronic bingo aid with corresponding paper bingo cards or sheets.
  - 3. The total price of bingo faces played with an electronic bingo aid shall be equal to the total price of the same number of bingo faces played with a paper bingo card or sheet sold at the same bingo session but without an electronic bingo aid.
  - 4. An electronic bingo aid cannot be part of an electronic network other than a network that includes only bingo aids and devices that are located on the premises at which the bingo is being conducted or be interactive with any device not located on the premises at which the bingo is being conducted.
  - 5. An electronic bingo aid cannot be used to participate in bingo that is conducted at a location other than the location at which the bingo session is conducted and at which the electronic bingo aid is used.
  - 6. An electronic bingo aid cannot be used to provide for the input of numbers and letters announced by a bingo caller other than the bingo caller who physically calls the numbers and letters at the location at which the bingo session is conducted and at which the electronic bingo aid is used.
- B. The Attorney General may adopt rules in accordance with Ohio R.C. Chapter 119 that govern the use of electronic bingo aids. The rules may include a requirement that an electronic bingo aid be capable of being audited by the Attorney General to verify the number of bingo cards or sheets played during each bingo session.

- (12) Permit any person the charitable organization knows, or should have known, to be under eighteen (18) years of age to play bingo described in Section 517.01(b)(1).
- (d) (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (d)(3) hereof, no charitable organization shall provide to a bingo game operator, and no bingo game operator shall receive or accept, any commission, wage, salary, reward, tip, donation, gratuity, or other form of compensation, directly or indirectly, regardless of the source, for conducting bingo or providing other work or labor at the site of bingo during a bingo session.
- (2) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (d)(3) of this section, no charitable organization shall provide to a bingo game operator any commission, wage, salary, reward, tip, donation, gratuity, or other form of compensation, directly or indirectly regardless of the source, for conducting instant bingo, electronic instant bingo, or both other than at a bingo session at the site of instant bingo, electronic instant bingo, or both other than at a bingo session.
- (3) Nothing in subsection (d) hereof prohibits an employee of a fraternal organization, veteran's organization, or sporting organization from selling instant bingo tickets or cards to the organization's members or invited guests, as long as no portion of the employee's compensation is paid from any receipts of bingo.
- (e) Notwithstanding subsection (b)(1) of this section, a charitable organization that, prior to December 6, 1977, has entered into written agreements for the lease of premises it owns to another charitable organization or other charitable organizations for the conducting of bingo sessions so that more than two (2) bingo sessions are conducted per calendar week on the premises, and a person that is not a charitable organization and that, prior to December 6, 1977, has entered into written agreements for the lease of premises it owns to charitable organizations for the conducting of more than two (2) bingo sessions per calendar week on the premises, may continue to lease the premises to those charitable organizations, provided that no more than four sessions are conducted per calendar week, that the lessor organization or person has notified the Attorney General in writing of the organizations that will conduct the sessions and the days of the week and the times of the day on which the sessions will be conducted, that the initial lease entered into with each organization that will conduct the sessions was filed with the Attorney General prior to December 6, 1977, and that each organization that will conduct the sessions was issued a license to conduct bingo games by the Attorney General prior to December 6, 1977.
- (f) This section does not prohibit a bingo licensed charitable organization or a game operator from giving any person an instant bingo ticket as a prize.
- (g) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, whoever violates subsection (a)(1) or (2), (b)(1), (2), or (3), (c)(1) to (11) or (d) of this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If the offender previously has been convicted of a violation of subsection (a)(1) or (2), (b)(1), (2) or (3), (c)(1) to (11), or (d) of this section, a violation of subsection (a)(1) or (2), (b)(1), (2) or (3) or (c)(1) to (11) or (d) of this section is a misdemeanor of the first degree. Whoever violates subsection (c)(12) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the offender previously has been convicted of a violation of subsection (c)(12) of this section, a violation of subsection (c)(12) is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law. (ORC 2915.09)



**517.07 INSTANT BINGO CONDUCT.**

(a) No charitable organization that conducts instant bingo shall do any of the following:

- (1) Fail to comply with the requirements of divisions (A)(1), (2), and (3) of Ohio R.C. 2915.09;
- (2) Conduct instant bingo unless either of the following applies:
  - A. That organization is, and has received from the Internal Revenue Service a determination letter that is currently in effect stating that the organization is, exempt from federal income taxation under subsection 501(a), is described in subsection 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, is a charitable organization as defined in Section 517.01, is in good standing in the State pursuant to Ohio R.C. 2915.08, and is in compliance with Ohio R.C. Chapter 1716;
  - B. That organization is, and has received from the Internal Revenue Service a determination letter that is currently in effect stating that the organization is, exempt from federal income taxation under subsection 501(a), is described in subsection 501(c)(8), 501(c)(10), or 501(c)(19) or is a veteran's organization described in subsection 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code, and conducts instant bingo under Section 517.14.
- (3) Conduct instant bingo on any day, at any time, or at any premises not specified on the organization's license issued pursuant to Ohio R.C. 2915.08;
- (4) Permit any person whom the organization knows or should have known has been convicted of a felony or gambling offense in any jurisdiction to be a bingo game operator in the conduct of instant bingo;
- (5) Purchase or lease supplies used to conduct instant bingo or punch board games from any person except a distributor licensed under Ohio R.C. 2915.081;
- (6) Sell or provide any instant bingo ticket or card for a price different from the price printed on it by the manufacturer on either the instant bingo ticket or card or on the game flare;
- (7) Sell an instant bingo ticket or card to a person under eighteen (18) years of age;
- (8) Fail to keep unsold instant bingo tickets or cards for less than three (3) years;
- (9) Pay any compensation to a bingo game operator for conducting instant bingo that is conducted by the organization or for preparing, selling, or serving food or beverages at the site of the instant bingo game, permit any auxiliary unit or society of the organization to pay compensation to any bingo game operator who prepares, sells, or serves food or beverages at an instant bingo game conducted by the organization, or permit any auxiliary unit or society of the organization to prepare, sell, or serve food or beverages at an instant bingo game conducted by the organization, if the auxiliary unit or society pays any compensation to the bingo game operators who prepare, sell, or serve the food or beverages;
- (10) Pay fees to any person for any services performed in relation to an instant bingo game, except as provided in Section 517.09(d);
- (11) Pay fees to any person who provides refreshments to the participants in an instant bingo game;

- (12) A. Allow instant bingo tickets or cards to be sold to bingo game operators at a premises at which the organization sells instant bingo tickets or cards or to be sold to employees of a D permit holder who are working at a premises at which instant bingo tickets or cards are sold;
- B. Subsection (a)(12)A. of this section does not prohibit a licensed charitable organization or a bingo game operator from giving any person an instant bingo ticket as a prize in place of a cash prize won by a participant in an instant bingo game. In no case shall an instant bingo ticket or card be sold or provided for a price different from the price printed on it by the manufacturer on either the instant bingo ticket or card or on the game flare.
- (13) Fail to display its bingo license, and the serial numbers of the deal of instant bingo tickets or cards to be sold, conspicuously at each premises at which it sells instant bingo tickets or cards;
- (14) Possess a deal of instant bingo tickets or cards that was not purchased from a distributor licensed under Ohio R.C. 2915.081 as reflected on an invoice issued by the distributor that contains all of the information required by Section 517.11(f);
- (15) Fail, once it opens a deal of instant bingo tickets or cards, to continue to sell the tickets or cards in that deal until the tickets or cards with the top two (2) highest tiers of prizes in that deal are sold;
- (16) Possess bingo supplies that were not obtained in accordance with Ohio R.C. 2915.01 to 2915.13.

(b) A charitable organization may purchase, lease, or use instant bingo ticket dispensers to sell instant bingo tickets or cards.

(c) Whoever violates subsection (a) of this section or a rule adopted under Ohio R.C. 2915.091(C) is guilty of illegal instant bingo conduct. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, illegal instant bingo conduct is a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the offender previously has been convicted of a violation of subsection (a) of this section or of such a rule, illegal instant bingo conduct is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law. (ORC 2915.091)

#### **517.08 RAFFLES.**

(a) (1) Subject to subsection (a)(2) of this section, a person or entity that is exempt from federal income taxation under IRC 501(a) and is described in IRC 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), 501(c)(6), 501(c)(7), 501(c)(8), 501(c)(10), or 501(c)(19) may conduct a raffle to raise money for the person or entity and does not need a license to conduct bingo in order to conduct a raffle drawing that is not for profit.

(2) If a person or entity that is described in subsection (a)(1) of this section, but that is not also described in IRC 501(c)(3), conducts a raffle, the person or entity shall distribute at least fifty percent (50%) of the net profit from the raffle to a charitable purpose described in Section 517.01(k) or to a department or agency of the federal government, the state, or any political subdivision.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (a) of this section, no person shall conduct a raffle drawing that is for profit or a raffle drawing that is not for profit.

(c) Whoever violates subsection (b) of this section is guilty of illegal conduct of a raffle. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, illegal conduct of a raffle is a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the offender previously has been convicted of a violation of subsection (b) of this section, illegal conduct of a raffle is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law. (ORC 2915.092)

#### **517.09 CHARITABLE INSTANT BINGO ORGANIZATIONS.**

(a) As used in this section, "retail income from all commercial activity" means the income that a person receives from the provision of goods, services, or activities that are provided at the location where instant bingo other than at a bingo session is conducted, including the sale of instant bingo tickets. A religious organization that is exempt from federal income taxation under subsection 501(a) and described in subsection 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, at not more than one location at which it conducts its charitable programs, may include donations from its members and guests as retail income.

(b) (1) If a charitable instant bingo organization conducts instant bingo other than at a bingo session under a type III license issued under Ohio R.C. 2915.08, the charitable instant bingo organization shall enter into a written contract with the owner or lessor of the location at which the instant bingo is conducted to allow the owner or lessor to assist in the conduct of instant bingo other than at a bingo session, identify each location where the instant bingo other than at a bingo session is being conducted, and identify the owner or lessor of each location.

(2) A charitable instant bingo organization that conducts instant bingo other than at a bingo session under a type III license issued under Ohio R.C. 2915.08 is not required to enter into a written contract with the owner or lessor of the location at which the instant bingo is conducted provided that the owner or lessor is not assisting in the conduct of the instant bingo other than at a bingo session and provided that the conduct of the instant bingo other than at a bingo session at that location is not more than five (5) days per calendar year and not more than ten (10) hours per day.

(c) Except as provided in subsection (f) of this section, no charitable instant bingo organization shall conduct instant bingo other than at a bingo session at a location where the primary source of retail income from all commercial activity at that location is the sale of instant bingo tickets.

(d) The owner or lessor of a location that enters into a contract pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall pay the full gross profit to the charitable instant bingo organization, in return for the deal of instant bingo tickets. The owner or lessor may retain the money that the owner or lessor receives for selling the instant bingo tickets, provided, however, that after the deal has been sold, the owner or lessor shall pay to the charitable instant bingo organization the value of any unredeemed instant bingo prizes remaining in the deal of instant bingo tickets.

The charitable instant bingo organization shall pay six per cent of the total gross receipts of any deal of instant bingo tickets for the purpose of reimbursing the owner or lessor for expenses described in this subsection.

As used in this subsection, "expenses" means those items provided for in subsections (s)(4), (5), (6), (7), (8), (12) and (13) of Section 517.01 and that percentage of the owner's or lessor's rent for the location where instant bingo is conducted. "Expenses" in the aggregate, shall not exceed six percent (6%) of the total gross receipts of any deal of instant bingo tickets.

As used in this subsection, "full gross profit" means the amount by which the total receipts of all instant bingo tickets, if the deal had been sold in full, exceeds the amount that would be paid out if all prizes were redeemed.

(e) A charitable instant bingo organization shall provide the Attorney General with all of the following information:

- (1) That the charitable instant bingo organization has terminated a contract entered into pursuant to subsection (b) of this section with an owner or lessor of a location;
- (2) That the charitable instant bingo organization has entered into a written contract pursuant to subsection (b) of this section with a new owner or lessor of a location;
- (3) That the charitable instant bingo organization is aware of conduct by the owner or lessor of a location at which instant bingo is conducted that is in violation of this chapter or Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915.

(f) Subsection (c) of this section does not apply to a volunteer firefighter's organization that is exempt from federal income taxation under subsection 501(a) and described in subsection 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, that conducts instant bingo other than at a bingo session on the premises where the organization conducts firefighter training, that has conducted instant bingo continuously for at least five years prior to July 1, 2003, and that, during each of those five years, had gross receipts of at least one million five hundred thousand dollars. (ORC 2915.093)

#### **517.10 LOCATION OF INSTANT BINGO.**

(a) No owner or lessor of a location shall assist a charitable instant bingo organization in the conduct of instant bingo other than at a bingo session at that location unless the owner or lessor has entered into a written contract, as described in Section 517.09, with the charitable instant bingo organization to assist in the conduct of instant bingo other than at a bingo session.

(b) The location of the lessor or owner shall be designated as a location where the charitable instant bingo organization conducts instant bingo other than at a bingo session.

(c) No owner or lessor of a location that enters into a written contract as prescribed in subsection (a) of this section shall violate any provision of Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915, or permit, aid, or abet any other person in violating any provision of Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915.

(d) No owner or lessor of a location that enters into a written contract as prescribed in subsection (a) of this section shall violate the terms of the contract.

- (e) (1) Whoever violates subsection (c) or (d) of this section is guilty of illegal instant bingo conduct. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, illegal instant bingo conduct is a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the offender previously has been convicted of a violation of subsection (c) or (d) of this section, illegal instant bingo conduct is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law.
- (2) If an owner or lessor of a location knowingly, intentionally, or recklessly violates subsection (c) or (d) of this section, any license that the owner or lessor holds for the retail sale of any goods on the owner's or lessor's premises that is issued by the State or a political subdivision is subject to suspension, revocation, or payment of a monetary penalty at the request of the Attorney General. (ORC 2915.094)

**517.11 BINGO OR GAME OF CHANCE RECORDS.**

(a) No charitable organization that conducts bingo or a game of chance pursuant to Section 517.02(d), shall fail to maintain the following records for at least three years from the date on which the bingo or game of chance is conducted:

- (1) An itemized list of the gross receipts of each bingo session, each game of instant bingo by serial number, each electronic instant bingo game by serial number, each raffle, each punch board game, and each game of chance, and an itemized list of the gross profits of each game of instant bingo by serial number and each electronic instant bingo game by serial number;
- (2) An itemized list of all expenses, other than prizes, that are incurred in conducting bingo, the name of each person to whom the expenses are paid, and a receipt for all of the expenses;
- (3) A list of all prizes awarded during each bingo session, each raffle, each punch board game, and each game of chance conducted by the charitable organization, the total prizes awarded from each game of instant bingo by serial number and each electronic instant bingo game by serial number, and the name, address, and social security number of all persons who are winners of prizes of six hundred dollars (\$600.00) or more in value;
- (4) An itemized list of the recipients of the net profit of the bingo or game of chance, including the name and address of each recipient to whom the money is distributed, and if the organization uses the net profit of bingo, or the money or assets received from a game of chance, for any charitable or other purpose set forth in Section 517.01(k), Section 517.02(d), or Ohio R.C. 2915.101, a list of each purpose and an itemized list of each expenditure for each purpose;
- (5) The number of persons who participate in any bingo session or game of chance that is conducted by the charitable organization;
- (6) A list of receipts from the sale of food and beverages by the charitable organization or one of its auxiliary units or societies, if the receipts were excluded from "gross receipts" Section 517.01(bb);
- (7) An itemized list of all expenses incurred at each bingo session, each raffle, each punch board game, or each game of instant bingo or electronic instant bingo conducted by the charitable organization in the sale of food and beverages by the charitable organization or by an auxiliary unit or society of the charitable organization, the name of each person to whom the expenses are paid, and a receipt for all of the expenses.

(b) A charitable organization shall keep the records that it is required to maintain pursuant to subsection (a) of this section at its principal place of business in this State or at its headquarters in this State and shall notify the Attorney General of the location at which those records are kept.

(c) The gross profit from each bingo session or game described in Section 517.01(b)(1) or (2) shall be deposited into a checking account devoted exclusively to the bingo session or game. Payments for allowable expenses incurred in conducting the bingo session or game and payments to recipients of some or all of the net profit of the bingo session or game shall be made only by checks or electronic fund transfers drawn on the bingo session or game account.

(d) Each charitable organization shall conduct and record an inventory of all of its bingo supplies as of the first day of November of each year.

(e) The Attorney General may adopt rules in accordance with Ohio R.C. Chapter 119 that establish standards of accounting, record keeping, and reporting to ensure that gross receipts from bingo or games of chance are properly accounted for.

(f) A distributor shall maintain, for a period of three (3) years after the date of its sale or other provision, a record of each instance of its selling or otherwise providing to another person bingo supplies for use in this State. The record shall include all of the following for each instance:

- (1) The name of the manufacturer from which the distributor purchased the bingo supplies and the date of the purchase;
- (2) The name and address of the charitable organization or other distributor to which the bingo supplies were sold or otherwise provided;
- (3) A description that clearly identifies the bingo supplies;
- (4) Invoices that include the nonrepeating serial numbers of all paper bingo cards and sheets and all instant bingo deals sold or otherwise provided to each charitable organization.

(g) A manufacturer shall maintain, for a period of three (3) years after the date of its sale or other provision, a record of each instance of its selling or otherwise providing bingo supplies for use in this State. The record shall include all of the following for each instance:

- (1) The name and address of the distributor to whom the bingo supplies were sold or otherwise provided;
- (2) A description that clearly identifies the bingo supplies, including serial numbers;
- (3) Invoices that include the nonrepeating serial numbers of all paper bingo cards and sheets and all instant bingo deals sold or otherwise provided to each distributor.

(h) (1) The Attorney General, or any law enforcement agency, may do all of the following:

- A. Investigate any charitable organization, distributor, or manufacturer or any officer, agent, trustee, member, or employee of the organization, distributor, or manufacturer;
- B. Examine the accounts and records of the charitable organization, distributor, or manufacturer or of any officer, agent, trustee, member, or employee of the organization, distributor, or manufacturer;
- C. Conduct inspections, audits, and observations of bingo or games of chance;
- D. Conduct inspections of the premises where bingo or games of chance are conducted or where bingo supplies are manufactured or distributed;
- E. Take any other necessary and reasonable action to determine if a violation of any provision of this chapter or Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915 has occurred and to determine whether Section 517.12 has been complied with.

- (2) If any law enforcement agency has reasonable grounds to believe that a charitable organization, distributor, or manufacturer or an officer, agent, trustee, member, or employee of the organization, distributor, or manufacturer has violated any provision of this chapter or Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915, the law enforcement agency may proceed by action in the proper court to enforce this chapter or Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915, provided that the law enforcement agency shall give written notice to the Attorney General when commencing an action as described in this division.

(i) No person shall destroy, alter, conceal, withhold, or deny access to any accounts or records of a charitable organization, distributor, or manufacturer that have been requested for examination, or obstruct, impede, or interfere with any inspection, audit, or observation of bingo or a game of chance, of premises where bingo or a game of chance is conducted, or of premises where bingo supplies are manufactured or distributed, or refuse to comply with any reasonable request of, or obstruct, impede, or interfere with any other reasonable action undertaken by, the Attorney General or a law enforcement agency pursuant to subsection (h) hereof.

