

NEW ST. JOHNS CURFEW LAW

On September 8, 1994, the St. Johns City Council adopted a new CURFEW ORDINANCE. The ordinance will be enforced beginning immediately.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE ORDINANCE:

- No juvenile can remain or loiter around any location in the City away from his/her home outside the established hours.
- It is unlawful for a parent or guardian to permit a juvenile under his/her supervision to remain or loiter around any location in the City away from his/her home after the established hours. The excuse, that the parent or guardian did not have knowledge of where the juvenile was, will not be acceptable unless reasonable care and diligence is exercised to control the juvenile.
- It is unlawful for a parent or guardian to refuse to take a juvenile into custody after he/she is requested to do so by a law enforcement officer following the arrest of a juvenile by a law enforcement officer for violating this ordinance.
- Each violation of the provisions of this ordinance will constitute a separate offense and shall be a Class 1 Misdemeanor.

DEFINITIONS:

- LOITER: "hanging around," "dragging mainstreet," making purchases at a store, visiting the park or other locations in the City, or being anywhere other than home.
- ESTABLISHED HOURS: Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: must be home before 11:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday: must be home before 12:00 a.m.
- EXCEPTIONS TO THE ESTABLISHED HOURS: requirement to pursue a job; an emergency errand; classes, services, meetings, dances, dramatic or musical performances, sporting events, or other social events sponsored by a school, religions or civic organization; to be legally involved in the above activities juveniles must have the permission of their parents, guardians or other persons having their legal care and custody.
- JUVENILE: person under the age of eighteen (18).
- OTHER GENERAL EXCEPTIONS: this ordinance does not apply to an individual who is a legally emancipated minor or who is accompanied by his parent or guardian.
- CLASS 1 MISDEMEANOR: Penalty: up to \$2,500 and/or 6 months in jail.

***If you want a copy of the ordinance or desire further information regarding this Curfew Ordinance, call St. Johns Police Department at 337-4796.