

Ordinance 050115  
0-05-96

An ordinance of the City of Gainesville relating to sexual offenders and sexual predators; creating and adding a new Article III to Chapter 17 to be titled Sexual Offenders and Sexual Predators; providing definitions; establishing residency requirements, restrictions and penalties; prohibiting certain sexual offenders and sexual predators from residing within a specified distance of schools, daycare centers or parks, as more specifically defined in this ordinance; establishing requirements, responsibility and penalties for property owners and agents that let or rent to certain sexual offenders and sexual predators; providing for sexual offenders and sexual predators to acknowledge responsibilities; amending section 2-339, of the Gainesville Code of ordinances relating to applicable codes and ordinances subject to civil citation; providing directions to the codifier; providing a severability clause; providing a repealing clause and providing an immediate effective date.

**WHEREAS**, the city commission is concerned about the numerous recent occurrences in our state and elsewhere, whereby convicted sex offenders who have been released from custody repeat the unlawful acts or acts similar to that of which they were originally convicted; and

**WHEREAS**, the city commission finds from the evidence presented that the recidivism rate for released sex offenders is alarmingly high, especially for those who commit crimes against children; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Gainesville has been, is, and wishes to remain an attractive place of residence for its citizens and in particular its small children; and

**WHEREAS**, the city commission desires to establish policy which provides the maximum protection for the lives of persons in the City of Gainesville and affords them a safer place to live and play; and

1           **WHEREAS**, §§ 794.065 and 947.1405, Florida Statutes, provide for one-thousand foot  
2 residence prohibitions from specified locations for sexual offenders and sexual predators; and

3           **WHEREAS**, Article VIII, Section 2(b), Florida Constitution and § 166.021, Florida  
4 Statutes, provide the city commission with the authority to protect the health, safety and welfare  
5 of the city’s residents; and

6           **WHEREAS**, the United States Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals recently issued an  
7 opinion in the case of *Doe v. Miller*, 405 F.3d 700 (8<sup>th</sup> Cir. April 29, 2005) in which the Court  
8 upheld similar residency restrictions contained in the State of Iowa, and found the restrictions to  
9 be constitutional; and

10           **WHEREAS**, the city commission finds that creating Chapter 17, Article III, entitled  
11 “Sexual Offenders and Sexual Predators,” is in the best interests of the citizens of the City of  
12 Gainesville; and

13           **WHEREAS**, at least 10 days notice has been given once by publication in a newspaper  
14 of general circulation notifying the public of this proposed ordinance and of a Public Hearing in  
15 the City Commission Auditorium in City Hall, City of Gainesville; and

16           **WHEREAS**, a Public Hearing was held pursuant to the published notice described at  
17 which hearing the parties in interest and all others had an opportunity to be and were, in fact,  
18 heard;

19           **NOW THEREFORE**, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE  
20 CITY OF GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA;

1           **Section 1.** A new Article III consisting of Sections 17-30 through 17-35, inclusive, is  
2 created and added to Chapter 17 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Gainesville, to read as  
3 follows:

4                           **ARTICLE III SEXUAL OFFENDERS AND SEXUAL PREDATORS**

5           **Sec. 17-30. Short title.**

6           This article shall be referred to as the “City of Gainesville Sexual Offender and Sexual Predator  
7 Ordinance.”

8           **Sec. 17-31. Findings and Intent**

9           (a)   Repeat sexual offenders, sexual offenders who use physical violence, and sexual  
10           offenders who prey on children are sexual predators who present an extreme  
11           threat to the public safety. Sexual offenders are extremely likely to use physical  
12           violence and to repeat their offenses, and most sexual offenders commit many  
13           offenses, have many more victims than are ever reported and are prosecuted for  
14           only a fraction of their crimes. This makes the cost of sexual offender  
15           victimization to society at large, while incalculable, clearly exorbitant.

16           (b)   It is the intent of this Article to serve the city’s compelling interest to promote,  
17           protect and improve the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the city by  
18           creating areas around locations where children regularly congregate in  
19           concentrated numbers wherein certain sexual offenders and sexual predators are  
20           prohibited from establishing temporary or permanent residence.

1 **Sec. 17-32. Definitions.**

2 The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings  
3 ascribed to them in this article, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

4 “Day Care Center” means a day care center as defined in section 30-23 of the Gainesville Code  
5 of Ordinances.