(j) Whoever violates subsection (a) or (i) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree. (ORC 2915.10)

#### **517.12 BINGO OPERATOR PROHIBITIONS.**

(a) No person shall be a bingo game operator unless he is eighteen (18) years of age or older.

(b) No person who has been convicted of a felony or a gambling offense in any jurisdiction shall be a bingo game operator.

(c) Whoever violates subsection (a) hereof is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

(d) Whoever violates subsection (b) hereof is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree. (ORC 2915.11)

#### **517.13 BINGO EXCEPTIONS.**

(a) Ohio R.C. 2915.07 to 2915.11 and 2915.14 or Section 517.06 et seq. of this chapter do not apply to bingo games that are conducted for the purpose of amusement only. A bingo game is conducted for the purpose of amusement only if it complies with all of the requirements specified in either subsection (a)(1) or (2) hereof:

- (1) A. The participants do not pay any money or any other thing of value including an admission fee, or any fee for bingo cards, sheets, objects to cover the spaces or other devices used in playing bingo, for the privilege of participating in the bingo game or to defray any costs of the game, or pay tips or make donations during or immediately before or after the bingo game.
- B. All prizes awarded during the course of the game are nonmonetary, and in the form of merchandise, goods or entitlements to goods or services only, and the total value of all prizes awarded during the game is less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00).



- C. No commission, wages, salary, reward, tip, donation, gratuity or other form of compensation, either directly or indirectly, and regardless of the source, is paid to any bingo game operator for work or labor performed at the site of the bingo game.
  - D. The bingo game is not conducted either during or within ten (10) hours of any of the following:
    - 1. A bingo session during which a charitable bingo game is conducted pursuant to Ohio R.C. 2915.07 to 2915.11 or Section 517.06 et seq. of this chapter;
    - 2. A scheme or game of chance or bingo described in Section 517.01(b)(2).
  - E. The number of players participating in the bingo game does not exceed fifty (50).
- (2)
- A. The participants do not pay money or any other thing of value as an admission fee, and no participant is charged more than twenty-five cents (25¢) to purchase a bingo card or sheet, objects to cover the spaces or other devices used in playing bingo.
  - B. The total amount of money paid by all of the participants for bingo cards or sheets, objects to cover the spaces or other devices used in playing bingo does not exceed one hundred dollars (\$100.00).
  - C. All of the money paid for bingo cards or sheets, objects to cover spaces or other devices used in playing bingo is used only to pay winners monetary and nonmonetary prizes and to provide refreshments.
  - D. The total value of all prizes awarded during the game does not exceed one hundred dollars (\$100.00).
  - E. No commission, wages, salary, reward, tip, donation, gratuity or other form of compensation, either directly or indirectly, and regardless of the source, is paid to any bingo game operator for work or labor performed at the site of the bingo game.
  - F. The bingo game is not conducted during or within ten (10) hours of either of the following:
    - 1. A bingo session during which a charitable bingo game is conducted pursuant to Ohio R.C. 2915.07 to 2915.15 or Section 517.06 et seq. of this chapter;
    - 2. A scheme of chance or game of chance or bingo described in Section 517.01(b)(2).
  - G. All of the participants reside at the premises where the bingo game is conducted.
  - H. The bingo games are conducted on different days of the week and not more than twice in a calendar week.

(b) The Attorney General, or any local law enforcement agency, may investigate the conduct of a bingo game that purportedly is conducted for purposes of amusement only if there is reason to believe that the purported amusement bingo game does not comply with subsection (a) hereof. A local law enforcement agency may proceed by action in the proper court to enforce this section if the local law enforcement agency gives written notice to the Attorney General when commencing the action. (ORC 2915.12)



**517.14 INSTANT BINGO CONDUCT BY A VETERAN'S OR FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION.**

(a) Subject to the requirements of Ohio R.C. 2915.14 and 2915.15 concerning electronic instant bingo, a veteran's organization, a fraternal organization, or a sporting organization authorized to conduct a bingo session pursuant to Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915 may conduct instant bingo, electronic instant bingo, or both other than at a bingo session under a type III license issued under Ohio R.C. 2915.08 if all of the following apply:

- (1) The veteran's organization, fraternal organization, or sporting organization limits the sale of instant bingo or electronic instant bingo to twelve (12) hours during any day, provided that the sale does not begin earlier than 10:00 a.m. and ends not later than 2:00 a.m.
- (2) The veteran's organization, fraternal organization, or sporting organization limits the sale of instant bingo or electronic instant bingo to its own premises and to its own members and invited guests.
- (3) The veteran's organization, fraternal organization, or sporting organization is raising money for an organization that is described in IRC 509(a)(1), (a)(2), or (a)(3) and is either a governmental unit or an organization that maintains its principal place of business in this state, that is exempt from federal income taxation under IRC 501(a) and described in IRC 501(c)(3), and that is in good standing in this state and executes a written contract with that organization as required in subsection (b) hereof.

(b) If a veteran's organization, fraternal organization, or sporting organization authorized to conduct instant bingo or electronic instant bingo pursuant to subsection (a) hereof is raising money for another organization that is described in IRC 509(a)(1), (a)(2), or (a)(3) and is either a governmental unit or an organization that maintains its principal place of business in this state, that is exempt from federal income taxation under IRC 501(a) and described in IRC 501(c), and that is in good standing in this state, the veteran's organization, fraternal organization, or sporting organization shall execute a written contract with the organization that is described in IRC 509(a)(1), (a)(2), or (a)(3) and is either a governmental unit or an organization that maintains its principal place of business in this state, that is exempt from federal income taxation under IRC 501(a) and described in IRC 501(c), and that is in good standing in this state in order to conduct instant bingo or electronic instant bingo. That contract shall include a statement of the percentage of the net proceeds that the veteran's, fraternal, or sporting organization will be distributing to the organization that is described in IRC 509(a)(1), (a)(2), or (a)(3) and is either a governmental unit or an organization that maintains its principal place of business in this state, that is exempt from federal income taxation under IRC 501(a) and described in IRC 501(c)(3), and that is in good standing in this state.

- (c) (1) If a veteran's organization, fraternal organization, or sporting organization authorized to conduct instant bingo or electronic instant bingo pursuant to subsection (b) hereof has been issued a liquor permit under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4303, that permit may be subject to suspension, revocation, or cancellation if the veteran's organization, fraternal organization, or sporting organization violates a provision of this chapter or Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915.

- (2) No veteran's organization, fraternal organization, or sporting organization that enters into a written contract pursuant to subsection (b) hereof shall violate any provision of this chapter or Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915, or permit, aid, or abet any other person in violating any provision of this chapter or Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915.

(d) A veteran's organization, fraternal organization, or sporting organization shall give all required proceeds earned from the conduct of instant bingo or electronic instant bingo to the organization with which the veteran's organization, fraternal organization, or sporting organization has entered into a written contract.

(e) Whoever violates this section is guilty of illegal instant bingo or electronic instant bingo conduct. Except as otherwise provided in this division, illegal instant bingo or electronic instant bingo conduct is a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the offender previously has been convicted of a violation of this section, illegal instant bingo or electronic instant bingo conduct is a felony to be prosecuted under appropriate state law.  
(ORC 2915.13)

#### **517.15 SKILL-BASED AMUSEMENT MACHINES.**

- (a) (1) No person shall give to another person any item described in Section 517.01(hh)(1), (2), (3), or (4) in exchange for a noncash prize, toy, or novelty received as a reward for playing or operating a skill-based amusement machine or for a free or reduced-prize game won on a skill-based amusement machine.
- (2) Whoever violates subsection (a)(1) of this section is guilty of skill-based amusement machine prohibited conduct. Except as provided herein, a violation of subsection (a)(1) is a misdemeanor of the first degree for each redemption of a prize that is involved in the violation. If the offender previously has been convicted of a violation of subsection (a)(1), a violation of subsection (a)(1) is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law.  
(ORC 2915.06)

(b) Any regulation of skill-based amusement machines shall be governed by this chapter and Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915 and not by Ohio R.C. Chapter 1345.  
(ORC 2915.061)

#### **517.16 ELECTRONIC INSTANT BINGO; PROHIBITED CONDUCT.**

(a) No charitable organization shall conduct electronic instant bingo unless all of the following are true:

- (1) The organization is a veteran's organization described in Ohio R.C. 2915.01(J), or is a fraternal organization described in Ohio R.C. 2915.01(L), and the organization qualified as a veteran's organization or fraternal organization, as applicable, on or before June 30, 2021.
- (2) The organization is a veteran's organization described in IRC 501(c)(4) or is, and has received from the Internal Revenue Service a determination letter that is currently in effect stating that the organization is, exempt from federal income taxation under IRC 501(a), and is described in IRC 501(c)(7), 501(c)(8), 501(c)(10), or 501(c)(19).

- (3) The organization has not conducted a raffle in violation of Ohio R.C. 2915.092(B) using an electronic raffle machine, as described in Ohio Veterans and Fraternal Charitable Coalition v. DeWine, Case No. 13-CV-13610 (C.P. Franklin Co. February 23, 2018), at any time on or after January 1, 2022.

(b) No charitable organization that conducts electronic instant bingo shall do any of the following:

- (1) Possess an electronic instant bingo system that was not obtained in accordance with Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915 or with any rule adopted under Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915;
- (2) Conduct electronic instant bingo on any day, at any time, or on any premises not specified on the organization's type II or type III license issued under Ohio R.C. 2915.08;
- (3) Hold more than one valid license to conduct electronic instant bingo at any one time;
- (4) Conduct electronic instant bingo on more than one premises or on any premises other than the charitable organization's principal place of business;
- (5) Operate more than ten electronic bingo systems at the premises on which the charitable organization conducts electronic instant bingo under its license;
- (6) Fail to display both of the following conspicuously at the premises on which the charitable organization conducts electronic instant bingo:
  - A. The charitable organization's bingo license;
  - B. The serial number of each deal of electronic instant bingo tickets being sold.
- (7) Permit any person the charitable organization knows, or should have known, to be under eighteen (18) years of age to play electronic instant bingo;
- (8) Sell or provide to any person an electronic instant bingo ticket for a price different from the price displayed on the game flare for that deal, except that the charitable organization may give a participant who wins an electronic instant bingo game an electronic instant bingo ticket as a prize in place of a cash prize;
- (9) Fail, once an electronic instant bingo deal is begun, to continue to sell tickets in that deal until all prizes have been awarded;
- (10) Permit any person whom the organization knows, or should have known, has been convicted of a felony or gambling offense in any jurisdiction to be a bingo game operator in the conduct of electronic instant bingo;
- (11) Permit a bingo game operator to play electronic instant bingo;
- (12)
  - A. Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b)(12)B. hereof, pay compensation to a bingo game operator for conducting electronic instant bingo.
  - B. Subsection (b)(12)A. hereof does not prohibit an employee of a veteran's organization or fraternal organization from redeeming electronic instant bingo tickets or vouchers for the organization's members or invited guests, so long as no portion of the employee's compensation is paid from any bingo receipts.

(13) Pay consulting fees to any person in relation to electronic instant bingo.

(c) No person shall sell, offer to sell, or otherwise provide or offer to provide an electronic instant bingo system to any person for use in this municipality unless the electronic instant bingo system has been approved under Ohio R.C. 2915.15.

(d) Whoever knowingly violates subsection (a), (b) or (c) hereof or a rule adopted under Ohio R.C. 2915.14(D) is guilty of illegal electronic instant bingo conduct. Illegal electronic instant bingo conduct is a misdemeanor of the first degree, except that if the offender previously has been convicted of a violation of subsection (a) or (b) hereof, or any substantially equivalent municipal ordinance or state law, or of a rule adopted under Ohio R.C. 2915.14(D), illegal instant bingo conduct is a felony to be prosecuted under appropriate state law. (ORC 2915.14)

**517.99 PENALTY.**

(EDITOR'S NOTE: See Section 501.99 for penalties applicable to any misdemeanor classification.)

**525.13 INTERFERING WITH CIVIL RIGHTS.**

(a) No public servant, under color of the public servant's office, employment, or authority, shall knowingly deprive, or conspire or attempt to deprive any person of a constitutional or statutory right.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of interfering with civil rights, a misdemeanor of the first degree. (ORC 2921.45)

**525.14 UNAUTHORIZED DISPLAY OF LAW ENFORCEMENT EMBLEMS ON MOTOR VEHICLES.**

(a) No person who is not entitled to do so shall knowingly display on a motor vehicle the emblem of a law enforcement agency or an organization of law enforcement officers.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of the unlawful display of the emblem of a law enforcement agency or an organization of law enforcement officers, a minor misdemeanor. (ORC 2913.441)

**525.15 REGISTRATION BY PERSONS CONVICTED OF CERTAIN CRIMES.**

(a) Registration Required; Contents. Every person coming into the City, whether in transit through or otherwise, who has been convicted in a federal or State court of an offense which is a felony under the laws of the United States or of the state in which committed, or which would be classed as a felony, if committed in the State of Ohio, within thirty-six months following the later of:

- (1) Such conviction;
- (2) Release from incarceration arising from such conviction;
- (3) Release from parole arising from such conviction; or
- (4) Release from probation arising from such conviction.

Such person shall report to the investigation section of the Police Department within forty-eight hours after his arrival within the City. He shall furnish to the police, in a written statement signed by him, his true name and every other name or alias by which he is or has been known, a full and complete description of himself and the name of each offense as hereinabove defined of which he has been convicted, together with the names of the places where each offense was committed, the name under which he was convicted, the date of the conviction, and the name, if any, and location of each penal institution in which he has been confined by way of punishment for each offense, together with the location or address, used, or to be used by him, as a residence, stopping place or living quarters in the City, with a description of the character of each such place, whether a hotel, apartment house, dwelling house or otherwise, giving the street number thereof, if any, or any description of the same as will so identify it as to make it possible of location. The length of time he expects to remain within the City shall also be disclosed to the police.

(b) Photograph and Fingerprints. Every person registering in accordance with subsection (a) hereof shall be photographed and fingerprinted by the police, and his photograph and fingerprints shall be made a part of the permanent records of the Police Department.

(c) Convicted Persons Residing in the City. Every person residing within the City who has been convicted within the immediately prior period of five years, of any offense, as described in subsection (a) hereof, shall, prior to March 1, 1983, file with the police, a written statement signed by himself, containing all the information required to be furnished in accordance with the section, together with his photograph and his fingerprints, as provided by subsection (b) hereof. Such statement shall also set forth the occupation or employment in which he is engaged, the name of his employer, the business in which the employer is engaged, and the nature and character of the business.



## CHAPTER 529 Liquor Control

<b>529.01</b>	<b>Definitions.</b>	<b>529.07</b>	<b>Open container prohibited.</b>
<b>529.02</b>	<b>Sales to and use by underage persons; securing public accommodations.</b>	<b>529.08</b>	<b>Hours of sale or consumption.</b>
<b>529.021</b>	<b>Purchase by minor; misrepresentation.</b>	<b>529.09</b>	<b>General prohibitions.</b>
<b>529.03</b>	<b>Sales to intoxicated persons.</b>	<b>529.10</b>	<b>Prohibition against remaining on property.</b>
<b>529.04</b>	<b>Liquor consumption in motor vehicle.</b>	<b>529.11</b>	<b>Contributing to minors' violations.</b>
<b>529.05</b>	<b>Permit required.</b>	<b>529.12</b>	<b>Illegal possession of intoxicating liquor prohibited.</b>
<b>529.06</b>	<b>Low-alcohol beverages; sale to and purchase by underage persons prohibited.</b>	<b>529.99</b>	<b>Penalty.</b>

### CROSS REFERENCES

See sectional histories for similar State law  
 Prohibiting sale of intoxicating liquor on Sunday - see  
     Ohio R.C. 4301.22(D)  
 Local option - see Ohio R.C. 4301.32 et seq., 4303.29  
 Disorderly conduct; intoxication - see GEN. OFF. 509.03  
 Using weapons while intoxicated - see GEN. OFF. 549.03

### **529.01 DEFINITIONS.**

For the purpose of this chapter, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

- (a) "Alcohol". Ethyl alcohol, whether rectified or diluted with water or not, whatever its origin may be, and includes synthetic ethyl alcohol. The term does not include denatured alcohol and wood alcohol.
- (b) "At Retail". For use or consumption by the purchaser and not for resale.
- (c) "Beer".
  - (1) Includes all beverages brewed or fermented wholly or in part from malt products and containing one-half of one percent (0.5%) or more of alcohol by volume.
  - (2) Beer, regardless of the percent of alcohol by volume, is not intoxicating liquor for purposes of this code, the Ohio Revised Code, or any rules adopted under it.
- (d) "Cider". All liquids that are fit to use for beverage purposes that contain one-half of one percent (0.5%) of alcohol by volume, but not more than six percent (6%) of alcohol by weight that are made through the normal alcoholic fermentation of the juice of sound, ripe apples, including, without limitation, flavored, sparkling, or carbonated cider and cider made from pure condensed apple must.
- (e) "Club". A corporation or association of individuals organized in good faith for social, recreational, benevolent, charitable, fraternal, political, patriotic, or athletic purposes, which is the owner, lessor, or occupant of a permanent building or part of a permanent building operated solely for such purposes, membership in which entails the prepayment of regular dues, and includes the place so operated.

- (f) “Community Facility”. Means either of the following:
- (1) Any convention, sports or entertainment facility or complex, or any combination of these, that is used by or accessible to the general public and that is owned or operated whole or in part by the state, a state agency, or a political subdivision of the state or that is leased from, or located on property owned by or leased from, the state, a state agency, a political subdivision of the state, or a convention facilities authority created pursuant to Ohio R.C. 351.02;
  - (2) An area designated as a community entertainment district pursuant to Ohio R.C. 4301.80.
- (g) “Controlled Access Alcohol and Beverage Cabinet”. A closed container, either refrigerated, in whole or in part, or nonrefrigerated, access to the interior of which is restricted by means of a device that requires the use of a key, magnetic card, or similar device and from which beer, intoxicating liquor, other beverages or food may be sold.
- (h) “Hotel”. The same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 3731.01, subject to the exceptions mentioned in Ohio R.C. 3731.03.
- (i) “Intoxicating Liquor” and “Liquor”. All liquids and compounds, other than beer, containing one half of one percent (0.5%) or more of alcohol by volume which are fit to use for beverage purposes, from whatever source and by whatever process produced, by whatever name called, and whether they are medicated, proprietary, or patented. The terms include cider and alcohol, and all solids and confections which contain one-half of one percent (0.5%) or more of alcohol by volume.
- (j) “Low-Alcohol Beverage”. Any brewed or fermented malt product or any product made from the fermented juices of grapes, fruits, or other agricultural products that contains either no alcohol or less than one-half of one percent (0.5%) of alcohol by volume. The beverages described in this definition do not include a soft drink such as root beer, birch beer, or ginger beer.
- (k) “Manufacture”. All processes by which beer or intoxicating liquor is produced, whether by distillation, rectifying, fortifying, blending, fermentation, brewing, or in any other manner.
- (l) “Manufacturer”. Any person engaged in the business of manufacturing beer or intoxicating liquor.
- (m) “Mixed Beverages”. Include bottled and prepared cordials, cocktails, highballs, and solids and confections that are obtained by mixing any type of whiskey, neutral spirits, brandy, gin or other distilled spirits with, or over, carbonated or plain water, pure juices from flowers and plants, and other flavoring materials. The completed product shall contain not less than one-half of one percent (0.5%) of alcohol by volume and not more than twenty-one percent (21%) of alcohol by volume. The phrase includes the contents of a pod.
- (n) “Nightclub”. A place habitually operated for profit, where food is served for consumption on the premises, and one or more forms of amusement are provided or permitted for a consideration that may be in the form of a cover charge or may be included in the price of the food and beverages, or both, purchased by patrons.
- (o) “Person”. Includes firms and corporations.
- (p) “Pharmacy”. An establishment as defined in Ohio R.C. 4729.01, that is under the management or control of a licensed pharmacist in accordance with Ohio R.C. 4729.27.



