



2013 Juvenile Curfew Ordinance Overview

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Juvenile Division





Brief History

- November 9, 1991 – Curfew Ordinance enacted by City Council.
- 1992 Review of the ordinance.
- 1995 Texas Local Government Code requires review of curfew ordinances every three years – Sunset Provision.
- 1998 1st mandated review of ordinance
- 2001 2nd mandated review
- 2004 3rd mandated review
- 2007 4th mandated review (amended)
- 2010 5th mandated review
- 2013 6th mandated review





Juvenile Curfew Ordinance Highlights

Age = 10 through 16

Offenses:

- a) It shall be unlawful for any minor to knowingly remain, walk, run, stand, drive, or ride about, in or upon any public place in the city during curfew hours.**
- b) It shall be unlawful for the parent or guardian having legal custody of a minor to knowingly allow or permit the minor to be in violation of the curfew.**
- c) Violations of this section shall be a penalty not more than \$500.00**





Juvenile Curfew Ordinance Highlights

Defenses:

- 1) minor accompanied by parent or guardian;
- 2) minor accompanied by an adult designated by parent or guardian;
- 3) minor was on an errand made necessary by an emergency;
- 4) minor attending school, religious, or government-sponsored activity or traveling to or from same;
- 5) minor engaged in lawful employment activity or going directly to or from lawful employment;





Juvenile Curfew Ordinance Highlights

- 6) minor was on the sidewalk directly in front of the place he/she resides;
- 7) minor was on an errand directed by his/her parent or guardian;
- 8) minor was in a motor vehicle involved in intrastate or interstate transportation;
- 9) minor was engaged in, participating in, or traveling to or from any event, function or activity for which his/her rights are protected by the Texas or United States Constitution;
- 10) minor was married or had been married or had disabilities of minority removed in accordance with chapter 31 of the Texas Family Code;





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- 11) with respect to the hours between 9:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., the offense occurred during the school summer vacation break period of the school in which the minor is enrolled or on a holiday observed by the closure of classes in the school in which the minor is enrolled or that the minor has graduated from high school or received a high school equivalency certificate
- 12) with respect to the hours between 11:00 p.m. and 12:00 a.m. (midnight), the day following the offense is a holiday observed by the closure of classes in the school in which the minor is enrolled; or
- 13) minor was attending or was traveling to or from a recreational activity supervised by adults and sponsored by the city, a civic organization, or another similar entity that takes responsibility for the minor.





Juvenile Curfew Ordinance Highlights

Curfew hours: 11:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m. Sunday-Thursday
Midnight – 6:00 a.m. Friday and Saturday
9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Monday-Friday

May cite parents who knowingly allow or permit violations

Penalty for violations up to \$500.00





Juvenile Curfew Ordinance Highlights 2013 Review

2010 1802 Curfew Citations – 6971 Juveniles Processed

2011 1552 Curfew Citations – 6107 Juveniles Processed

2012 1221 Curfew Citations – 5568 Juveniles Processed





Juvenile Curfew Ordinance Highlights 2013 Review

Criminal Charges by Harris County Juvenile Probation

Crimes Against Persons 2010 – 2225

Crimes Against Persons 2011 – 2009

Crimes Against Persons 2012 – 1783

Property Crimes 2010 – 2980

Property Crimes 2011 – 2631

Property Crimes 2012 – 3892





Juvenile Curfew Ordinance Highlights 2013 Review

Juvenile Suspect UCR Part I & II Crimes

Violent Crimes

2010---1708

2011---1700

2012---1927

Non-Violent

2010---3626

2011---3592

2012---3610





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Juvenile Complainant (Victim) UCR Part I & II Crimes

Violent Crimes

2010---2818

2011---2697

2012---2493

Non-Violent

2010---1553

2011---1527

2012---1552





Juvenile Curfew Ordinance Highlights 2013 Review

**Curfew citations peaked in 1996, with 14325 citations issued.
1221 curfew citations issued in 2012.**

**Not all Juvenile offenders are issued citations.
Alternative solutions are often utilized.**

**Ordinance serves as a valuable tool to impact juvenile crime and
victimization. Run-a-ways, thrown-a-way juveniles and criminal
enterprises (prostitution, pornography, etc.)**

