

Juvenile Protection Curfew Ordinance

Parents and guardians have traditionally set curfews for their children, but as a result of peer pressure, social trends and a decrease in parental supervision, many of our youth are at risk for delinquency and victimization. Juvenile peer pressure can play a significant role towards increasing the odds that a child will engage in activities that are delinquent in nature and behavior that places them at risk of becoming a victim. The peer pressure can be overwhelming at times and in many cases leads to impulsive and unhealthy decision making.

The City of Antioch has a Juvenile Protection Curfew Ordinance. The purpose of this ordinance is to promote the safety and well-being of the City's youngest citizens, persons under the age of eighteen (18), whose inexperience renders them particularly vulnerable to becoming participants in unlawful activities, particularly unlawful drug activities and gang activities, and to being victimized by older perpetrators of crime; to promote the general welfare and protect the general public through the reduction of juvenile violence and crime within the City; and to assist in fostering and strengthening parental responsibility for their children

The enforcement of the Juvenile Protection Curfew Ordinance is a means of early intervention and is focused on reducing the risks of juvenile delinquency and victimization through increased accountability for the juvenile and their parents and or guardians.

Section 5-10.203 Curfew-Prohibited Conduct-Exceptions

It shall be unlawful for a minor under eighteen (18) years of age to remain in or upon any public place within the City, to remain in any motor vehicle operating or parked on any public place within the City, or to remain in or upon the premises of any establishment within the City during curfew hours. Curfew hours shall mean the time of night from 11:01 p.m. through 5:00 a.m. seven nights a week. Unless:

- (1) the minor is accompanied by a parent; or
- (2) the minor is involved in an emergency; or
- (3) the minor is engaged in a lawful volunteer or paid employment activity, or is going to or returning home from such activity, without detour or stop; or
- (4) the minor is on the sidewalk directly abutting a place where he or she resides with a parent; or
- (5) the minor is attending or going to or returning home, without detour or stop, from an activity, which is supervised by adults and sponsored by a school, religious, cultural or civic organization, a public organization or agency or another similar organization or entity, or any organized rally, demonstration, meeting or similar organized activity; or

- (6) the minor is on an errand at the direction of a parent, and the minor has in his or her possession a writing dated and signed by the parent containing the following information: the name, signature, address and telephone number of the parent authorizing the errand, the telephone number where the parent may be reached during the errand, the name of the minor, and a brief description of the errand, the minor's destination(s), a brief physical description of the minor and the hours the minor is authorized to be engaged in the errand; or
- (7) the minor is involved in interstate travel through, or beginning or terminating in, the City of Antioch.

Section 5-10.204 Other Prohibited Conduct.

(A) It shall be unlawful for a minor's parent to knowingly permit, allow or encourage such minor to violate any provision of section 5-10.203.

(B) It shall be unlawful for a person who is the owner or operator of any motor vehicle to knowingly permit, allow or encourage a violation of any provision of section 5-10.203.

(C) It shall be unlawful for the operator or any employee of any establishment, to knowingly permit, allow or encourage a minor to remain upon the premises of the establishment during curfew hours. It shall be a defense to prosecution under this subsection that the operator or employee of an establishment promptly notified the police department that a minor was present at the establishment during curfew hours and refused to leave.

(D) It shall be unlawful for any person (including any minor) to give a false name, address, or telephone number to any officer investigating a possible violation of section 5-10.203.