- (q) “POD”. Means a sealed capsule made from plastic, glass, aluminum, or a combination thereof to which all of the following apply:
- (1) The capsule contains intoxicating liquor of more than twenty-one percent (21%) of alcohol by volume.
  - (2) The capsule also contains a concentrated flavoring mixture.
  - (3) The contents of the capsule are not readily accessible or intended for consumption unless certain manufacturer’s processing instructions are followed.
  - (4) The instructions include releasing the contents of the capsule through a machine specifically designed to process the contents.
  - (5) After being properly processed according to the manufacturer’s instructions, the final product produced from the capsule contains not less than one-half of one percent (0.5%) of alcohol by volume and not more than twenty-one percent (21%) of alcohol by volume.
- (r) “Restaurant”. A place located in a permanent building provided with space and accommodations wherein, in consideration of the payment of money, hot meals are habitually prepared, sold, and served at noon and evening, as the principal business of the place. The term does not include pharmacies, confectionery stores, lunch stands, nightclubs, and filling stations.
- (s) “Sale” and “Sell”. The exchange, barter, gift, offer for sale, sale, distribution, and delivery of any kind, and the transfer of title or possession of beer and intoxicating liquor either by constructive or actual delivery by any means or devices whatever, including the sale of beer or intoxicating liquor by means of a controlled access alcohol and beverage cabinet pursuant to Ohio R.C. 4301.21. Such terms do not include the mere solicitation of orders for beer or intoxicating liquor from the holders of permits issued by the Division of Liquor Control authorizing the sale of the beer or intoxicating liquor, but no solicitor shall solicit any orders until the solicitor has been registered with the Division pursuant to Ohio R.C. 4303.25.
- (t) “Sales Area or Territory”. An exclusive geographic area or territory that is assigned to a particular A or B permit holder and that either has one or more political subdivisions as its boundaries or consists of an area of land with readily identifiable geographic boundaries. The term does not include, however, any particular retail location in an exclusive geographic area or territory that had been assigned to another A or B permit holder before April 9, 2001.
- (u) “Sealed Container”. Any container having a capacity of not more than 128 fluid ounces, the opening of which is closed to prevent the entrance of air.
- (v) “Spirituous Liquor”. All intoxicating liquors containing more than twenty-one percent (21%) of alcohol by volume. The phrase does not include the contents of a pod.
- (w) “Vehicle”. All means of transportation by land, by water, or by air, and everything made use of in any way for such transportation.
- (x) “Wholesale Distributor” and “Distributor”. A person engaged in the business of selling to retail dealers for purposes of resale.
- (y) “Wine”. All liquids fit to use for beverage purposes containing not less than one-half of one percent (0.5%) of alcohol by volume and not more than twenty-one percent (21%) of alcohol by volume, that is made from the fermented juices of grapes, fruits, or other agricultural products. The term includes cider, except as used in Ohio R.C. 4301.13, 4301.421, 4301.422, 4301.432, and 4301.44, and, for purposes of determining the rate of the tax that applies, Ohio R.C. 4301.43(B), the term does not include cider.  
(ORC 4301.01, 4301.244)

**529.02 SALES TO AND USE BY UNDERAGE PERSONS; SECURING PUBLIC ACCOMMODATIONS.**

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter or Ohio R.C. Chapter 4301, no person shall sell beer or intoxicating liquor to an underage person, or shall buy beer or intoxicating liquor for an underage person, or shall furnish it to, an underage person, unless given by a physician in the regular line of his practice or given for established religious purposes, or unless the underage person is supervised by a parent, spouse who is not an underage person or legal guardian.

In proceedings before the Liquor Control Commission, no permit holder, or no employee or agent of a permit holder, charged with a violation of this subsection shall be charged, for the same offense, with a violation of Ohio R.C. 4301.22(A)(1).

(b) No person who is the owner or occupant of any public or private place shall knowingly allow any underage person to remain in or on the place while possessing or consuming beer or intoxicating liquor, unless the intoxicating liquor or beer is given to the person possessing or consuming it by that person's parent, spouse who is not an underage person or legal guardian and the parent, spouse who is not an underage person or legal guardian is present at the time of the person's possession or consumption of the beer or intoxicating liquor.

An owner of a public or private place is not liable for acts or omissions in violation of this subsection that are committed by a lessee of that place, unless the owner authorizes or acquiesces in the lessee's acts or omissions.

(c) No person shall engage or use accommodations at a hotel, inn, cabin, campground or restaurant when he knows or has reason to know either of the following:

- (1) That beer or intoxicating liquor will be consumed by an underage person on the premises of the accommodations that the person engages or uses, unless the person engaging or using the accommodations is the spouse of the underage person and is not an underage person, or is the parent or legal guardian of all of the underage persons, who consume beer or intoxicating liquor on the premises and that person is on the premises at all times when beer or intoxicating liquor is being consumed by an underage person;
- (2) That a drug of abuse will be consumed on the premises of the accommodations by any person, except a person who obtained the drug of abuse pursuant to a prescription issued by a practitioner and has the drug of abuse in the original container in which it was dispensed to the person.

(d) (1) No person is required to permit the engagement of accommodations at any hotel, inn, cabin or campground by an underage person or for an underage person, if the person engaging the accommodations knows or has reason to know that the underage person is intoxicated, or that the underage person possesses any beer or intoxicating liquor and is not supervised by a parent, spouse who is not an underage person or legal guardian who is or will be present at all times when the beer or intoxicating liquor is being consumed by the underage person.

- (2) No underage person shall knowingly engage or attempt to engage accommodations at any hotel, inn, cabin or campground by presenting identification that falsely indicates that the underage person is twenty-one years of age or older for the purpose of violating this section.

(e) No underage person shall knowingly show or give false information concerning his name, age, or other identification for the purpose of purchasing or otherwise obtaining any low-alcohol beverage in any place in this Municipality.

(f) No person shall sell or furnish any low-alcohol beverage to, or buy any low-alcohol beverage for, an underage person, unless given by a physician in the regular line of his practice or given for established religious purposes, or unless the underage person is accompanied by a parent, spouse who is not an underage person, or legal guardian.

(g) No person who is the owner or occupant of any public or private place shall knowingly allow any underage person to remain in or on the place while possessing or consuming any low-alcohol beverage, unless the low-alcohol beverage is given to the person possessing or consuming it by that person's parent, spouse who is not an underage person, or legal guardian, and the parent, spouse who is not an underage person, or legal guardian is present when the person possesses or consumes the low-alcohol beverage.

An owner of a public or private place is not liable for acts or omissions in violation of this division that are committed by a lessee of that place, unless the owner authorizes or acquiesces in the lessee's acts or omissions.

(h) No underage person shall knowingly possess or consume any low-alcohol beverage in any public or private place, unless he is accompanied by a parent, spouse who is not an underage person, or legal guardian, or unless the low-alcohol beverage is given by a physician in the regular line of his practice or given for established religious purposes.

(i) No parent, spouse who is not an underage person, or legal guardian of an underage person shall knowingly permit the underage person to violate this section. (ORC 4301.631)

(j) Whoever violates any provision of this section for which no other penalty is provided is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.

(k) Whoever violates subsection (b) hereof shall be fined not less than twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) nor more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00). The court imposing a fine for a violation of subsection (b) hereof may order that the fine be paid by the performance of public work at a reasonable hourly rate established by the court. The court shall designate the time within which the public work shall be completed. (ORC 4301.99; Ord. 97-2. Passed 1-9-97.)

#### **529.07 OPEN CONTAINER PROHIBITED.**

(a) As used in this section:

- (1) "Chauffeured limousine" means a vehicle registered under Ohio R.C. 4503.24.
- (2) "Street," "highway" and "motor vehicle" have the same meanings as in Ohio R.C. 4511.01.

(b) No person shall have in the person's possession an opened container of beer or intoxicating liquor in any of the following circumstances:

- (1) In a State liquor store;
- (2) Except as provided in subsection (c) or (i) hereof, on the premises of the holder of any permit issued by the Division of Liquor Control;
- (3) In any other public place;

- (4) Except as provided in subsection (d) or (e) hereof, while operating or being a passenger in or on a motor vehicle on any street, highway or other public or private property open to the public for purposes of vehicular travel or parking;
  - (5) Except as provided in subsection (d) or (e) hereof, while being in or on a stationary motor vehicle on any street, highway or other public or private property open to the public for purposes of vehicular travel or parking.
- (c) (1) A person may have in the person's possession an opened container of any of the following:
- A. Beer or intoxicating liquor that has been lawfully purchased for consumption on the premises where bought from the holder of an A-1-A, A-2, A-2(f), A-3a, D-1, D-2, D-3, D-3a, D-4, D-4a, D-5, D-5a, D-5b, D-5c, D-5d, D-5e, D-5f, D-5g, D-5h, D-5i, D-5j, D-5k, D-5l, D-5m, D-5n, D-5o, D-7, D-8, E, F, F-2, F-5, F-7 or F-8 permit;
  - B. Beer, wine, or mixed beverages served for consumption on the premises by the holder of an F-3 permit, wine served as a tasting sample by an A-2, S-1, or S-2 permit holder for consumption on the premises of a farmers market for which an F-10 permit has been issued, or wine served for consumption on the premises by the holder of an F-4 or F-6 permit;
  - C. Beer or intoxicating liquor consumed on the premises of a convention facility as provided in Ohio R.C. 4303.201;
  - D. Beer or intoxicating liquor to be consumed during tastings and samplings approved by rule of the Liquor Control Commission.
  - E. Spirituous liquor to be consumed for purposes of a tasting sample, as defined in Ohio R.C. 4301.171.
- (2) A person may have in the person's possession on an F liquor permit premises an opened container of beer or intoxicating liquor that was not purchased from the holder of the F permit if the premises for which the F permit is issued is a music festival and the holder of the F permit grants permission for that possession on the premises during the period for which the F permit is issued. As used in this section, "music festival" means a series of outdoor live musical performances, extending for a period of at least three consecutive days and located on an area of land of at least forty acres.
- (3) A. A person may have in the person's possession on a D-2 liquor permit premises an opened or unopened container of wine that was not purchased from the holder of the D-2 permit if the premises for which the D-2 permit is issued is an outdoor performing arts center, the person is attending an orchestral performance, and the holder of the D-2 permit grants permission for the possession and consumption of wine in certain predesignated areas of the premises during the period for which the D-2 permit is issued.
- B. As used in subsection (c)(3)A. of this section:
- 1. "Orchestral performance" means a concert comprised of a group of not fewer than forty musicians playing various musical instruments.
  - 2. "Outdoor performing arts center" means an outdoor performing arts center that is located on not less than one hundred fifty acres of land and that is open for performances from the first day of April to the last day of October of each year.

- A. The person is not occupying a seat in the front of the commercial quadricycle where the operator is steering or braking.
  - B. The commercial quadricycle is being operated on a street, highway or other public or private property open to the public for purposes of vehicular travel or parking.
  - C. The person has in their possession on the commercial quadricycle an opened container of beer or wine.
  - D. The person has in their possession on the commercial quadricycle not more than either thirty-six ounces of beer or eighteen ounces of wine.
- (2) The legislative authority of a municipal corporation or township may enact an ordinance or adopt a resolution, as applicable, that prohibits a passenger riding on a commercial quadricycle from possessing an opened container or beer or wine.
- (3) As used in this section, “commercial quadricycle” means a vehicle that has fully-operative pedals for propulsion entirely by human power and that meets all of the following requirements:
- A. It has four wheels and is operated in a manner similar to a bicycle.
  - B. It has at least five seats for passengers.
  - C. It is designed to be powered by the pedaling of the operator and the passengers.
  - D. It is used for commercial purposes.
  - E. It is operated by the vehicle owner or an employee of the owner.
- (ORC 4301.62)

(g) This section does not apply to a person that has in the person’s possession an opened container of beer or intoxicating liquor on the premises of a market if the beer or intoxicating liquor has been purchased from a D liquor permit holder that is located in the market.

As used in subsection (g) of this section, “market” means an establishment that:

- (1) Leases space in the market to individual vendors, not less than fifty percent of which are retail food establishments or food service operations licensed under Ohio R.C. Chapter 3717;
  - (2) Has an indoor sales floor area of not less than twenty-two thousand square feet;
  - (3) Hosts a farmer’s market on each Saturday from April through December.
- (ORC 4301.62)

- (h) (1) As used in this section, “alcoholic beverage” has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 4303.185.
- (2) An alcoholic beverage in a closed container being transported under Ohio R.C. 4303.185 to its final destination is not an opened container for the purposes of this section if the closed container is securely sealed in such a manner that it is visibly apparent if the closed container has been subsequently opened or tampered with after sealing. (ORC 4301.62)

(i) This section does not apply to a person that has in the person’s possession an opened container of homemade beer or wine that is served in accordance with Ohio R.C. 4301.201(E). (ORC 4301.62)

(j) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.  
(ORC 4301.99(A); Ord. 2019-1. Passed 5-9-19; Ord. 2020-3. Passed 5-14-20; Ord. 2021-02. Passed 4-8-21.)

**529.08 HOURS OF SALE OR CONSUMPTION.**

(a) This rule shall apply to the retail sale of beer, wine, mixed beverages, or spirituous liquor.

(b) No beer, wine, mixed beverages, or spirituous liquor shall be sold or delivered by an A-1, A-1c, A-2, B-1, B-2, B-4, B-5, C-1, C-2, C-2X, D-1, D-2, D-2X, D-3 when issued without a D-3A, D-3X, D-4, D-5H, D-5K, D-8, F, F-1, F-2, F-3, F-4, F-5, F-6, F-7, F-8, F-9, G or I permit holder:

- (1) From Monday to Saturday between the hours of one a.m. and five thirty a.m.
- (2) On Sunday between the hours of one a.m. and Sunday midnight, unless statutorily authorized otherwise.
- (3) Consumption of beer, wine, mixed beverages, or spirituous liquor is also prohibited during the above hours upon the premises of the above permit holders who are authorized by their permit to sell beer, wine, mixed beverages, or spirituous liquor for on-premises consumption.

(c) No beer, wine, mixed beverages, or spirituous liquid shall be sold or delivered by an A-1A, D-3 when issued with a D-3A, D-4A, D-5, D-5A, D-5B, D-5C, D-5D, D-5E, D-5F, D-5G, D-5I, D-5J, D-5l, D-5m, D-5n, D-5o, or D-7 permit holder:

- (1) From Monday to Saturday between the hours of two thirty a.m. and five thirty a.m.
- (2) On Sunday between the hours of two thirty a.m. and Sunday midnight, unless statutorily authorized otherwise.
- (3) Consumption of beer, wine, mixed beverages, or spirituous liquor is also prohibited during the above hours upon the premises of the above permit holders who are authorized by their permit to sell beer, wine, mixed beverages or spirituous liquor for on-premises consumption.

(d) Permit holders authorized to sell beer, wine, mixed beverages, or spirituous liquor at retail who are not specifically identified in subsection (b) or (c) above shall be subject to the provisions of subsection (b), unless statutorily authorized otherwise.

(e) The hours on Sunday during which sales, delivery, or consumption of alcoholic beverages may take place are established by statute, but in no event shall they begin prior to five thirty a.m. (OAC 4301:1-1-49)

(f) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.

**529.09 GENERAL PROHIBITIONS.**

(a) No beer or intoxicating liquor shall be sold to any person under twenty-one years of age. No intoxicating liquor shall be handled by any person under twenty-one years of age, except that a person eighteen years of age or older employed by a permit holder may handle or sell beer or intoxicating liquor in sealed containers in connection with wholesale or retail sales, and any person nineteen years of age or older employed by a permit holder may handle intoxicating liquor in open containers when acting in the capacity of a waiter or waitress in a hotel, restaurant, club, or night club, as defined in Ohio R.C. 4301.01(B), or in the premises of a D-7 permit holder. Nothing in this section authorizes persons under twenty-one years of age to sell intoxicating liquor across a bar. Any person employed by a permit holder may handle beer or intoxicating liquor in sealed containers in connection with manufacturing, storage, warehousing, placement, stocking, bagging, loading or unloading, any may handle beer or intoxicating liquor in open containers in connection with cleaning tables or handling empty bottles or glasses.