6 “Park” shall refer to the following parks:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 7 <u>1) Alfred A. Ring Park</u>                     | <u>17) Roper Park</u>                           |
| 8   |   |
| 9 <u>2) ANNE Park</u>                               | <u>18) Rosa B. Williams/Union Academy</u>       |
| 10 <u>_____</u>                                     | <u>Recreation Complex</u>                       |
| 11  |   |
| 12 <u>3) Citizen’s Park/Martin Luther King, Jr.</u> | <u>19) Smokey Bear Park</u>                     |
| 13  |   |
| 14 <u>4) Cofrin Nature Park</u>                     | <u>20) Springtree Park</u>                      |
| 15  |   |
| 16 <u>5) Fred Cone Park/Eastside Center</u>         | <u>21) T.B. McPherson Recreation Complex</u>    |
| 17  |   |
| 18 <u>6) Green Acres Park</u>                       | <u>22) Tumblin Creek Park</u>                   |
| 19  |   |
| 20 <u>7) Greentree Park</u>                         | <u>23) Tot Lot No. 1</u>                        |
| 21  |   |
| 22 <u>8) Kiwanis Park</u>                           | <u>24) Tot Lot No. 2</u>                        |
| 23  |   |
| 24 <u>9) N.E. 31<sup>st</sup> Avenue Park</u>       | <u>25) Tot Lot No. 3</u>                        |
| 25  |   |
| 26 <u>10) N.E. Community Center Recreation</u>      | <u>26) Tot Lot No. 4</u>                        |
| 27 <u>Complex</u>                                   |   |
| 28  |   |
| 29 <u>11) Northeast Park</u>                        | <u>27) Tot Lot No. 5 (Barbara Higgins Park)</u> |
| 30  |   |
| 31 <u>12) Northside Park</u>                        | <u>28) Tot Lot No. 6</u>                        |
| 32  |   |
| 33 <u>13) Oak Hill Park</u>                         | <u>29) Tot Lot No. 7</u>                        |
| 34  |   |
| 35 <u>14) Phoenix Neighborhood Playground</u>       | <u>30) Tot Lot No. 9</u>                        |
| 36  |   |
| 37 <u>15) Porter’s Community Center</u>             | <u>31) Wacahoota Archery Range and Park</u>     |
| 38  |   |
| 39 <u>16) Possum Creek Park</u>                     | <u>32) Westside Recreation Complex</u>          |
| 40  |   |

1 “Permanent residence” means a place where the person abides, lodges or resides for a period of  
2 14 or more consecutive days.

3 “Property owner” means the owner of record of the property and, for purposes of this Article,  
4 shall include any person, business or corporation with authority to let or rent the premises.

5 “School” means a public or private elementary school, middle school, or secondary school.

6 “Temporary residence” means a place where the person abides, lodges or resides for a period of  
7 14 or more days in the aggregate during any calendar year and which is not the person’s  
8 permanent address, or a place where the person routinely abides, lodges or resides for a period of  
9 four or more consecutive or nonconsecutive days in any month and which is not the person’s  
10 permanent residence.

11 **Sec. 17-33. Sexual offender and sexual predator residence prohibitions; Penalties;**

12 **Exceptions.**

13 (a) It is unlawful for any person who has been found guilty of, or plead guilty, or no  
14 contest to, a violation of §§ 794.011, 800.04, 827.071 or 847.0145, Florida Statutes,  
15 or any equivalent violation from another jurisdiction that would be a felony if  
16 committed in this state, in which the victim of the offense was less than 16 years of  
17 age regardless of whether adjudication has been withheld, to establish a permanent  
18 residence or temporary residence within 2,500 feet of any school, day care center, or  
19 park.

20 (b) For purposes of determining the minimum distance separation, the requirement shall  
21 be measured by following a straight line from the outer property line of the permanent

1 residence or temporary residence to the nearest outer property line of a school, day  
2 care center, or park.

3 (c) Exceptions. A person who maintains a permanent or temporary residence within  
4 2,500 feet of any school, day care center, or park, does not commit a violation of this  
5 section if any of the following apply:

6 (i) The person established continuous permanent residence prior to November 28,  
7 2005.

8 (ii) The school or day care center located within 2,500 feet of the person's  
9 permanent residence was first licensed to operate after the person established  
10 the continuous permanent residence.

