

# State of Louisiana

## Parish of Grant In the Name and By the Authority of The Police Jury of Grant Parish

Motion by Mr. Arnold Murrell, seconded by Mr. Johnny Jamison and carried to adopt the following Ordinance:

### ORDINANCE NO. 07-2022

To prohibit the possession of Mitragyna Speciosa Korth (Kratom) in Grant Parish.

**WHEREAS**, Kratom is an herbal extract that comes from the leaves of an evergreen tree (Mitragyna speciosa) grown in Southeast Asia. Although people who take kratom may believe in its value, researchers who have studied kratom opine that its side effects and safety problems more than offset any potential benefits;

**WHEREAS**, Kratom has been reported to cause abnormal brain function when taken with certain prescription medicine. The effects of Kratom become stronger as the quantity taken increases and is known to cause death. Kratom is not currently regulated in the United States, and federal agencies are taking action to combat false claims about kratom; studies on the effects of kratom have identified many safety concerns and no clear benefits;

**WHEREAS**, the Grant Parish Police Jury does hereby declare that the use of Kratom is a serious problem affecting the health and welfare of all citizens. The Grant Parish Police Jury does further declare and determine that all reasonable steps should be taken to prohibit the sale of Kratom in Grant Parish;

**WHEREAS**, the Grant Parish Police Jury hereby deems it necessary and proper for good government, order and protection of persons and property, and for the preservation of public health, safety and welfare of the Parish and its inhabitants; and

**WHEREAS**, the Grant Parish Police Jury have concluded that to protect the health, welfare, and safety of the citizens of the Parish of Grant, State of Louisiana, the possession of Kratom should be incorporated as a municipal misdemeanor crime within the Parish of Grant.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Grant Parish Police Jury of the Parish of Grant, State of Louisiana in regular session convened, as follows: to wit:

Section 1. It shall be illegal for any person to possess Mitragyna Speciosa Korth (Kratom) in the Parish of Grant.

Section 2. Penalties.

- (1) On a first conviction, wherein the offender possesses Kratom in violation of the provisions of Section 1 shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or imprisoned for not more than six (6) months, or both.
- (2) On a second conviction, wherein the offender possesses Kratom in violation of the provisions of Section 1 shall be fined one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or imprisoned for not more than six (6) months, or both.

- (3) On a third or subsequent offense conviction, wherein the offender possesses Kratom in violation of the provisions of Section 1 shall be fined one thousand, five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00) or imprisoned for not more than six (6) months, or both.

Section 3. If any provision or item of this Ordinance or the application thereof is held to be invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items, or applications of this Ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or application, and to this end the provisions or items of this Ordinance are hereby declared severable.

**Date of Enactment** – This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon approval and adoption by the Grant Parish Police Jury.

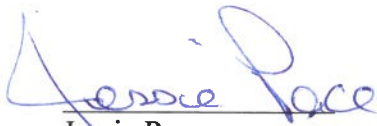
**WHEREUPON THIS ORDINANCE WAS ADOPTED TO A VOTE AND RESULTED IN THE FOLLOWING:**

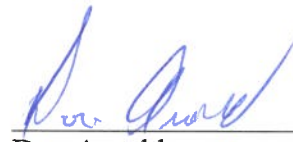
**YEAS:** Mr. Mark Ball, Mr. Brandon DuBois, Mr. Johnny Jamison  
Mr. Arnold Murrell, Mr. David Merrell, Mr. Cephas Bowie Jr.  
Mr. Winston Roberts

**NAYS:** None

**ABSENT:** None

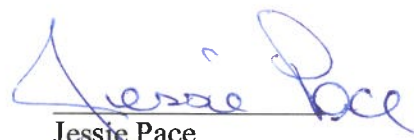
**AND THIS ORDINANCE WAS ADOPTED ON THIS** 13th **DAY OF** October,  
**2022.**

  
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Jessie Pace  
Parish Manager/Secretary-Treasurer  
Grant Parish Police Jury

  
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Don Arnold  
President  
Grant Parish Police Jury

**CERTIFICATE**

I, Jessie Pace, Parish Manager/Secretary-Treasurer of the Grant Parish Police Jury, do hereby certify the forgoing is a true and correct copy of an Ordinance adopted by the said Police Jury in a regular session on the 13th day of October, 2022, at a quorum.

  
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Jessie Pace  
Parish Manager/Secretary – Treasurer  
Grant Parish Police Jury