## CHAPTER 533 Obscenity and Sex Offenses

<b>533.01</b>	<b>Definitions.</b>	<b>533.10</b>	<b>Prostitution.</b>
<b>533.02</b>	<b>Presumption of knowledge; actual notice and defense.</b>	<b>533.11</b>	<b>Disseminating matter harmful to juveniles.</b>
<b>533.03</b>	<b>Unlawful sexual conduct with a minor.</b>	<b>533.12</b>	<b>Pandering obscenity. (Repealed)</b>
<b>533.04</b>	<b>Sexual imposition.</b>	<b>533.13</b>	<b>Deception to obtain matter harmful to juveniles.</b>
<b>533.05</b>	<b>Importuning.</b>	<b>533.14</b>	<b>Pandering material involving a minor; illegal use of minor.</b>
<b>533.06</b>	<b>Voyeurism.</b>	<b>533.15</b>	<b>Displaying matter harmful to juveniles.</b>
<b>533.07</b>	<b>Public indecency.</b>	<b>533.16</b>	<b>Unlawful advertising of massage.</b>
<b>533.08</b>	<b>Procuring; engagement in sexual activity for hire.</b>	<b>533.17</b>	<b>Dissemination of private sexual images.</b>
<b>533.09</b>	<b>Soliciting.</b>	<b>533.99</b>	<b>Penalty.</b>
<b>533.091</b>	<b>Loitering to engage in solicitation.</b>		

### CROSS REFERENCES

See sectional histories for similar State law  
 Complicity - see GEN. OFF. 501.10  
 Offensive conduct - see GEN. OFF. 509.03  
 Telephone harassment - see GEN. OFF. 537.10  
 Criminal trespass - see GEN. OFF. 541.05

### **533.01 DEFINITIONS.**

As used in this chapter:

- (a) "Sexual conduct" means vaginal intercourse between a male and female; anal intercourse, fellatio and cunnilingus between persons regardless of sex; and, without privilege to do so, the insertion, however slight, of any part of the body or any instrument, apparatus or other object into the vaginal or anal opening of another. Penetration, however slight, is sufficient to complete vaginal or anal intercourse.
- (b) "Sexual contact" means any touching of an erogenous zone of another, including without limitation the thigh, genitals, buttock, pubic region, or, if such person is a female, a breast, for the purpose of sexually arousing or gratifying either person.
- (c) "Sexual activity" means sexual conduct or sexual contact, or both.
- (d) "Prostitute" means a male or female who promiscuously engages in sexual activity for hire, regardless of whether the hire is paid to the prostitute or to another.
- (e) "Harmful to juveniles" means that quality of any material or performance describing or representing nudity, sexual conduct, sexual excitement, or sado-masochistic abuse in any form to which all of the following apply:



- (3) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (c)(3) of this section, a violation of subsection (a)(2) or (3) of this section is a misdemeanor of the third degree. If the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one violation of this section, a violation of subsection (a)(2) or (3) of this section is a misdemeanor of the second degree or, if any person who was likely to view and be affronted by the offender's conduct was a minor, a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to two or more violations of this section, a violation of subsection (a)(2) or (3) of this section is a misdemeanor of the first degree or, if any person who was likely to view and be affronted by the offender's conduct was a minor, a felony which shall be prosecuted under appropriate state law.
  - (4) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (c)(4) of this section, a violation of subsection (b)(1), (2) or (3) of this section is a misdemeanor of the second degree. If the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one violation of this section, a violation of subsection (b)(1), (2) or (3) of this section is a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to two or more violations of this section, a violation of subsection (b)(1), (2) or (3) of this section is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate state law.
  - (5) A violation of subsection (b)(4) of this section is a misdemeanor of the first degree unless the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to any violation of this section in which case the violation is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate state law.
- (d) (1) If either of the following applies, the court may determine at the time of sentencing whether to classify the offender as a tier I sex offender/child-victim offender for a violation of subsection (b)(4) of this section:
- A. The offender is less than ten years older than the other person.
  - B. The offender is ten or more years older than the other person and the offender has not previously been convicted of or pleaded guilty to any violation of this section.
- (2) If the offender is convicted of or pleads guilty to a violation of subsection (b)(4) of this section, is ten or more years older than the other person, and previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to any violation of this section, the court shall issue an order at the time of sentencing that classifies the offender as a tier I sex offender/child-victim offender subject to registration under Ohio R.C. 2950.04, 2950.041, 2950.05 and 2950.06.  
(ORC 2907.09; Ord. 2019-1. Passed 5-9-19.)

**533.08 PROCURING; ENGAGEMENT IN SEXUAL ACTIVITY FOR HIRE.**

- (a) No person, knowingly and for gain, shall do either of the following:
  - (1) Entice or solicit another to patronize a prostitute or brothel;
  - (2) Procure a prostitute for another to patronize, or take or direct another at his or her request to any place for the purpose of patronizing a prostitute.
- (b) No person, having authority or responsibility over the use of premises, shall knowingly permit such premises to be used for the purpose of engaging in sexual activity for hire.



(c) Whoever violates subsection (a) or (b) of this section is guilty of procuring. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection (c), procuring is a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the prostitute who is procured, patronized or otherwise involved in a violation of subsection (a)(2) of this section is under eighteen years of age at the time of the violation, regardless of whether the offender who violates subsection (a)(2) of this section knows the prostitute's age, or if a prostitute who engages in sexual activity for hire in premises used in violation of subsection (b) of this section is under eighteen years of age at the time of the violation, regardless of whether the offender who violates subsection (b) of this section knows the prostitute's age, procuring is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate state law.

(d) No person shall recklessly induce, entice, or procure another to engage in sexual activity for hire in exchange for the person giving anything of value to the other person.

(e) As used in subsection (d) of this section, "Sexual Activity for Hire" means an implicit or explicit agreement to provide sexual activity in exchange for anything of value paid to the person engaging in such sexual activity, to any person trafficking that person, or to any person associated with either such person.

(f) Whoever violates subsection (d) of this section is guilty of engaging in prostitution, a misdemeanor of the first degree. In sentencing the offender under this subsection, the court shall require the offender to attend an education or treatment program aimed at preventing persons from inducing, enticing, or procuring another to engage in sexual activity for hire in exchange for the person giving anything of value to the other person and, notwithstanding the fine specified in Ohio R.C. 2929.28(A)(2)(a) for a misdemeanor of the first degree, the court may impose upon the offender a fine of not more than one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500). (ORC 2907.231)

### **533.09 SOLICITING.**

(a) No person shall knowingly solicit another to engage in sexual activity for hire in exchange for the person receiving anything of value from the other person.

(b) No person, with knowledge that the person has tested positive as a carrier of a virus that causes acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, shall engage in conduct in violation of subsection (a) of this section.

(c) As used in subsection (a) of this section, "Sexual Activity for Hire" means an implicit or explicit agreement to provide sexual activity in exchange for anything of value paid to the person engaging in such sexual activity, to any person trafficking that person, or to any person associated with either such person.

(d) (1) Whoever violates subsection (a) of this section is guilty of soliciting. Soliciting is a misdemeanor of the third degree.

(2) Whoever violates subsection (b) of this section is guilty of engaging in solicitation after a positive HIV test, a felony to be prosecuted under appropriate state law. (ORC 2907.24)

### **533.091 LOITERING TO ENGAGE IN SOLICITATION.**

(a) No person, with purpose to solicit another to engage in sexual activity for hire and while in or near a public place, shall do any of the following:

- (1) Beckon to, stop or attempt to stop another;
- (2) Engage or attempt to engage another in conversation;
- (3) Stop or attempt to stop the operator of a vehicle or approach a stationary vehicle;

- (4) If the offender is the operator of or a passenger in a vehicle, stop, attempt to stop, beckon to, attempt to beckon to, or entice another to approach or enter the vehicle of which the offender is the operator or in which the offender is the passenger;
- (5) Interfere with the free passage of another.

(b) No person, with knowledge that the person has tested positive as a carrier of a virus that causes acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, shall engage in conduct in violation of subsection (a) of this section.

(c) As used in subsection (a) of this section:

(1) "Public Place". Means any of the following:

A. A street, road, highway, thoroughfare, bikeway, walkway, sidewalk, bridge, alley, alleyway, plaza, park, driveway, parking lot or transportation facility.

B. A doorway or entrance way to a building that fronts on a place described in subsection (c)(1)A. of this definition.

C. A place not described in subsection (c)(1)A. or B. of this definition that is open to the public.

(2) "Vehicle". Has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 4501.01.

(d) (1) Whoever violates subsection (a) of this section is guilty of loitering to engage in solicitation, a misdemeanor of the third degree.

(2) Whoever violates subsection (b) of this section is guilty of loitering to engage in solicitation after a positive HIV test, a felony to be prosecuted under appropriate state law.

(ORC 2907.24, 2907.241)

#### **533.10 PROSTITUTION.**

(a) No person shall engage in sexual activity for hire.

(b) No person, with knowledge that the person has tested positive as a carrier of a virus that causes acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, shall engage in sexual activity for hire.

(c) (1) Whoever violates subsection (a) of this section is guilty of prostitution, a misdemeanor of the third degree.

(2) Whoever violates subsection (b) of this section is guilty of engaging in prostitution after a positive HIV test, a felony to be prosecuted under appropriate state law.

(ORC 2907.25)

#### **533.11 DISSEMINATING MATTER HARMFUL TO JUVENILES.**

(a) No person, with knowledge of its character or content, shall recklessly do any of the following:

(1) Directly sell, deliver, furnish, disseminate, provide, exhibit, rent or present to a juvenile, a group of juveniles, a law enforcement officer posing as a juvenile, or a group of law enforcement officers posing as juveniles any material or performance that is obscene or harmful to juveniles;

(2) Directly offer or agree to sell, deliver, furnish, disseminate, provide, exhibit, rent or present to a juvenile, a group of juveniles, a law enforcement officer posing as a juvenile, or a group of law enforcement officers posing as juveniles any material or performance that is obscene or harmful to juveniles;

- (3) While in the physical proximity of the juvenile or law enforcement officer posing as a juvenile, allow any juvenile or law enforcement officer posing as a juvenile to review or peruse any material or view any live performance that is harmful to juveniles.
- (b) The following are affirmative defenses to a charge under this section, that involves material or a performance that is harmful to juveniles but not obscene:
  - (1) The defendant is the parent, guardian or spouse of the juvenile involved.
  - (2) The juvenile involved, at the time of the conduct in question, was accompanied by the juvenile's parent or guardian who, with knowledge of its character, consented to the material or performance being furnished or presented to the juvenile.
  - (3) The juvenile exhibited to the defendant or the defendant's agent or employee a draft card, driver's license, birth certificate, marriage license, or other official or apparently official document purporting to show that the juvenile was eighteen years of age or over or married, and the person to whom that document was exhibited did not otherwise have reasonable cause to believe that the juvenile was under the age of eighteen and unmarried.
- (c)
  - (1) It is an affirmative defense to a charge under this section, involving material or a performance that is obscene or harmful to juveniles, that the material or performance was furnished or presented for a bona fide medical, scientific, educational, governmental, judicial or other proper purpose, by a physician, psychologist, sociologist, scientist, teacher, librarian, clergyman, prosecutor, judge or other proper person.
  - (2) Except as provided in subsection (b)(3) hereof, mistake of age is not a defense to a charge under this section.
- (d)
  - (1) A person directly sells, delivers, furnishes, disseminates, provides, exhibits, rents, or presents or directly offers or agrees to sell, deliver, furnish, disseminate, provide, exhibit, rent, or present material or a performance to a juvenile, a group of juveniles, a law enforcement officer posing as a juvenile, or a group of law enforcement officers posing as juveniles in violation of this section by means of an electronic method of remotely transmitting information if the person knows or has reason to believe that the person receiving the information is a juvenile or the group of persons receiving the information are juveniles.
  - (2) A person remotely transmitting information by means of a method of mass distribution does not directly sell, deliver, furnish, disseminate, provide, exhibit, rent, or present or directly offer or agree to sell, deliver, furnish, disseminate, provide, exhibit, rent, or present the material or performance in question to a juvenile, a group of juveniles, a law enforcement officer posing as a juvenile, or a group of law enforcement officers posing as juveniles in violation of this section if either of the following applies:
    - A. The person has inadequate information to know or have reason to believe that a particular recipient of the information or offer is a juvenile.
    - B. The method of mass distribution does not provide the person the ability to prevent a particular recipient from receiving the information.

(e) If any provision of this section, or the application of any provision of this section to any person or circumstance, is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of this section or related sections that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application. To this end, the provisions are severable.

(f) Whoever violates this section is guilty of disseminating matter harmful to juveniles. If the material or performance involved is harmful to juveniles, except as otherwise provided in this subsection, a violation of this section is a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the material or performance involved is obscene, a violation of this section is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law. (ORC 2907.31)

#### **533.12 PANDERING OBSCENITY.**

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This section was repealed by Ordinance 97-2, passed January 9, 1997.)

#### **533.13 DECEPTION TO OBTAIN MATTER HARMFUL TO JUVENILES.**

(a) No person, for the purpose of enabling a juvenile to obtain any material or gain admission to any performance which is harmful to juveniles shall do either of the following:

- (1) Falsely represent that he is the parent, guardian or spouse of such juvenile;
- (2) Furnish such juvenile with any identification or document purporting to show that such juvenile is eighteen years of age or over or married.

(b) No juvenile, for the purpose of obtaining any material or gaining admission to any performance which is harmful to juveniles, shall do either of the following:

- (1) Falsely represent that he is eighteen years of age or over or married;
- (2) Exhibit any identification or document purporting to show that he is eighteen years of age or over or married.

(c) Whoever violates this section is guilty of deception to obtain matter harmful to juveniles, a misdemeanor of the second degree. A juvenile who violates subsection (b) hereof shall be adjudged an unruly child, with such disposition of the case as may be appropriate under Ohio R.C. Chapter 2151. (ORC 2907.33)

#### **533.14 PANDERING MATERIAL INVOLVING A MINOR; ILLEGAL USE OF MINOR.**

- (a)
  - (1) No person, with knowledge of the character of the material or performance involved, shall solicit, receive, purchase, exchange, possess or control any material that shows a minor participating or engaging in sexual activity, masturbation or bestiality.
  - (2)
    - A. This subsection (a) hereof does not apply to any material or performance that is possessed or controlled for a bona fide medical, scientific, educational, religious, governmental, judicial or other proper purpose, by a physician, psychologist, sociologist, scientist, teacher, person pursuing bona fide studies or research, librarian, clergyman, prosecutor, judge or other person having a proper interest in the material or performance.
    - B. Mistake of age is not a defense to a charge under this section.
    - C. In a prosecution under this subsection (a) hereof, the trier of fact may infer that a person in the material or performance involved is a minor if the material or performance, through its title, text, visual representation or otherwise, represents or depicts the person as a minor.

- (3) Whoever violates this subsection (a) hereof is guilty of pandering sexually oriented matter involving a minor. Violation of subsection (a) hereof is a misdemeanor of the first degree if the offender has not previously been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a violation of this section or Ohio R.C. 2907.321 to 2907.323. (ORC 2907.322)
- (b) (1) No person shall possess or view any material or performance that shows a minor who is not the person's child or ward in a state of nudity, unless one of the following applies:
  - A. The material or performance is sold, disseminated, displayed, possessed, controlled, brought or caused to be brought into this Municipality, or presented for a bona fide artistic, medical, scientific, educational, religious, governmental, judicial or other proper purpose, by or to a physician, psychologist, sociologist, scientist, teacher, person pursuing bona fide studies or research, librarian, clergyman, prosecutor, judge or other person having a proper interest in the material or performance.
  - B. The person knows that the parents, guardian or custodian has consented in writing to the photographing or use of the minor in a state of nudity and to the manner in which the material or performance is used or transferred.
- (2) Whoever violates this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.

#### **533.15 DISPLAYING MATTER HARMFUL TO JUVENILES.**

(a) No person who has custody, control or supervision of a commercial establishment, with knowledge of the character or content of the material involved, shall display at the establishment any material that is harmful to juveniles and that is open to view by juveniles as part of the invited general public.

(b) It is not a violation of subsection (a) hereof if the material in question is displayed by placing it behind "blinder racks" or similar devices that cover at least the lower two-thirds of the material, if the material in question is wrapped or placed behind the counter, or if the material in question otherwise is covered or located so that the portion that is harmful to juveniles is not open to the view of juveniles.

(c) Whoever violates this section is guilty of displaying matter harmful to juveniles, a misdemeanor of the first degree. Each day during which the offender is in violation of this section constitutes a separate offense.  
(ORC 2907.311)

#### **533.16 UNLAWFUL ADVERTISING OF MASSAGE.**

(a) No person, by means of a statement, solicitation, or offer in a print or electronic publication, sign, placard, storefront display, or other medium, shall advertise massage, relaxation massage, any other massage technique or method, or any related service, with the suggestion or promise of sexual activity.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of unlawful advertising of massage, a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(c) Nothing in this section prevents the legislative authority of a municipal corporation or township from enacting any regulation of the advertising of massage further than and in addition to the provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of this section. (ORC 2927.17)

**533.17 DISSEMINATION OF PRIVATE SEXUAL IMAGES.**

(a) As used in this section:

- (1) "Disseminate" means to post, distribute, or publish on a computer device, computer network, web site, or other electronic device or medium of communication.
- (2) "Image" means a photograph, film, videotape, digital recording or other depiction or portrayal of a person.
- (3) "Interactive computer service" has the meaning defined in the "Telecommunications Act of 1996", 47 U.S.C. 230, as amended.
- (4) "Internet provider" means a provider of internet service, including all of the following:
  - A. Broadband service, however defined or classified by the federal communications commission;
  - B. Information service or telecommunication service, both as defined in the "Telecommunications Act of 1996" 47 U.S.C. 153, as amended.
  - C. Internet protocol-enabled services, as defined in Ohio R.C. 4927.01.
- (5) "Mobile service" and "telecommunications carrier" have the meanings defined in 47 U.S.C. 153, as amended.
- (6) "Cable service provider" has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 1332.01.
- (7) "Direct-to-home satellite service" has the meaning defined in 47 U.S.C. 303, as amended.
- (8) "Video service provider" has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 1332.21.
- (9) "Sexual act" means any of the following:
  - A. Sexual activity;
  - B. Masturbation;
  - C. An act involving a bodily substance that is performed for the purpose of sexual arousal or gratification;
  - D. Sado-masochistic abuse.

(b) No person shall knowingly disseminate an image of another person if all of the following apply:

- (1) The person in the image is eighteen years of age or older;
- (2) The person in the image can be identified from the image itself or from information displayed in connection with the image and the offender supplied the identifying information.
- (3) The person in the image is in a state of nudity or is engaged in a sexual act;
- (4) The image is disseminated without consent from the person in the image;
- (5) The image is disseminated with intent to harm the person in the image.

(c) This section does not prohibit the dissemination of an image if any of the following apply:

- (1) The image is disseminated for the purpose of a criminal investigation that is otherwise lawful.
- (2) The image is disseminated for the purpose of, or in connection with, the reporting of unlawful conduct.

- (3) The image is part of a news report or commentary or an artistic or expressive work, such as a performance, work of art, literary work, theatrical work, musical work, motion picture, film, or audiovisual work.
  - (4) The image is disseminated by a law enforcement officer, or a corrections officer or guard in a detention facility, acting within the scope of the person's official duties.
  - (5) The image is disseminated for another lawful public purpose;
  - (6) The person in the image is knowingly and willingly in a state of nudity or engaged in a sexual act and is knowingly and willingly in a location in which the person does not have a reasonable expectation of privacy.
  - (7) The image is disseminated for the purpose of medical treatment or examination.
- (d) The following entities are not liable for a violation of this section solely as a result of an image or other information provided by another person:
- (1) A provider of interactive computer service;
  - (2) A mobile service;
  - (3) A telecommunications carrier;
  - (4) An internet provider;
  - (5) A cable service provider;
  - (6) A direct-to-home satellite service;
  - (7) A video service provider.
- (e) Any conduct that is a violation of this section and any other section of the General Offenses Code, or the Revised Code may be prosecuted under this section, the other section, or both sections.
- (f) (1) A. Except as otherwise provided in subsection (f)(1)B., C., or D. of this section, whoever violates this section is guilty of nonconsensual dissemination of private sexual images, a misdemeanor of the third degree.
- B. If the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a violation of this section, nonconsensual dissemination of private sexual images is a misdemeanor of the second degree.
- C. If the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to two or more violations of this section, nonconsensual dissemination of private sexual images is a misdemeanor of the first degree.
- D. If the offender is under eighteen years of age and the person in the image is not more than five years older than the offender, the offender shall not be prosecuted under this section.
- (2) In addition to any other penalty or disposition authorized or required by law, the court may order any person who is convicted of a violation of this section or who is adjudicated delinquent by reason of a violation of this section to criminally forfeit all of the following property to the state under Ohio R.C. Chapter 2981.
- A. Any profits or proceeds and any property the person has acquired or maintained in violation of this section that the sentencing court determines to have been acquired or maintained as a result of the violation;

- B. Any interest in, securities of, claim against, or property or contractual right of any kind affording a source of influence over any enterprise that the person has established, operated, controlled or conducted in violation of this section that the sentencing court determines to have been acquired or maintained as a result of the violation.