11 (iii) The person was a minor when the specified offense was committed and was  
12 not convicted as an adult for that offense.

13 (iv) The person is a minor.

14 Any person who qualifies for an exception pursuant to sections (c)(i) or (c)(ii) above,  
15 becomes fully subject to this ordinance upon any change of address.

16 (d) Penalties. A person who violates this section shall be punished as provided in  
17 Section 1-9 of this code.

18

1 **Sec. 17-34. Property owners prohibited from renting real property to certain sexual**  
2 **offenders and sexual predators; Penalties.**

3 (a) It is unlawful for a property owner to let or rent any place, structure, or part  
4 thereof, trailer or other conveyance, with the knowledge that it will be used as a  
5 permanent residence or temporary residence by any person prohibited from establishing  
6 such permanent residence or temporary residence pursuant to section 17-33 of this Code,  
7 if such place, structure, or part thereof, trailer or other conveyance, is located within  
8 2,500 feet of any school, day care center, or park, unless the property owner can establish  
9 that, prior to rental or lease, he or she used reasonable due diligence and was unable to  
10 determine that the prospective tenant was subject to the restrictions described in Section  
11 17-33 of this Code.

12 (b) A property owner's failure to comply with provisions of this section shall  
13 constitute a violation of this section and shall subject the property owner to civil citation  
14 as provided in section 2-339 of the Gainesville Code of Ordinances.

15 **Sec. 17-35. Sexual Offender Notice of Responsibilities; Failure to Execute.**

16 A sexual offender or sexual predator who resides in the City of Gainesville shall, upon  
17 presentment by a law enforcement officer, sign an acknowledgement that he/she has received  
18 and understands the responsibilities of a sexual offender or sexual predator as those  
19 responsibilities are stated on the form. If the sexual offender or sexual predator refuses to sign  
20 the acknowledgement, the officer presenting such document shall document that the form was  
21 given to the sexual offender or sexual predator and note the refusal to sign the acknowledgement.

1           **Section 2.** Section 2-339 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Gainesville, is  
 2 amended to read as follows:

3           **Sec. 2-339. Applicable codes and ordinances.**

4           The following ordinances are enforceable by the procedures described in this  
 5 division:  
 6

Section	Description	Class	Penalty
2-67(b)	Declaration of water emergency imposing water use restrictions	I	\$50.00
Chapter 5 except as provided below	Animal control	I	\$50.00
5-2(c)	Animal molesting or biting pedestrian or bicyclist	IV	\$200.00
6-3	104.1.1 of adopted Standard Building Code, as amended Building, electrical, plumbing, gas, and/or mechanical work within a required permit	II	\$75.00
6-183(1)	False advertising	III	\$125.00
6-185	Acting as a contractor without a valid contractor certificate	IV	\$200.00
6-186(b)(2)	No journeyman or certified craftsman on the job site	II	\$75.00
Article IX of Chapter 6	Downtown minimum property standards	I	\$50.00
Chapter 10	All adopted fire prevention & protection codes, except NFPA 101 Chapters 5, 6, 7 and SFPC Chapters 6, 8, 31 and 42	II	\$75.00
Chapter 10	NFPA 101 Chapters 5, 6, 7 SFPC Chapters 6, 8, 31 and 42	IV	\$200.00
11.5-1	Availability of potable water	I	\$50.00



Article III of Chapter 13	Commercial building code	II	\$75.00
13-171	Insects, storage, trash and yard maintenance	I	\$125.00
13-181	Hazardous conditions on residential property	I	\$125.00
Article II of Chapter 14.5	Merchandising of tobacco products	II	\$75.00
Article III of Chapter 14.5	Towing from certain private property	II	\$125.00
14.5-1	Not having landlord permit	II	\$125.00
Chapter 15	Noise violations	I	\$125.00
16-19	Dangerous buildings/hazardous lands	I	\$125.00
17-2	Fliers on utility poles or other fixtures	I	\$50.00
<u>17-34</u>	<u>Knowingly rent or let a residence to a sexual offender or sexual predator to use as a temporary or permanent residence contrary to the Sexual Predator Ordinance</u>	II	\$125.00
19-2	Violation of regulations for peddling in Downtown Plaza	I	\$50.00
19-34	Violation of permit requirements for commercial peddlers, solicitors, or canvassers	I	\$50.00
19-52	Unauthorized solicitation of alms or financial assistance	I	\$50.00
19-53	Unauthorized sale or transfer of goods and services; religious and charitable organizations soliciting for contributions without a permit	I	\$50.00
19-55	Violation of restrictions and requirements for permitted soliciting	I	\$50.00
19-96	Operation of mobile food cart in prohibited area	I	\$50.00

