

# 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 2<sup>nd</sup> mandated review

2004 3rd mandated review

2007 4<sup>th</sup> mandated review (amended)

2010 5<sup>th</sup> mandated review

2013 6th mandated review





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







### Defenses:

- 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;





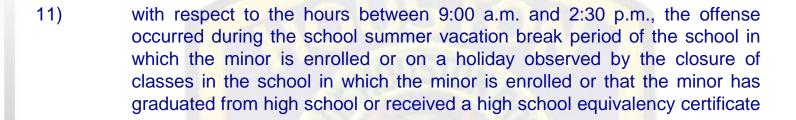
### **Juvenile Curfew Ordinance Highlights**



- 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;







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

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.





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







2011 1552 Curfew Citations – 6107 Juveniles Processed

2012 1221 Curfew Citations – 5568 Juveniles Processed





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 Suspect UCR Part I & II Crimes** 

**Violent Crimes** 

2010---1708

2011---1700

2012---1927

**Non-Violent** 

2010---3626

2011---3592

2012---3610





Juvenile Complainant (Victim) UCR Part I & II Crimes

**Violent Crimes** 

2010---2818

2011---2697

2012---2493

**Non-Violent** 

2010---1553

2011---1527

2012---1552







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.)