(g) A victim of a violation of this section may commence a civil cause of action against the offender, as described in Ohio R.C. 2307.66.  
(ORC 2917.211; Ord. 2019-1. Passed 5-9-19.)

**533.99 PENALTY.**

(EDITOR'S NOTE: See Section 501.99 for penalties applicable to any misdemeanor classification.)



## CHAPTER 537 Offenses Against Persons

<b>537.01</b>	<b>(Reserved).</b>	<b>537.12</b>	<b>Misuse of 9-1-1 system.</b>
<b>537.02</b>	<b>Vehicular assault in a construction zone.</b>	<b>537.13</b>	<b>Adulterating of or furnishing adulterated food or confection.</b>
<b>537.03</b>	<b>Assault.</b>	<b>537.14</b>	<b>Domestic violence.</b>
<b>537.04</b>	<b>Negligent assault.</b>	<b>537.15</b>	<b>Violating a protection order, consent agreement, or anti-stalking protection order.</b>
<b>537.05</b>	<b>Aggravated menacing.</b>	<b>537.16</b>	<b>Illegal distribution of cigarettes or other tobacco products. (Repealed)</b>
<b>537.051</b>	<b>Menacing by stalking.</b>	<b>537.17</b>	<b>Criminal child enticement. (Repealed)</b>
<b>537.06</b>	<b>Menacing.</b>	<b>537.18</b>	<b>Contributing to unruliness or delinquency of a child.</b>
<b>537.07</b>	<b>Endangering children.</b>	<b>537.19</b>	<b>Hazing prohibited.</b>
<b>537.08</b>	<b>Unlawful restraint.</b>	<b>537.99</b>	<b>Penalty.</b>
<b>537.09</b>	<b>Coercion.</b>		
<b>537.10</b>	<b>Telecommunication harassment.</b>		
<b>537.11</b>	<b>Threatening or harassing telephone calls.</b>		

### CROSS REFERENCES

See sectional histories for similar State law

Physical harm to persons defined - see GEN. OFF. 501.01 (c), (e)

Fighting; provoking violent response - see GEN. OFF. 509.03

**537.01 (Reserved for Future Legislation.)**



**537.18 CONTRIBUTING TO UNRULINESS OR DELINQUENCY OF A CHILD.**

- (a) As used in this section:
- (1) "Delinquent child" has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 2152.02.
  - (2) "Unruly child" has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 2151.022.
- (b) No person, including a parent, guardian or other custodian of a child, shall do any of the following:
- (1) Aid, abet, induce, cause, encourage, or contribute to a child or a ward of the juvenile court becoming an unruly child or a delinquent child;
  - (2) Act in a way tending to cause a child or a ward of the juvenile court to become an unruly child or a delinquent child;
  - (3) Act in a way that contributes to an adjudication of the child as a delinquent child based on the child's violation of a court order adjudicating the child an unruly child for being an habitual truant;
  - (4) If the person is the parent, guardian, or custodian of a child who has the duties under Ohio R.C. Chapters 2152 and 2950 to register, register a new residence address, and periodically verify a residence address and, if applicable, to send a notice of intent to reside, and if the child is not emancipated, as defined in Ohio R.C. 2919.121, fail to ensure that the child complies with those duties under Ohio R.C. Chapters 2152 and 2950.
- (c) Whoever violates this section is guilty of contributing to the unruliness or delinquency of a child, a misdemeanor of the first degree. Each day of violation of this section is a separate offense. (ORC 2919.24; Ord. 2017-10. Passed 8-10-17.)

**537.19 HAZING PROHIBITED.**

- (a) As used in this section:
- (1) "Hazing" means doing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to do any act of initiation into any student or other organization or any act to continue or reinstate membership in or affiliation with any student or other organization that causes or creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm to any person, including coercing another to consume alcohol or a drug of abuse, as defined in Ohio R.C. 3719.011.
  - (2) "Organization" includes a national or international organization with which a fraternity or sorority is affiliated.
- (b)
- (1) No person shall recklessly participate in the hazing of another.
  - (2) No administrator, employee, faculty member, teacher, consultant, alumnus, or volunteer of any organization, including any primary, secondary, or post-secondary school or any other educational institution, public or private, shall recklessly permit the hazing of any person associated with the organization.
- (c)
- (1) No person shall recklessly participate in the hazing of another when the hazing includes coerced consumption of alcohol or drugs of abuse resulting in serious physical harm to the other person.
  - (2) No administrator, employee, faculty member, teacher, consultant, alumnus, or volunteer of any organization, including any primary, secondary, or post-secondary school or other educational institution, public or private, shall recklessly permit the hazing of any person associated with the organization when the hazing includes coerced consumption of alcohol or drugs of abuse resulting in serious physical harm to that person.

(d) Whoever violates subsections (b) or (c) of this section is guilty of hazing. A violation of subsections (b)(1) or (b)(2) of this section is a misdemeanor of the second degree. A violation of subsections (c)(1) or (c)(2) of this section is a felony to be prosecuted under appropriate state law. (ORC 2903.31)

(e) Reckless failure to immediately report knowledge of hazing.

(1) No administrator, employee, faculty member, teacher, consultant, alumnus, or volunteer of any organization, including any primary, secondary, or post-secondary school or any other public or private educational institution, who is acting in an official and professional capacity shall recklessly fail to immediately report the knowledge of hazing to a law enforcement agency in the county in which the victim of hazing resides or in which the hazing is occurring or has occurred.

(2) A violation of subsection (e)(1) of this section is a misdemeanor of the fourth degree, except that the violation is a misdemeanor of the first degree if the hazing causes serious physical harm.

(ORC 2903.311(B), (C))

**537.99 PENALTY.**

(EDITOR'S NOTE: See Section 501.99 for penalties applicable to any misdemeanor classification.)

- A. The property of another;
  - B. One's own residential real property with the purpose to decrease the value of or enjoyment of the residential real property, if both of the following apply:
    - 1. The residential real property is subject to a mortgage.
    - 2. The person has been served with a summons and complaint in a pending residential mortgage loan foreclosure action relating to that real property. As used in this subsection, "pending" includes the time between judgment entry and confirmation of sale.
- (2) With purpose to interfere with the use or enjoyment of property of another employ a tear gas device, stink bomb, smoke generator or other device releasing a substance which is harmful or offensive to persons exposed, or which tends to cause public alarm;
  - (3) Without privilege to do so, knowingly move, deface, damage, destroy or otherwise improperly tamper with a bench mark, triangulation station, boundary marker or other survey station, monument or marker.
  - (4) Without privilege to do so, knowingly move, deface, damage, destroy or otherwise improperly tamper with any safety device, the property of another or the property of the offender when required or placed for the safety of others, so as to destroy or diminish its effectiveness or availability for its intended purpose;
  - (5) With purpose to interfere with the use or enjoyment of the property of another, set a fire on the land of another or place personal property that has been set on fire on the land of another, which fire or personal property is outside and apart from any building, other structure or personal property that is on that land.
  - (6) Without privilege to do so, and with intent to impair the functioning of any computer, computer system, computer network, computer software, or computer program, all as defined in Ohio R.C. 2909.01, knowingly do any of the following:
    - A. In any manner or by any means, including, but not limited to, computer hacking, alter, damage, destroy, or modify a computer, computer system, computer network, computer software, or computer program or data contained in a computer, computer system, computer network, computer software, or computer program;
    - B. Introduce a computer contaminant into a computer, computer system, computer network, computer software or computer program.
  - (7) Without privilege to do so, knowingly destroy or improperly tamper with a critical infrastructure facility.
- (b) As used in this section:
- (1) "Critical Infrastructure Facility". Has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 2911.21.
  - (2) "Improperly Tamper". Means to change the physical location or the physical condition of the property.

(3) "Safety Device". Means any fire extinguisher, fire hose, or fire axe, or any fire escape, emergency exit, or emergency escape equipment, or any life line, life-saving ring, life preserver, or life boat or raft, or any alarm, light, flare, signal, sign, or notice intended to warn of danger or emergency, or intended for other safety purposes, or any guard railing or safety barricade, or any traffic sign or signal, or any railroad grade crossing sign, signal, or gate, or any first aid or survival equipment, or any other device, apparatus, or equipment intended for protecting or preserving the safety of persons or property.

(c) (1) Whoever violates this section is guilty of criminal mischief, and shall be punished as provided in subsection (c)(2), (c)(3), or (c)(4) of this section.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, criminal mischief committed in violation of subsection (a)(1), (a)(2), (a)(3), (a)(4), or (a)(5) of this section is a misdemeanor of the third degree. Except as otherwise provided in this division, if the violation of subsection (a)(1), (a)(2), (a)(3), (a)(4), or (a)(5) of this section creates a risk of physical harm to any person, criminal mischief committed in violation of subsection (a)(1), (a)(2), (a)(3), (a)(4), or (a)(5) of this section is a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the property involved in the violation of subsection (a)(1), (a)(2), (a)(3), (a)(4), or (a)(5) of this section is an aircraft, an aircraft engine, propeller, appliance, spare part, fuel, lubricant, hydraulic fluid, any other equipment, implement, or material used or intended to be used in the operation of an aircraft, or any cargo carried or intended to be carried in an aircraft and if the violation creates any risk of physical harm to any person, or if the aircraft in question is an occupied aircraft, criminal mischief committed in violation of subsection (a)(1), (a)(2), (a)(3), (a)(4), or (a)(5) of this section is a felony to be prosecuted under appropriate state law.

(3) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, criminal mischief committed in violation of subsection (a)(6) of this section is a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the value of the computer, computer system, computer network, computer software, computer program, or data involved in the violation of subsection (a)(6) of this section or the loss to the victim resulting from the violation is one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more, or if the computer, computer system, computer network, computer software, computer program, or data involved in the violation of subsection (a)(6) is used or intended to be used in the operation of an aircraft and the violation creates any risk of physical harm to any person, or if the aircraft in question is an occupied aircraft, criminal mischief committed in violation of subsection (a)(6) of this section is a felony to be prosecuted under appropriate state law.

(4) Criminal mischief committed in violation of subsection (a)(7) of this section is a felony to be prosecuted under appropriate state law.  
(ORC 2909.07)

#### **541.05 CRIMINAL TRESPASS.**

(a) No person, without privilege to do so, shall do any of the following:

- (1) Knowingly enter or remain on the land or premises of another;
- (2) Knowingly enter or remain on the land or premises of another, the use of which is lawfully restricted to certain persons, purposes, modes or hours, when the offender knows the offender is in violation of any such restriction or is reckless in that regard;

- (3) Recklessly enter or remain on the land or premises of another, as to which notice against unauthorized access or presence is given by actual communication to the offender, or in a manner prescribed by law, or by posting in a manner reasonably calculated to come to the attention of potential intruders, or by fencing or other enclosure manifestly designed to restrict access;
- (4) Being on the land or premises of another, negligently fail or refuse to leave upon being notified by signage posted in a conspicuous place or otherwise being notified to do so by the owner or occupant, or the agent or servant of either.
- (5) Knowingly enter or remain on a critical infrastructure facility.

(b) It is no defense to a charge under this section that the land or premises involved was owned, controlled or in custody of a public agency.

(c) It is no defense to a charge under this section that the offender was authorized to enter or remain on the land or premises involved when such authorization was secured by deception.

- (d)
  - (1) Whoever violates this section is guilty of criminal trespass. Criminal trespass in violation of subsection (a)(1), (a)(2), (a)(3), or (a)(4) of this section is a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. Criminal trespass in violation of subsection (a)(5) of this section is a misdemeanor of the first degree.
  - (2) Notwithstanding Section 501.99, if the person, in committing the violation of this section, used a snowmobile, off-highway motorcycle, or all-purpose vehicle, the court shall impose a fine of two times the usual amount imposed for the violation.
  - (3) If an offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to two or more violations of this section or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, or state law, and the offender, in committing each violation, used a snowmobile, off-highway motorcycle, or all-purpose vehicle, the court, in addition to or independent of all other penalties imposed for the violation, may impound the certificate of registration of that snowmobile or off-highway motorcycle or the certificate of registration and license plate of that all-purpose vehicle for not less than sixty days. In such a case, Ohio R.C. 4519.47 applies.

(e) As used in subsections (a) through (e) of this section:

- (1) “All-Purpose Vehicle, Off-Highway Motorcycle” and “Snowmobile”. Have the same meanings as in Ohio R.C. 4519.01.
- (2) “Critical Infrastructure Facility”. Means:
  - A. One of the following, if completely enclosed by a fence or other physical barrier that is obviously designed to exclude intruders, or if clearly marked with signs that are reasonably likely to come to the attention of potential intruders and that indicate entry is forbidden without site authorization:
    - 1. A petroleum or alumina refinery;
    - 2. An electric generating facility, substation, switching station, electrical control center, or electric transmission and distribution lines and associated equipment;

3. A chemical, polymer, or rubber manufacturing facility;
4. A water intake structure, water treatment facility, waste water facility, drainage facility, water management facility, or any similar water or sewage treatment system and its water and sewage piping;
5. A natural gas company facility or interstate natural gas pipeline, including a pipeline interconnection, a natural gas compressor station and associated facilities, city gate or town border station, metering station, above-ground piping, regulator station, valve site, delivery station, fabricated assembly, or any other part of a natural gas storage facility involved in the gathering, storage, transmission, or distribution of gas;
6. A telecommunications central switching office or remote switching facility or an equivalent network facility that serves a similar purpose;
7. Wireline or wireless telecommunications infrastructure, including telecommunications towers and telephone poles and lines, including fiber optic lines;
8. A port, trucking terminal, or other freight transportation facility;
9. A gas processing plant, including a plant used in the processing, treatment, or fractionation of natural gas or natural gas liquids;
10. A transmission facility used by a federally licensed radio or television station;
11. A steel-making facility that uses an electric arc furnace to make steel;
12. A facility identified and regulated by the United States Department of Homeland Security's Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Program under 6 C.F.R. part 27;
13. A dam that is regulated by the state or federal government;
14. A crude oil or refined products storage and distribution facility, including valve sites, pipeline interconnections, pump station, metering station, below- or above-ground pipeline, or piping and truck loading or off-loading facility;
15. A video service network and broadband infrastructure, including associated buildings and facilities, video service headends, towers, utility poles, and utility lines such as fiber optic lines. As used in this division, "video service network" has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 1332.21.
16. Any above-ground portion of an oil, gas, hazardous liquid or chemical pipeline, tank, or other storage facility;
17. Any above-ground portion of a well, well pad, or production operation;
18. A laydown area or construction site for pipe and other equipment intended for use on an interstate or intrastate natural gas or crude oil pipeline;
19. Any mining operation, including any processing equipment, batching operation, or support facility for that mining operation.



B. With respect to a video service network or broadband or wireless telecommunications infrastructure, the above-ground portion of a facility installed in a public right-of-way on a utility pole or in a conduit;

C. Any railroad property;

D. An electronic asset of any of the following:

1. An electric light company that is a public utility under Ohio R.C. 4905.02;
2. An electric cooperative, as defined in Ohio R.C. 4928.01;
3. A municipal electric utility, as defined in Ohio R.C. 4928.01;
4. A natural gas company that is a public utility under Ohio R.C. 4905.02;
5. A telephone company that is a public utility under Ohio R.C. 4905.02;
6. A video service provider, including a cable operator, as those terms are defined in Ohio R.C. 1332.21.

(3) “Electronic Asset”. Includes, but is not limited to, the hardware, software, and data of a programmable electronic device; all communications, operations, and customer data networks; and the contents of those data networks.

(4) “Land” or “Premises”. Includes any land, building, structure, or place belonging to, controlled by, or in custody of another, and any separate enclosure or room, or portion thereof.

(5) “Production Operation, Well, and Well Pad”. Have the same meanings as in Ohio R.C. 1509.01.  
(ORC 2911.21)

#### **541.051 AGGRAVATED TRESPASS.**

(a) (1) No person shall enter or remain on the land or premises of another with purpose to commit on that land or those premises a misdemeanor, the elements of which involve causing physical harm to another person or causing another person to believe that the offender will cause physical harm to that person.

(2) No person shall enter or remain on a critical infrastructure facility with purpose to destroy or tamper with the facility.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of aggravated trespass. Aggravated trespass in violation of subsection (a)(1) of this section is a misdemeanor of the first degree. Aggravated trespass in violation of subsection (a)(2) of this section is a felony to be prosecuted under appropriate state law.

(c) As used in this section, “Critical infrastructure facility” has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 2911.21. (ORC 2911.211)

#### **541.06 DESTRUCTION OF SHRUBS, TREES OR CROPS.**

(a) No person, without privilege to do so, shall recklessly cut down, destroy, girdle or otherwise injure a vine, bush, shrub, sapling, tree or crop standing or growing on the land of another or upon public land.

(b) In addition to any penalty provided, whoever violates subsection (a) hereof is liable in treble damages for the injury caused. (ORC 901.51)

(c) No living tree with a four inch diameter or more, in the C-1 District or R-1C, R-2C or R-3C District where a development plan is applicable to the real estate or M-1 District or R-1M, R-2M or R-3M District where a development plan is applicable to the real estate, shall be cut down except as necessary for the preservation of the public health or safety, or for the reasonable use of the real estate, upon approval of the City Manager or his authorized representative. (Ord. 83-6. Passed 1-13-83.)

(d) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree, unless the violation causes damage in an amount exceeding one hundred dollars (\$100.00), in which case the violation is a misdemeanor of the third degree. (Ord. 97-2. Passed 1-9-97.)

#### **541.07 DESECRATION.**

(a) No person, without privilege to do so, shall purposely deface, damage, pollute or otherwise physically mistreat any of the following:

- (1) The flag of the United States or of this State;
- (2) Any public monument;
- (3) Any historical or commemorative marker, or any structure, Indian mound or earthwork, cemetery, thing or site of great historical or archeological interest;
- (4) A work of art or museum piece;
- (5) Any other object of reverence or sacred devotion.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of desecration, a misdemeanor of the second degree.

(c) As used in this section, "cemetery" means any place of burial and includes burial sites that contain American Indian burial objects placed with or containing American Indian human remains. (ORC 2927.11)

#### **541.08 ETHNIC INTIMIDATION.**

(a) No person shall violate Ohio R.C. 2903.21, 2903.22, 2909.06, 2909.07 or 2917.21(A)(3) to (5) or Sections 537.05, 537.06, 537.10(a)(3) to (5), 541.03 or 541.04 of the General Offenses Code by reason of the race, color, religion or national origin of another person or group of persons.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of ethnic intimidation. Ethnic intimidation is an offense of the next higher degree than the offense the commission of which is a necessary element of ethnic intimidation. (ORC 2927.12)

#### **541.09 VEHICULAR VANDALISM.**

(a) As used in this section:

- (1) "Highway" means any highway as defined in Section 301.42 of the Traffic Code or any lane, road, street, alley, bridge, or overpass.
- (2) "Alley", "street", and "vehicle" have the same meanings as in Chapter 301 of the Traffic Code.
- (3) "Vessel" and "waters in this State" have the same meanings as in Ohio R.C. 1547.01.

(b) No person shall knowingly, and by any means, drop or throw any object at, onto, or in the path of any of the following:

- (1) Any vehicle on a highway;
- (2) Any boat or vessel on any of the waters in this State that are located in the Municipality.

(c) Whoever violates this section is guilty of vehicular vandalism. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, vehicular vandalism is a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the violation of this section creates a substantial risk of physical harm to any person, serious physical harm to property, physical harm to any person or serious physical harm to any person, vehicular vandalism is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law. (ORC 2909.09)

#### **541.10 TRESPASS ON A PLACE OF PUBLIC AMUSEMENT.**

(a) As used in this section, “place of public amusement” means a stadium, theater or other facility, whether licensed or not, at which a live performance, sporting event, or other activity takes place for entertainment of the public and to which access is made available to the public, regardless of whether admission is charged.

(b) No person, without privilege to do so, shall knowingly enter or remain on any restricted portion of a place of public amusement and, as a result of that conduct, interrupt or cause the delay of the live performance, sporting event, or other activity taking place at the place of public amusement after a printed written notice has been given as provided in subsection (d)(1) of this section that the general public is restricted from access to that restricted portion of the place of public amusement. A restricted portion of a place of public amusement may include, but is not limited to, a playing field, an athletic surface, or a stage located at the place of public amusement.

(c) An owner or lessee of a place of public amusement, an agent of the owner or lessee, or a performer or participant at a place of public amusement may use reasonable force to restrain and remove a person from a restricted portion of the place of public amusement if the person enters or remains on the restricted portion of the place of public amusement and, as a result of that conduct, interrupts or causes the delay of the live performance, sporting event, or other activity taking place at the place of public amusement. This subsection does not provide immunity from criminal liability for any use of force beyond reasonable force by an owner or lessee of a place of public amusement, an agent of either the owner or lessee, or a performer or participant at a place of public amusement.

- (d) (1) Notice has been given that the general public is restricted from access to a portion of a place of public amusement if a printed written notice of the restricted access has been conspicuously posted or exhibited at the entrance to that portion of the place of public amusement. If a printed written notice is posted or exhibited as described in this subsection, regarding a portion of a place of public amusement, in addition to that posting or exhibition, notice that the general public is restricted from access to that portion of the place of public amusement also may be given, but is not required to be given, by either of the following means:
- A. By notifying the person personally, either orally or in writing, that access to that portion of the place of public amusement is restricted;
  - B. By broadcasting over the public address system of the place of public amusement an oral warning that access to that portion of the public place of amusement is restricted.
- (2) If notice that the general public is restricted from access to a portion of a place of public amusement is provided by the posting or exhibition of a printed written notice as described in subsection (d)(1) of this section, the Municipality, in a criminal prosecution for a violation of subsection (b) of this section, is not required to prove that the defendant received actual notice that the general public is restricted from access to a portion of a place of public amusement.

- (e) (1) Whoever violates subsection (b) of this section is guilty of criminal trespass on a place of public amusement, a misdemeanor of the first degree.
- (2) In addition to any jail term, fine or other sentence, penalty, or sanction it imposes upon the offender pursuant to subsection (e)(1) of this section, a court may require an offender who violates this section to perform not less than thirty and not more than one hundred twenty hours of supervised community service work. (ORC 2911.23)

**541.99 PENALTY.**

(EDITOR'S NOTE: See Section 501.99 for penalties applicable to any misdemeanor classification.)

- (8) When the services involved are services for which the rate is not established by law, and the offender has been notified prior to the offense of the rate for the services, either in writing or orally, or by posting in a manner reasonably calculated to come to the attention of potential offenders, the rate contained in the notice is prima-facie evidence of the value of the services.  
(ORC 2913.61)

### **545.03 PROPERTY EXCEPTIONS AS FELONY OFFENSE.**

Regardless of the value of the property involved, and regardless of whether the offender has previously been convicted of a theft offense, the provisions of Section 545.05 or 545.18 do not apply if the property involved is any of the following:

- (a) A credit card;
  - (b) A printed form for a check or other negotiable instrument, which on its face identifies the drawer or maker for whose use it is designed or identifies the account on which it is to be drawn, and which has not been executed by the drawer or maker or on which the amount is blank;
  - (c) A motor vehicle identification license plate as prescribed by Ohio R.C. 4503.22, a temporary motor vehicle license registration as prescribed by Ohio R.C. 4503.182, or any comparable temporary motor vehicle license registration as prescribed by the applicable law of another state or the United States;
  - (d) A blank form for a certificate of title or a manufacturer's or importer's certificate to a motor vehicle, as prescribed by Ohio R.C. 4505.07;
  - (e) A blank form for any license listed in Ohio R.C. 4507.01(A).
- (ORC 2913.71)

### **545.04 DETENTION OF SHOPLIFTERS; RIGHTS OF MUSEUMS AND LIBRARIES.**

(a) A merchant, or his employee or agent, who has probable cause to believe that items offered for sale by a mercantile establishment have been unlawfully taken by a person, may, for the purposes set forth in subsection (c) hereof, detain the person in a reasonable manner for a reasonable length of time within the mercantile establishment or its immediate vicinity.

(b) Any officer, employee or agent of a library, museum or archival institution may, for the purposes set forth in subsection (c) hereof or for the purpose of conducting a reasonable investigation of a belief that the person has acted in a manner described in subsections (b)(1) and (2) hereof, detain a person in a reasonable manner for a reasonable length of time within, or in the immediate vicinity of the library, museum or archival institution, if the officer, employee or agent has probable cause to believe that the person has either:

- (1) Without privilege to do so, knowingly moved, defaced, damaged, destroyed or otherwise improperly tampered with property owned by or in the custody of the library, museum or archival institution; or
- (2) With purpose to deprive the library, museum or archival institution of property owned by it or in its custody, knowingly obtained or exerted control over the property without the consent of the owner or person authorized to give consent, beyond the scope of the express or implied consent of the owner or person authorized to give consent, by deception, or by threat.

**545.08 UNAUTHORIZED USE OF PROPERTY.**

(a) No person shall knowingly use or operate the property of another without the consent of the owner or person authorized to give consent.

(b) The affirmative defenses contained in Section 545.06(c) are affirmative defenses to a charge under this section.

(c) Whoever violates this section is guilty of unauthorized use of property. Except as provided in subsection (d) hereof, unauthorized use of property is a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.

(d) If unauthorized use of property is committed for the purpose of devising or executing a scheme to defraud or to obtain property or services, unauthorized use of property is a misdemeanor of the first degree. Unauthorized use of property is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law if:

- (1) Unauthorized use of property is committed for the purpose of devising or executing a scheme to defraud or to obtain property or services, and if the value of the property is one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more; or
- (2) If the victim of the offense is an elderly person or disabled adult.  
(ORC 2913.04)

**545.09 PASSING BAD CHECKS.**

(a) As used in this section:

- (1) "Check" includes any form of debit from a demand deposit account, including, but not limited to any of the following:
  - A. A check, bill of exchange, draft, order of withdrawal, or similar negotiable or nonnegotiable instrument;
  - B. An electronic check, electronic transaction, debit card transaction, check card transaction, substitute check, web check, or any form of automated clearing house transaction.
- (2) "Issue a check" means causing any form of debit from a demand deposit account.

(b) No person, with purpose to defraud, shall issue or transfer or cause to be issued or transferred a check or other negotiable instrument, knowing that it will be dishonored or knowing that a person has ordered or will order stop payment on the check or other negotiable instrument.

(c) For purposes of this section, a person who issues or transfers a check or other negotiable instrument is presumed to know that it will be dishonored, if either of the following occurs:

- (1) The drawer had no account with the drawee at the time of issue or the stated date, whichever is later.
- (2) The check or other negotiable instrument was properly refused payment for insufficient funds upon presentment within thirty days after issue or the stated date, whichever is later, and the liability of the drawer, indorser or any party who may be liable thereon is not discharged by payment or satisfaction within ten days after receiving notice of dishonor.

(d) In determining the value of the payment for purposes of subsection (e) of this section, the court may aggregate all checks and other negotiable instruments that the offender issued or transferred or caused to be issued or transferred in violation of subsection (a) of this section within a period of one hundred eighty consecutive days.

(e) Whoever violates this section is guilty of passing bad checks. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, passing bad checks is a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the check or checks or other negotiable instrument or instruments are issued or transferred to a single vendor or single other person for the payment of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more or if the check or checks or other negotiable instrument or instruments are issued or transferred to multiple vendors or persons for the payment of one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500) or more, passing bad checks is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law. (ORC 2913.11)

#### **545.10 MISUSE OF CREDIT CARDS.**

- (a) No person shall do any of the following:
- (1) Practice deception for the purpose of procuring the issuance of a credit card, when a credit card is issued in actual reliance thereon;
  - (2) Knowingly buy or sell a credit card from or to a person other than the issuer.
  - (3) As an officer, employee, or appointee of a political subdivision or as a public servant as defined under Section 525.01, knowingly misuse a credit card account held by a political subdivision.
- (b) No person, with purpose to defraud, shall do any of the following:
- (1) Obtain control over a credit card as security for a debt;
  - (2) Obtain property or services by the use of a credit card, in one or more transactions, knowing or having reasonable cause to believe that the card has expired or been revoked, or was obtained, is retained, or is being used in violation of law;
  - (3) Furnish property or services upon presentation of a credit card, knowing that the card is being used in violation of law;
  - (4) Represent or cause to be represented to the issuer of a credit card that property or services have been furnished, knowing that the representation is false.
- (c) No person, with purpose to violate this section, shall receive, possess, control or dispose of a credit card.
- (d) Whoever violates this section is guilty of misuse of credit cards, a misdemeanor of the first degree. Misuse of credit cards is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law if:

- A. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, if the person produces a valid concealed handgun license within ten days after the arrest and has not previously been convicted or pleaded guilty to a violation of subsection (a)(2) of this section, the person is guilty of a minor misdemeanor;
- B. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, if the person has previously been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a violation of subsection (a)(2) of this section, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree;
- C. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, if the person has previously been convicted of or pleaded guilty to two violations of subsection (a)(2) of this section, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree;
- D. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, if the person has previously been convicted of or pleaded guilty to three or more violations of subsection (a)(2) of this section, or convicted of or pleaded guilty to any offense of violence, if the weapon involved is a firearm that is either loaded or for which the offender has ammunition ready at hand, or if the weapon involved is a dangerous ordnance, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree.

(g) If a law enforcement officer stops a person to question the person regarding a possible violation of this section, for a traffic stop, or for any other law enforcement purpose, if the person surrenders a firearm to the officer, either voluntarily or pursuant to a request or demand of the officer, and if the officer does not charge the person with a violation of this section or arrest the person for any offense, the person is not otherwise prohibited by law from possessing the firearm, and the firearm is not contraband, the officer shall return the firearm to the person at the termination of the stop. If a court orders a law enforcement officer to return a firearm to a person pursuant to the requirement set forth in this subsection, division (B) of Ohio R.C. 2923.163 applies.

(h) For purposes of this section, “deadly weapon” or “weapon” does not include any knife, razor, or cutting instrument if the instrument was not used as a weapon.  
(ORC 2923.12)

#### **549.03 USING WEAPONS WHILE INTOXICATED.**

(a) No person, while under the influence of alcohol or any drug of abuse, shall carry or use any firearm or dangerous ordnance.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of using weapons while intoxicated, a misdemeanor of the first degree. (ORC 2923.15)

#### **549.04 IMPROPERLY HANDLING FIREARMS IN A MOTOR VEHICLE.**

(a) No person shall knowingly transport or have a firearm in a motor vehicle, unless the person may lawfully possess that firearm under applicable law of this state or the United States, the firearm is unloaded, and the firearm is carried in one of the following ways:

- (1) In a closed package, box or case;
- (2) In a compartment which can be reached only by leaving the vehicle;
- (3) In plain sight and secured in a rack or holder made for the purpose;



- (4) If the firearm is at least twenty-four inches in overall length as measured from the muzzle to the part of the stock furthest from the muzzle and if the barrel is at least eighteen inches in length, either in plain sight with the action open or the weapon stripped, or, if the firearm is of a type on which the action will not stay open or which cannot easily be stripped, in plain sight.

(b) No person who has been issued a concealed handgun license, or who is an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States and is carrying a valid military identification card and documentation of successful completion of firearms training that meets or exceeds the training requirements described in division (G)(1) of Ohio R.C. 2923.125, who is the driver or an occupant of a motor vehicle that is stopped as a result of a traffic stop or a stop for another law enforcement purpose or is the driver or an occupant of a commercial motor vehicle that is stopped by an employee of the motor carrier enforcement unit for the purposes defined in Ohio R.C. 5503.34, and who is transporting or has a loaded handgun in the motor vehicle or commercial motor vehicle in any manner, shall do any of the following:

- (1) Fail to promptly inform any law enforcement officer who approaches the vehicle while stopped that the person has been issued a concealed handgun license or is authorized to carry a concealed handgun as an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States and that the person then possesses or has a loaded handgun in the motor vehicle;
- (2) Fail to promptly inform the employee of the unit who approaches the vehicle while stopped that the person has been issued a concealed handgun license or is authorized to carry a concealed handgun as an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States and that the person then possesses or has a loaded handgun in the commercial motor vehicle.
- (3) Knowingly fail to remain in the motor vehicle while stopped, or knowingly fail to keep the person's hands in plain sight at any time after any law enforcement officer begins approaching the person while stopped and before the law enforcement officer leaves, unless the failure is pursuant to and in accordance with directions given by a law enforcement officer.
- (4) Knowingly disregard or fail to comply with any lawful order of any law enforcement officer given while the motor vehicle is stopped, including, but not limited to, a specific order to the person to keep the person's hands in plain sight.

- (c) (1) This section does not apply to any of the following:
  - A. An officer, agent or employee of this or any other state or the United States, or a law enforcement officer, when authorized to carry or have loaded or accessible firearms in motor vehicles and acting within the scope of the officer's, agent's or employee's duties;
  - B. Any person who is employed in this State, who is authorized to carry or have loaded or accessible firearms in motor vehicles, and who is subject to and in compliance with the requirements of Ohio R.C. 109.801, unless the appointing authority of the person has expressly specified that the exemption provided in subsection (c)(1)B. does not apply to the person.
- (2) Subsection (a) of this section does not apply to a person who transports or possesses a handgun in a motor vehicle if, at the time of that transportation or possession, both of the following apply:

- A. The person transporting or possessing the handgun is either carrying a valid concealed handgun license or is an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States and is carrying a valid military identification card and documentation of successful completion of firearms training that meets or exceeds the training requirements described in division (G)(1) of Ohio R.C. 2923.125.
  - B. The person transporting or possessing the handgun is not knowingly in a place described in division (B) of Ohio R.C. 2923.126.
- (3) Subsection (a) of this section does not apply to a person if all of the following apply:
  - A. The person possesses a valid all-purpose vehicle permit issued under Ohio R.C. 1533.103 by the Chief of the Division of Wildlife.
  - B. The person is on or in an all-purpose vehicle as defined in Ohio R.C. 1531.01 on private or publicly owned lands or on or in a motor vehicle during the open hunting season for a wild quadruped or game bird.
  - C. The person is on or in an all-purpose vehicle as defined in Ohio R.C. 1531.01 or a motor vehicle that is parked on a road that is owned or administered by the Division of Wildlife.
- (d)
  - (1) The affirmative defenses authorized in Section 549.02(d)(1) and (2) are affirmative defenses to a charge under subsection (a) that involves a firearm other than a handgun.
  - (2) It is an affirmative defense to a charge under subsection (a) of improperly handling firearms in a motor vehicle that the actor transported or had the firearm in the motor vehicle for any lawful purpose and while the motor vehicle was on the actor's own property, provided that the affirmative defense is not available unless the person, immediately prior to arriving at the actor's own property, did not transport or possess the firearm in a motor vehicle in a manner prohibited by subsection (a) while the motor vehicle was being operated on a street, highway, or other public or private property used by the public for vehicular traffic.
- (e)
  - (1) No person who is charged with a violation of subsection (a) shall be required to obtain a concealed handgun license as a condition for the dismissal of the charge.
  - (2) If a person is convicted of, was convicted of, pleads guilty to, or has pleaded guilty to a violation of subsection (b) of this section as it existed prior to September 30, 2011, and if the conduct that was the basis of the violation no longer would be a violation of subsection (b) of this section on or after September 30, 2011, the person may file an application under Ohio R.C. 2953.37 requesting the expungement of the record of conviction.

If a person is convicted of, was convicted of, pleads guilty to, or has pleaded guilty to a violation of subsection (a) of this section as the subsection existed prior to September 30, 2011, and if the conduct that was the basis of the violation no longer would be a violation of subsection (a) of this section on or after September 30, 2011, due to the application of subsection (b)(4) of this section as it exists on and after September 30, 2011, the person may file an application under Ohio R.C. 2953.37 requesting the expungement of the record of conviction.

(f) Whoever violates this section is guilty of improperly handling firearms in a motor vehicle. Violation of subsection (a) of this section is a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, a violation of subsection (b)(1) or (b)(2) of this section is a misdemeanor of the first degree, and, in addition to any other penalty or sanction imposed for the violation, the offender's concealed handgun license shall be suspended pursuant to Ohio R.C. 2923.128(A)(2). If at the time of the stop of the offender for a traffic stop, for another law enforcement purpose, or for a purpose defined in Ohio R.C. 5503.34 that was the basis of the violation any law enforcement officer involved with the stop or the employee of the motor carrier enforcement unit who made the stop had actual knowledge of the offender's status as a licensee, a violation of subsection (b)(1) or (b)(2) of this section is a minor misdemeanor, and the offender's concealed handgun license shall not be suspended pursuant to division (A)(2) of Ohio R.C. 2923.128. A violation of subsection (b)(3) or (4) of this section is a misdemeanor of the first degree or, if the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a violation of subsection (b)(3) or (4) of this section, a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law. In addition to any other penalty or sanction imposed for a misdemeanor violation of subsection (b)(3) or (4) of this section, the offender's concealed handgun license shall be suspended pursuant to Ohio R.C. 2923.128(A)(2).

(g) If a law enforcement officer stops a motor vehicle for a traffic stop or any other purpose, if any person in the motor vehicle surrenders a firearm to the officer, either voluntarily or pursuant to a request or demand of the officer, and if the officer does not charge the person with a violation of this section or arrest the person for any offense, the person is not otherwise prohibited by law from possessing the firearm, and the firearm is not contraband, the officer shall return the firearm to the person at the termination of the stop. If a court orders a law enforcement officer to return a firearm to a person pursuant to the requirement set forth in this subsection, division (B) of Ohio R.C. 2923.163 applies.

(h) As used in this section:

- (1) "Motor vehicle", "street" and "highway" have the same meanings as in Ohio R.C. 4511.01.
- (2) A. "Unloaded" means:
  1. With respect to a firearm other than a firearm described in subsection (h)(2)B. of this section, that no ammunition is in the firearm in question, no magazine or speed loader containing ammunition is inserted into the firearm in question and one of the following applies:
    - a. There is no ammunition in a magazine or speed loader that is in the vehicle in question and that may be used with the firearm in question.
    - b. Any magazine or speed loader that contains ammunition and that may be used with the firearm in question is stored in a compartment within the vehicle in question that cannot be accessed without leaving the vehicle or is stored in a container that provides complete and separate enclosure.
  2. For the purposes of subsection (h)(2)A.1.b. of this section, a "container that provides complete and separate enclosure" includes, but is not limited to, any of the following:

- a. A package, box or case with multiple compartments, as long as the loaded magazine or speed loader and the firearm in question either are in separate compartments within the package, box, or case, or, if they are in the same compartment, the magazine or speed loader is contained within a separate enclosure in that compartment that does not contain the firearm and that closes using a snap, button, buckle, zipper, hook and loop closing mechanism, or other fastener that must be opened to access the contents or the firearm is contained within a separate enclosure of that nature in that compartment that does not contain the magazine or speed loader;
  - b. A pocket or other enclosure on the person of the person in question that closes using a snap, button, buckle, zipper, hook and loop closing mechanism, or other fastener that must be opened to access the contents.
- 3. For the purposes of subsection (h)(2)A. of this section, ammunition held in stripper-clips or in en-bloc clips is not considered ammunition that is loaded into a magazine or speed loader.
- B. “Unloaded” means, with respect to a firearm employing a percussion cap, flintlock, or other obsolete ignition system, when the weapon is uncapped or when the priming charge is removed from the pan.
- (3) “Commercial motor vehicle” has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 4506.25(A).
- (4) “Motor carrier enforcement unit” means the motor carrier enforcement unit in the Department of Public Safety, Division of State Highway Patrol, that is created by Ohio R.C. 5503.34.

(i) Subsection (h)(2) of this section does not affect the authority of a person who is carrying a valid concealed handgun license to have one or more magazines or speed loaders containing ammunition anywhere in a vehicle, without being transported as described in that subsection, as long as no ammunition is in a firearm, other than a handgun, in the vehicle other than as permitted under any other provision of this chapter or Ohio R.C. Chapter 2923. A person who is carrying a valid concealed handgun license may have one or more magazines or speed loaders containing ammunition anywhere in a vehicle without further restriction, as long as no ammunition is in a firearm, other than a handgun, in the vehicle other than as permitted under any provision of this chapter or Ohio R.C. Chapter 2923.  
(ORC 2923.16; Ord. 2019-1. Passed 5-9-19.)

#### **549.05 FAILURE TO SECURE DANGEROUS ORDNANCE.**

(a) No person, in acquiring, possessing, carrying or using any dangerous ordnance shall negligently fail to take proper precautions:

- (1) To secure the dangerous ordnance against theft, or against its acquisition or use by any unauthorized or incompetent person;
- (2) To insure the safety of persons and property.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of failure to secure dangerous ordnance, a misdemeanor of the second degree. (ORC 2923.19)

**549.06 UNLAWFUL TRANSACTIONS IN WEAPONS.**

(a) No person shall do any of the following:

- (1) When transferring any dangerous ordnance to another, negligently fail to require the transferee to exhibit such identification, license or permit showing the transferee to be authorized to acquire dangerous ordnance pursuant to Ohio R.C. 2923.17, or negligently fail to take a complete record of the transaction and forthwith forward a copy of such record to the sheriff of the county or safety director or police chief of the municipality where the transaction takes place;
- (2) Knowingly fail to report to law enforcement authorities forthwith the loss or theft of any firearm or dangerous ordnance in the person's possession or under the person's control.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of unlawful transactions in weapons. A violation of subsection (a)(1) hereof is a misdemeanor of the second degree. A violation of subsection (a)(2) hereof is a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. (ORC 2923.20)

**549.07 UNDERAGE PURCHASE OF FIREARM.**

(a) No person under eighteen years of age shall purchase or attempt to purchase a firearm.

(b) No person under twenty-one years of age shall purchase or attempt to purchase a handgun, provided that this subsection does not apply to the purchase or attempted purchase of a handgun by a person eighteen years of age or older and under twenty-one years of age if either of the following apply:

- (1) The person is a law enforcement officer who is properly appointed or employed as a law enforcement officer and has received firearms training approved by the Ohio Peace Officer Training Council or equivalent firearms training.
- (2) The person is an active or reserve member of the armed services of the United States or the Ohio national guard, or was honorably discharged from military service in the active or reserve armed services of the United States or the Ohio national guard, and the person has received firearms training from the armed services or the national guard or equivalent firearms training.

(c) Whoever violates subsection (a) hereof is guilty of underage purchase of a firearm, a delinquent act that would be a felony of the fourth degree if it could be committed by an adult. Whoever violates subsection (b) hereof is guilty of underage purchase of a handgun, a misdemeanor of the second degree. (ORC 2923.211)

**549.08 DISCHARGING FIREARMS.**

(a) Defined. "Discharge of firearms" means the shooting, forcing or throwing by means of any propulsion whatever, any charge of steel, iron or other hard substance from a gun, except the discharge of firearms by a police officer, sheriff, constable and person in military array, when in performance of their duties, and persons acting in self-defense.

(b) Discharge of Firearms Prohibited. The discharge of firearms within the City is prohibited except as provided in subsections (c) and (d) hereof.

(c) Exceptions; Farms Within City. Any person who owns or operates a farm within the City may obtain a permit for using a firearm that discharges pellets and not a solid missile. The permit may be issued by the City Manager or his designee only for the purpose of protecting farm property from rodents and pests and animals running at large. The permit shall be in a form to be prescribed by the City Manager or his designee and may be revoked at any time if he finds that issuance of the same was not in the public interest or that the firearm is being used for purposes not specified in this chapter.

(d) Rifle or Pistol Range. Firearms may be discharged in or upon a designated rifle or pistol range approved and operated in compliance with State law.  
(Ord. 87-48. Passed 4-23-87.)

(e) Penalty. Whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.

#### **549.09 THROWING OR SHOOTING MISSILES.**

(a) No person shall throw, shoot or propel an arrow, missile, pellet, stone, metal or other similar substance capable of causing physical harm to persons or property, in or on any public place, in or on the property of another, or from any private property into or onto any public place or the property of another. This section does not apply to supervised archery ranges or instruction nor when otherwise lawfully authorized.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor unless the violation causes personal injury and/or property damage in excess of one hundred dollars (\$100.00), in which case the violation is a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.

#### **549.10 LICENSE OR PERMIT TO POSSESS DANGEROUS ORDNANCE.**

(a) Upon application to the Assistant City Manager or Police Chief and upon payment of the fee specified in subsection (b) hereof, a license or temporary permit shall be issued to qualified applicants to acquire, possess, carry or use dangerous ordnance within the limits of the City for the following purposes:

- (1) Contractors, wreckers, quarrymen, mine operators and other persons regularly employing explosives in the course of a legitimate business, with respect to explosives and explosive devices acquired, possessed, carried or used in the course of such business;
- (2) Farmers, with respect to explosives and explosive devices acquired, possessed, carried or used for agricultural purposes on lands farmed by them;
- (3) Scientists, engineers and instructors, with respect to dangerous ordnance acquired, possessed, carried or use in the course of bona fide research or instruction;
- (4) Financial institution and armored car company guards, with respect to automatic firearms lawfully acquired, possessed, carried or used by any such person while acting within the scope of his duties;
- (5) In the discretion of the issuing authority, any responsible person, with respect to dangerous ordnance lawfully acquired, possessed, carried or used for a legitimate research, scientific, educational, industrial or other proper purpose.

(b) Application for a license or temporary permit under this section shall be in writing under oath to the Assistant City Manager or Police Chief. The application shall be accompanied by an application fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00) when the application is for a license, and an application fee of five dollars (\$5.00) when the application is for a temporary permit. The fees shall be paid into the General Revenue Fund of the City. The application shall contain the following information:

- (1) The name, age, address, occupation and business address of the applicant, if he is a natural person, or the name, address and principal place of business of the applicant, if the applicant is a corporation;
- (2) A description of the dangerous ordnance for which a permit is requested;
- (3) A description of the place or places where and the manner in which the dangerous ordnance is to be kept, carried and used;
- (4) A statement of the purposes for which the dangerous ordnance is to be acquired, possessed, carried or used; and
- (5) Such other information as the issuing authority may require in giving effect to this section.

(c) Upon investigation, the issuing authority shall issue a license or temporary permit only if all of the following apply:

- (1) The applicant is not otherwise prohibited by law from acquiring, having, carrying or using dangerous ordnance;
- (2) The applicant is age twenty-one or over, if he is a natural person;
- (3) It appears that the applicant has sufficient competence to safely acquire, possess, carry or use the dangerous ordnance, and that proper precautions shall be taken to protect the security of the dangerous ordnance and ensure the safety of persons and property;
- (4) It appears that the dangerous ordnance shall be lawfully acquired, possessed, carried and used by the applicant for a legitimate purpose.

(d) The license or temporary permit shall identify the person to whom it is issued, identify the dangerous ordnance involved and state the purposes for which the license or temporary permit is issued, state the expiration date, if any, and list such restrictions on the acquisition, possession, carriage or use of the dangerous ordnance as the issuing authority considers advisable to protect the security of the dangerous ordnance and ensure the safety of persons and property.

(e) A temporary permit shall be issued for the casual use of explosives and explosive devices, and other consumable dangerous ordnance, and shall expire within thirty days of its issuance. A license shall be issued for the regular use of consumable dangerous ordnance, or for any nonconsumable dangerous ordnance, which license need not specify an expiration date, but the issuing authority may specify such expiration date, not earlier than one year from the date of issuance, as it considers advisable in view of the nature of the dangerous ordnance and the purposes for which the license is issued.

(f) The dangerous ordnance specified in a license or temporary permit may be obtained by the holder anywhere in the State. The holder of a license may use such dangerous ordnance anywhere in the State. The holder of a temporary permit may use such dangerous ordnance only within the territorial jurisdiction of the issuing authority.

(g) The issuing authority shall forward to the State Fire Marshal a copy of each license or temporary permit issued pursuant to this section, and a copy of each record of a transaction in dangerous ordnance and of each report of lost or stolen dangerous ordnance given to the Police Department as required by Ohio R.C. 2923.20(A)(4) and (5). (ORC 2923.18)

#### **549.11 POSSESSING REPLICA FIREARM IN SCHOOL.**

(a) No person shall knowingly possess an object in a school safety zone if both of the following apply:

- (1) The object is indistinguishable from a firearm, whether or not the object is capable of being fired.

- (2) The person indicates that the person possesses the object and that it is a firearm, or the person knowingly displays or brandishes the object and indicates that it is a firearm.

(b) Subsection (a) hereof does not apply to premises upon which home schooling is conducted. Subsection (a) hereof also does not apply to a school administrator, teacher, or employee who possesses an object that is indistinguishable from a firearm for legitimate school purposes during the course of employment, a student who uses an object that is indistinguishable from a firearm under the direction of a school administrator, teacher, or employee, or any other person who with the express prior approval of a school administrator possesses an object that is indistinguishable from a firearm for a legitimate purpose, including the use of the object in a ceremonial activity, a play, reenactment, or other dramatic presentation, or a ROTC activity or another similar use of the object.

(c) Whoever violates subsection (a) hereof is guilty of illegal possession of an object indistinguishable from a firearm in a school safety zone. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, illegal possession of an object indistinguishable from a firearm in a school safety zone is a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the offender previously has been convicted of a violation of Ohio R.C. 2923.122, illegal possession of an object indistinguishable from a firearm in a school safety zone is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law.

- (d) (1) In addition to any other penalty imposed upon a person who is convicted of or pleads guilty to a violation of this section and subject to subsection (d)(2) of this section, if the offender has not attained nineteen years of age, regardless of whether the offender is attending or is enrolled in a school operated by a board of education or for which the State Board of Education prescribes minimum standards under Ohio R.C. 3301.07, the court shall impose upon the offender a class four suspension of the offender's probationary driver's license, restricted license, driver's license, commercial driver's license, temporary instruction permit, or probationary commercial driver's license that then is in effect from the range specified in division (A)(4) of Ohio R.C. 4510.02 and shall deny the offender the issuance of any permit or license of that type during the period of the suspension.

If the offender is not a resident of this State, the court shall impose a class four suspension of the nonresident operating privilege of the offender from the range specified in division (A)(4) of Ohio R.C. 4510.02.

- (2) If the offender shows good cause why the court should not suspend one of the types of licenses, permits, or privileges specified in subsection (d)(1) of this section or deny the issuance of one of the temporary instruction permits specified in that subsection, the court in its discretion may choose not to impose the suspension, revocation, or denial required in that subsection, but the court, in its discretion, instead may require the offender to perform community service for a number of hours determined by the court.

(e) As used in this section, "object that is indistinguishable from a firearm" means an object made, constructed, or altered so that, to a reasonable person without specialized training in firearms, the object appears to be a firearm. (ORC 2923.122)

**549.12 DEFACING IDENTIFICATION MARKS OF A FIREARM;  
POSSESSING A DEFACED FIREARM.**

- (a) No person shall do either of the following:
- (1) Change, alter, remove, or obliterate the name of the manufacturer, model, manufacturer's serial number, or other mark or identification on a firearm.



**553.04 RAILROAD VANDALISM.**

(a) No person shall knowingly, and by any means, drop or throw any object at, onto, or in the path of, any railroad rail, railroad track, locomotive, engine, railroad car, or other vehicle of a railroad company while such vehicle is on a railroad track.

(b) No person, without privilege to do so, shall climb upon or into any locomotive, engine, railroad car, or other vehicle of a railroad company when it is on a railroad track.

(c) No person, without privilege to do so, shall disrupt, delay, or prevent the operation of any train or other vehicle of a railroad company while such vehicle is on a railroad track.

(d) Whoever violates subsection (a) of this section is guilty of railroad vandalism. Whoever violates subsection (b) of this section is guilty of criminal trespass on a locomotive, engine, railroad car or other railroad vehicle. Whoever violates subsection (c) of this section is guilty of interference with the operation of a train.

Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, railroad vandalism; criminal trespass on a locomotive, engine, railroad car, or other railroad vehicle; and interference with the operation of a train each is a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the violation of subsection (a), (b) or (c) of this section causes serious physical harm to property, creates a substantial risk of physical harm to any person, causes physical harm to any person, or serious physical harm to any person, the violation is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law.

(e) No person shall knowingly deface, damage, obstruct, remove, or otherwise impair the operation of any railroad grade crossing warning signal or other protective device, including any gate, bell, light, crossbuck, stop sign, yield sign, advance warning sign, or advance pavement marking.

(f) Whoever violates subsection (e) of this section is guilty of railroad grade crossing device vandalism. Except as otherwise provided in this division, railroad grade crossing device vandalism is a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the violation of subsection (e) of this section causes serious physical harm to property or creates a substantial risk of physical harm to any person, causes physical harm to any person, or causes serious physical harm to any person, railroad grade crossing device vandalism is a felony to be prosecuted under appropriate state law. (ORC 2909.10, 2909.101)

**553.05 GRADE CROSSING DEVICE VANDALISM.**

(a) No person shall knowingly deface, damage, obstruct, remove or otherwise impair the operation of any railroad grade crossing warning signal or other protective device, including any gate, bell, light, crossbuck, stop sign, yield sign, advance warning sign, or advance pavement marking.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of railroad grade crossing device vandalism. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, railroad grade crossing device vandalism is a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the violation of this section causes serious physical harm to property, creates a substantial risk of physical harm to any person, causes physical harm to any person, or causes serious physical harm to any person, railroad grade crossing device vandalism is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law. (ORC 2909.101)

**553.99 PENALTY.**

(EDITOR'S NOTE: See Section 501.99 for penalties applicable to any misdemeanor classification.)

## CHAPTER 1519 Fireworks

<b>1519.01</b>	<b>Definitions.</b>	<b>1519.05</b>	<b>Application.</b>
<b>1519.02</b>	<b>Public exhibition permit required; fee; bond; records.</b>	<b>1519.06</b>	<b>Safety requirements for fireworks showroom structures.</b>
<b>1519.03</b>	<b>Unlawful conduct by exhibitor.</b>	<b>1519.99</b>	<b>Penalty.</b>
<b>1519.04</b>	<b>Possession, sale or discharge prohibited; exceptions.</b>		

### CROSS REFERENCES

Manufacturers to comply with building and zoning ordinances - see Ohio R.C. 3743.06(F)  
 Wholesalers to comply with building and zoning ordinances - see Ohio R.C. 3743.19(G)  
 Arrests, seizure of fireworks by certified fire safety inspector - see Ohio R.C. 3743.68  
 Conflict of Fire Marshal's rules with rules of Ohio Board of Building Standards - see Ohio R.C. 3781.11(D)

### **1519.01 DEFINITIONS.**

As used in this chapter:

- (a) "Beer" and "intoxicating liquor" have the same meanings as in section 4301.01 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- (b) "Booby trap" means a small tube that has a string protruding from both ends, that has a friction-sensitive composition, and that is ignited by pulling the ends of the string.
- (c) "Cigarette load" means a small wooden peg that is coated with a small quantity of explosive composition and that is ignited in a cigarette.
- (d) (1) "1.3G fireworks" means display fireworks consistent with regulations of the United States department of transportation as expressed using the designation "division 1.3" in Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations.
- (2) "1.4G fireworks" means consumer fireworks consistent with regulations of the United States department of transportation as expressed using the designation "division 1.4" in Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations.
- (e) "Controlled substance" has the same meaning as in section 3719.01 of the Ohio Revised Code.

- (f) "Fireworks" means any composition or device prepared for the purpose of producing a visible or an audible effect by combustion, deflagration, or detonation, except ordinary matches and except as provided in section 3743.80 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- (g) "Fireworks plant" means all buildings and other structures in which the manufacturing of fireworks, or the storage or sale of manufactured fireworks by a manufacturer, takes place.
- (h) "Fountain device" means a specific type of 1.4G firework that meets all of the following criteria:
  - (1) It is nonaerial and nonreport producing.
  - (2) It is recognized and manufactured in accordance with sections 3.1.1 and 3.5 of APA standard 87-1 (2001 edition).
  - (3) It is a ground-based or hand-held sparkler with one or more tubes containing a nonexplosive pyrotechnic mixture that produces a shower of sparks upon ignition, with or without additional effects that may include a colored flame, audible crackling effect, audible whistle effect, or smoke.
  - (4) It contains not more than seventy-five grams of the nonexplosive pyrotechnic mixture in any individual tube and not more than five hundred grams or less for multiple tubes.
- (i) "Highway" means any public street, road, alley, way, lane, or other public thoroughfare.
- (j) "Licensed exhibitor of fireworks" or "licensed exhibitor" means a person licensed pursuant to sections 3743.50 to 3743.55 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- (k) "Licensed fountain device retailer" or "licensed retailer" means a person licensed pursuant to section 3743.26 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- (l) "Licensed manufacturer of fireworks" or "licensed manufacturer" means a person licensed pursuant to sections 3743.02 to 3743.08 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- (m) "Licensed wholesaler of fireworks" or "licensed wholesaler" means a person licensed pursuant to sections 3743.15 to 3743.21 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- (n) "List of licensed exhibitors" means the list required by division (C) of section 3743.51 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- (o) "List of licensed manufacturers" means the list required by division (C) of section 3743.03 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- (p) "List of licensed wholesalers" means the list required by division (C) of section 3743.16 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- (q) "Manufacturing of fireworks" means the making of fireworks from raw materials, none of which in and of themselves constitute a fireworks, or the processing of fireworks.
- (r) "Navigable waters" means any body of water susceptible of being used in its ordinary condition as a highway of commerce over which trade and travel is or may be conducted in the customary modes, but does not include a body of water that is not capable of navigation by barges, tugboats, and other large vessels.
- (s) "Novelties and trick noisemakers" include the following items:
  - (1) Devices that produce a small report intended to surprise the user, including, but not limited to, booby traps, cigarette loads, party poppers, and snappers;
  - (2) Snakes or glow worms;
  - (3) Smoke devices;
  - (4) Trick matches.

- (t) "Party popper" means a small plastic or paper item that contains not more than sixteen milligrams of friction-sensitive explosive composition, that is ignited by pulling a string protruding from the item, and from which paper streamers are expelled when the item is ignited.
- (u) "Processing of fireworks" means the making of fireworks from materials all or part of which in and of themselves constitute a fireworks, but does not include the mere packaging or repackaging of fireworks.
- (v) "Railroad" means any railway or railroad that carries freight or passengers for hire, but does not include auxiliary tracks, spurs, and sidings installed and primarily used in serving a mine, quarry, or plant.
- (w) "Retail sale" or "sell at retail" means a sale of fireworks to a purchaser who intends to use the fireworks, and not resell them.
- (x) "Smoke device" means a tube or sphere that contains pyrotechnic composition that, upon ignition, produces white or colored smoke as the primary effect.
- (y) "Snake or glow worm" means a device that consists of a pressed pellet of pyrotechnic composition that produces a large, snake-like ash upon burning, which ash expands in length as the pellet burns.
- (z) "Snapper" means a small, paper-wrapped item that contains a minute quantity of explosive composition coated on small bits of sand, and that, when dropped, implodes.
- (aa) "Trick match" means a kitchen or book match that is coated with a small quantity of explosive composition and that, upon ignition, produces a small report or a shower of sparks.
- (bb) "Wire sparkler" means a sparkler consisting of a wire or stick coated with a nonexplosive pyrotechnic mixture that produces a shower of sparks upon ignition and that contains no more than one hundred grams of this mixture.
- (cc) "Wholesale sale" or "sell at wholesale" means a sale of fireworks to a purchaser who intends to resell the fireworks so purchased.
- (dd) "Licensed premises" means the real estate upon which a licensed manufacturer or wholesaler of fireworks conducts business.
- (ee) "Licensed building" means a building on the licensed premises of a licensed manufacturer or wholesaler of fireworks that is approved for occupancy by the building official having jurisdiction.
- (ff) "Fireworks incident" means any action or omission that occurs at a fireworks exhibition, that results in injury or death, or a substantial risk of injury or death, to any person, and that involves either of the following:
  - (1) The handling or other use, or the results of the handling or other use, of fireworks or associated equipment or other materials;
  - (2) The failure of any person to comply with any applicable requirement imposed by this chapter or any applicable rule adopted under this chapter.
- (gg) "Discharge site" means an area immediately surrounding the mortars used to fire aerial shells.
- (hh) "Fireworks incident site" means a discharge site or other location at a fireworks exhibition where a fireworks incident occurs, a location where an injury or death associated with a fireworks incident occurs, or a location where evidence of a fireworks incident or an injury or death associated with a fireworks incident is found.

- (ii) "Storage location" means a single parcel or contiguous parcels of real estate approved by the state fire marshal pursuant to division (I) of section 3743.04 of the Ohio Revised Code or division (F) of section 3743.17 of the Ohio Revised Code that are separate from a licensed premises containing a retail showroom, and which parcel or parcels a licensed manufacturer or wholesaler of fireworks may use only for the distribution, possession, and storage of fireworks in accordance with this chapter.  
(ORC 3743.01)

**1519.02 PUBLIC EXHIBITION PERMIT REQUIRED; FEE; BOND;  
RECORDS.**

(a) A licensed exhibitor of fireworks who wishes to conduct a public fireworks exhibition within the Municipality shall apply for approval to conduct the exhibition to the Fire Chief and from the Police Chief or other similar chief law enforcement officer, or the designee of the Police Chief or similar chief law enforcement officer.

The required approval shall be evidenced by the Fire Chief or Fire Prevention Officer and by the Police Chief or other similar chief law enforcement officer, or the designee of the Police Chief or similar chief law enforcement officer, signing a permit for the exhibition, the form for which shall be prescribed by the State Fire Marshal. Any exhibitor of fireworks who wishes to conduct a public fireworks exhibition may obtain a copy of the form from the Fire Marshal or, if it is available, from the Fire Chief, Fire Prevention Officer, Police Chief or other similar chief law enforcement officer, or the designee of the Police Chief or similar chief law enforcement officer.

(b) Before a permit is signed and issued to a licensed exhibitor of fireworks, the Fire Chief or Fire Prevention Officer in consultation with the Police Chief or other similar chief law enforcement officer, or a designee of such Police Chief or similar chief law enforcement officer, shall inspect the premises on which the exhibition will take place and shall determine that, in fact, the applicant for the permit is a licensed exhibitor of fireworks. Each applicant shall show the applicant's license as an exhibitor of fireworks to the Fire Chief or Fire Prevention Officer.

The Fire Chief or Fire Prevention Officer and the Police Chief or other similar chief law enforcement officer, or a designee of such Police Chief or similar chief law enforcement officer, shall give approval to conduct a public fireworks exhibition only if satisfied, based on the inspection, that the premises on which the exhibition will be conducted allow the exhibitor to comply with the rules adopted by the Fire Marshal pursuant to Ohio R.C. 3743.53(B) and (E) and that the applicant is, in fact, a licensed exhibitor of fireworks. The Fire Chief or Fire Prevention Officer in consultation with the Police Chief or other similar chief law enforcement officer, or a designee of such Police Chief or similar chief law enforcement officer, may inspect the premises immediately prior to the exhibition to determine if the exhibitor has complied with the rules, and may revoke the permit for noncompliance with the rules.

(c) The Fire Chief or Fire Prevention Officer and the Police Chief or other similar chief law enforcement officer, or a designee of such Police Chief or similar chief law enforcement officer, shall not issue a permit until the applicant pays a permit fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) plus any necessary costs of investigation of the applicant and of inspecting the premises on which the exhibition will be conducted.

Each exhibitor shall provide an indemnity bond in the amount of at least one million dollars (\$1,000,000), with surety satisfactory to the Fire Chief or Fire Prevention Officer and to Police Chief or other similar chief law enforcement officer, or a designee of such Police Chief or similar chief law enforcement officer, conditioned for the payment of all final judgments that may be rendered against the exhibitor on account of injury, death or loss to persons or property emanating from the fireworks exhibition, or proof of insurance coverage of at least one million dollars (\$1,000,000) for liability arising from injury, death or loss to persons or property emanating from the fireworks exhibition. The Legislative Authority may require the exhibitor to provide an indemnity bond or proof of insurance coverage in amounts greater than those required by this subsection. The Fire Chief or Fire Prevention Officer and Police Chief or other similar chief law enforcement officer, or a designee of such Police Chief or similar chief law enforcement officer, shall not issue a permit until the exhibitor provides the bond or proof of the insurance coverage required by this subsection.

- (d) (1) Each permit for a fireworks exhibition issued by the Fire Chief or Fire Prevention Officer and by the Police Chief or other similar chief law enforcement officer, or a designee of such Police Chief or similar chief law enforcement officer, shall contain a distinct number, designate the Municipality, and identify the certified Fire Safety Inspector, Fire Chief or Fire Prevention Officer who will be present before, during, and after the exhibition, where appropriate. A copy of each permit issued shall be forwarded by the Fire Chief or Fire Prevention Officer and by the Police Chief or other similar chief law enforcement officer, or a designee of such Police Chief or similar chief law enforcement officer, issuing it to the Fire Marshal, who shall keep a record of the permits received. A permit is not transferable or assignable.
- (2) The Fire Chief, Fire Prevention Officer and Police Chief or other similar chief law enforcement officer, or a designee of such Police Chief or similar chief law enforcement officer, shall keep a record of issued permits for fireworks exhibitions. In this list, the Fire Chief, Fire Prevention Officer, Police Chief or other similar chief law enforcement officer, or a designee of such Police Chief or similar chief law enforcement officer, shall list the name of the exhibitor, the exhibitor's license number, the premises on which the exhibition will be conducted, the date and time of the exhibition and the number of the permit issued to the exhibitor for the exhibition.

(e) The governing authority having jurisdiction in the location where an exhibition is to take place shall require that a certified Fire Safety Inspector, Fire Chief, or Fire Prevention Officer be present before, during, and after the exhibition, and shall require the certified Fire Safety Inspector, Fire Chief, or Fire Prevention Officer to inspect the premises where the exhibition is to take place and determine whether the exhibition is in compliance with this chapter and Ohio R.C. Chapter 3743. (ORC 3743.54)

#### **1519.03 UNLAWFUL CONDUCT BY EXHIBITOR.**

(a) No licensed exhibitor of fireworks shall fail to comply with the applicable requirements of the rules adopted by the Fire Marshal pursuant to Ohio R.C. 3743.53(B) and (E) or to comply with Divisions (C) and (D) of that section.

(b) No licensed exhibitor of fireworks shall conduct a fireworks exhibition unless a permit has been secured for the exhibition pursuant to Section 1519.02 or if a permit so secured is revoked by the Fire Chief or Fire Prevention Officer in consultation with the Police Chief or other similar chief law enforcement official or a designee of such Police Chief or other similar law enforcement official pursuant to that section.

(c) No licensed exhibitor of fireworks shall acquire fireworks for use at a fireworks exhibition other than in accordance with Ohio R.C. 3743.54 and 3743.55.

(d) No licensed exhibitor of fireworks or other person associated with the conduct of a fireworks exhibition shall have possession or control of, or be under the influence of, any intoxicating liquor, beer or controlled substance while on the premises on which the exhibition is being conducted.

(e) No licensed exhibitor of fireworks shall permit an employee to assist the licensed exhibitor in conducting fireworks exhibitions unless the employee is registered with the Fire Marshal under Ohio R.C. 3743.56. (ORC 3743.64)

#### **1519.04 POSSESSION, SALE OR DISCHARGE PROHIBITED; EXCEPTIONS.**

(a) No person shall possess fireworks in this Municipality or shall possess for sale or sell fireworks in this Municipality, except a licensed manufacturer of fireworks as authorized by Ohio R.C. 3743.02 to 3743.08, a licensed wholesaler of fireworks as authorized by Ohio R.C. 3743.15 to 3743.21, an out-of-state resident as authorized by Ohio R.C. 3743.44, a resident of this State as authorized by Ohio R.C. 3743.45, or a licensed exhibitor of fireworks as authorized by Ohio R.C. 3743.50 to 3743.55 and Section 1519.02 and except as provided in Section 1519.05.

(b) Except as provided in Section 1519.05 and except for licensed exhibitors of fireworks authorized to conduct a fireworks exhibition pursuant to Ohio R.C. 3743.50 to 3743.55 and Section 1519.02, no person shall discharge, ignite or explode any fireworks in this Municipality.

(c) No person shall use in a theater or public hall, what is technically known as fireworks showers, or a mixture containing potassium chlorate and sulphur.

(d) No person shall sell fireworks of any kind to a person under eighteen years of age.

(e) No person shall advertise Class C fireworks for sale. A sign located on a seller's premises identifying him as a seller of fireworks is not the advertising of fireworks for sale. (ORC 3743.65)

#### **1519.05 APPLICATION.**

This chapter does not prohibit or apply to the following:

- (a) The manufacture, sale, possession, transportation, storage or use in emergency situations, of pyrotechnic signaling devices and distress signals for marine, aviation or highway use;
- (b) The manufacture, sale, possession, transportation, storage or use of fusees, torpedoes or other signals necessary for the safe operation of railroads;
- (c) The manufacture, sale, possession, transportation, storage or use of blank cartridges in connection with theaters or shows, or in connection with athletics as signals or for ceremonial purposes;

- (d) The manufacture for, the transportation, storage, possession or use by, or sale to the Armed Forces of the United States and the militia of this State of pyrotechnic devices;
- (e) The manufacture, sale, possession, transportation, storage or use of toy pistols, toy canes, toy guns or other devices in which paper or plastic caps containing twenty-five hundredths grains or less of explosive material are used, provided that they are constructed so that a hand cannot come into contact with a cap when it is in place for explosion, or apply to the manufacture, sale, possession, transportation, storage or use of those caps;
- (f) The manufacture, sale, possession, transportation, storage or use of novelties and trick noisemakers, auto burglar alarms or model rockets and model rocket motors designed, sold and used for the purpose of propelling recoverable aero models;
- (g) The manufacture, sale, possession, transportation, storage or use of sparklers on a wire stick, as this term is defined in the regulations of the United States Department of Transportation. (ORC 3743.80)

#### **1519.06 SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR FIREWORKS SHOWROOM STRUCTURES.**

- (a)
  - (1) Except as described in subsection (a)(2) of this section, all retail sales of 1.4G fireworks by a licensed manufacturer or wholesaler shall only occur from an approved retail sales showroom on a licensed premises or from a representative sample showroom as described in this section on a licensed premises. For the purposes of this section, a retail sale includes the transfer of the possession of the 1.4G fireworks from the licensed manufacturer or wholesaler to the purchaser of the fireworks.
  - (2) Sales of 1.4G fireworks to a licensed exhibitor for a properly permitted exhibition shall occur in accordance with the provisions of the Ohio Revised Code and rules adopted by the State Fire Marshal under Ohio R.C. Chapter 119. Such rules shall specify, at a minimum, that the licensed exhibitor holds a license under Ohio R.C. 3743.51, that the exhibitor possesses a valid exhibition permit issued in accordance with Ohio R.C. 3743.54, and that the fireworks shipped are to be used at the specifically permitted exhibition.
- (b) All wholesale sales of fireworks by a licensed manufacturer or wholesaler shall only occur from a licensed premises to persons who intend to resell the fireworks purchased at wholesale. A wholesale sale by a licensed manufacturer or wholesaler may occur as follows:
  - (1) The direct sale and shipment of fireworks to a person outside of this state;
  - (2) From an approved retail sales showroom as described in this section;
  - (3) From a representative sample showroom as described in this section;
  - (4) By delivery of wholesale fireworks to a purchaser at a licensed premises outside of a structure or building on that premises. All other portions of the wholesale sales transaction may occur at any location on a licensed premises.
  - (5) Any other method as described in rules adopted by the Fire Marshal under Ohio R.C. Chapter 119.



- (c) (1) A licensed manufacturer or wholesaler shall only sell 1.4G fireworks from a representative sample showroom or a retail sales showroom. Each licensed premises shall only contain one sales structure.
- (2) A representative sample showroom shall consist of a structure constructed and maintained in accordance with the Nonresidential Building Code adopted under Ohio R.C. Chapter 3781 and the Fire Code adopted under Ohio R.C. 3737.82 for a use and occupancy group that permits mercantile sales. A representative sample showroom shall not contain any pyrotechnics, pyrotechnic materials, fireworks, explosives, explosive materials, or any similar hazardous materials or substances. A representative sample showroom shall be used only for the public viewing of fireworks product representations, including paper materials, packaging materials, catalogs, photographs, or other similar product depictions. The delivery of product to a purchaser of fireworks at a licensed premises that has a representative sample structure shall not occur inside any structure on a licensed premises. Such product delivery shall occur on the licensed premises in a manner prescribed by rules adopted by the State Fire Marshal pursuant to Ohio R.C. Chapter 119.
- (3) If a manufacturer or wholesaler elects to conduct sales from a retail sales showroom, the showroom structures, to which the public may have any access and in which employees are required to work, on all licensed premises, shall comply with the following safety requirements:
- A. A fireworks showroom that is constructed or upon which expansion is undertaken on and after June 30, 1997, shall be equipped with interlinked fire detection, fire suppression, smoke exhaust, and smoke evacuation systems that are approved by the Superintendent of Industrial Compliance in the Department of Commerce.
- B. 1. A fireworks showroom that first begins to operate on or after June 30, 1997, or that resumes operations at any time after a period of inactive status or licensure greater than one year, and to which the public has access for retail purposes shall not exceed 7,500 square feet in floor area.
2. A fireworks showroom that, through construction of a new showroom, expansion of an existing showroom, or similar means, first exceeds 5,000 square feet, to which the public has access for retail purposes, after February 7, 2022, shall be equipped with a sprinkler system that meets the criteria for sprinkler systems in extra hazard (group 2) occupancies under "NFPA 13, Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems (2019 Edition)".
3. Notwithstanding subsection (d) of this section, the State Fire Marshal may provide a variance to the requirements of subsection (c)(3)B.2. of this section pursuant to Ohio R.C. 3743.59 for a sprinkler system that matches or exceeds the degree of safety provided by a sprinkler system that meets the criteria for sprinkler systems in extra hazard (group 2) occupancies under "NFPA 13, Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems (2019 Edition)".

- C. A newly constructed or an existing fireworks showroom structure that exists on September 23, 2008, but that, on or after September 23, 2008, is altered or added to in a manner requiring the submission of plans, drawings, specifications, or data pursuant to Ohio R.C. 3791.04, shall comply with a graphic floor plan layout that is approved by the State Fire Marshal and Superintendent of Industrial Compliance showing width of aisles, parallel arrangement of aisles to exits, number of exits per wall, maximum occupancy load, evacuation plan for occupants, height of storage or display of merchandise, and other information as may be required by the State Fire Marshal and Superintendent of Industrial Compliance.
- D. A fireworks showroom structure that exists on June 30, 1997, shall be in compliance on or after June 30, 1997, with floor plans showing occupancy load limits and internal circulation and egress patterns that are approved by the State Fire Marshal and Superintendent of Industrial Compliance, and that are submitted under seal as required by Ohio R.C. 3791.04.

(d) The safety requirements established in subsection (c) of this section are not subject to any variance, waiver, or exclusion pursuant to this chapter or any applicable building code.  
(ORC 3743.25)

**1519.99 PENALTY.**

Whoever violates any provision of this chapter is guilty of a minor misdemeanor on a first offense; on a second offense within one year after the first offense, such person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree; on each subsequent offense within one year after the first offense such person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.