19-97	Violation of regulations on permitted mobile food cart	I	\$50.00
Chapter 5 except as provided below	Animal control	I	\$50.00
19-112	Unauthorized soliciting of funds	I	\$50.00
19-127	Violation of prohibition on throwing or distributing handbills upon property displaying a "No Handbills" sign	I	\$125.00
21-53(b)(6)	Non-permitted, revoked or suspended alarm system	IV	\$200.00
21-58(a)	Failure to register alarm monitoring company	II	\$125.00
21-58(c)	Failure to maintain records	II	\$125.00
21-59	Failure to make alarm verified call	II	\$125.00
21-60(a)	Failure to register--Alarm system contractors	II	\$125.00
21-60(b)	Maintenance, repair, alter or service of system for compensation by noncontractor	II	\$125.00
21-60(c)	Failure to issue ID	I	\$50.00
21-60(d)	Use of equipment or methods below minimum standards	II	\$125.00
21-60(e)	Activation/servicing non-permitted alarm	II	\$125.00
21-60(f)	Causing false alarm during servicing	II	\$125.00
21-60(g)	Failure to provide blank alarm permit application	I	\$50.00
21-61(a)	Operating automatic dialing device	II	\$125.00
21-61(b)			

21-61(c)	Failure to remove non-permitted features	I	\$50.00
21-62	Operating alarm system without auxiliary power	II	\$125.00
Chapter 22	Secondhand Goods Secondhand Dealers	III	\$125.00
26-137	Abandoned vehicles	I	\$125.00
27-73	Solid waste violations except (4), (8) and (9)	I	\$125.00
27-76(b)(1)b	Improper use of cart	I	\$50.00
27-79(a) and (f)	Commercial franchise violations	IV	\$200.00
Chapter 28	Taxicab regulation	I	\$50.00
30-45	Prohibited use in zoning district	I	\$125.00
30-51(c)	Permitted uses in single family districts	II	\$125.00
30-56(b) and (c)	Residential parking	I	\$125.00
30-59(c)	Permitted uses in office districts	I	\$50.00
30-61(c)	Permitted uses in general business district	I	\$50.00
30-62(c)	Permitted uses in automotive oriented business district	I	\$50.00
30-63(c)	Permitted uses in tourist-oriented business district	I	\$50.00
30-64(e)	Permitted uses in mixed use low intensity district	I	\$50.00
30-65(c)	Permitted uses in mixed use medium intensity district	I	\$50.00

30-66(c)	Permitted uses in central city district		\$50.00
30-67(g)	Illegal outdoor storage and sales		\$50.00
30-68(c)	Permitted uses in warehousing and wholesaling district		\$50.00
30-69(c)	Permitted uses in limited industrial district		\$50.00
30-70(c)	Permitted uses in general industrial district		\$50.00
30-86	Use, parking, storage and keeping of recreational vehicles		\$50.00
30-315 et seq.	Violation of sign regulations		\$50.00
30-357	New business, expansion or change of use without zoning compliance permit		\$50.00

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2           **Section 3.** It is the intention of the City Commission that Sections 1 and 2 of this ordinance  
3 shall become and be made a part of the Gainesville Code of Ordinance, of the City of Gainesville,  
4 Florida, and that the Sections and Paragraphs of this ordinance may be renumbered or relettered in  
5 order to accomplish such intentions.

6           **Section 4.** If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance is held to be invalid or  
7 unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, then said holding shall in no way affect the  
8 validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

9           **Section 5.** All ordinances, or parts of ordinances, in conflict herewith are to the extent of  
10 such conflict hereby repealed.

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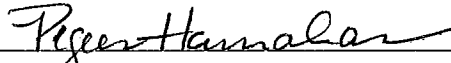
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1           **Section 6.** This ordinance shall become effective immediately on adoption

2           **PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 28<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2005.

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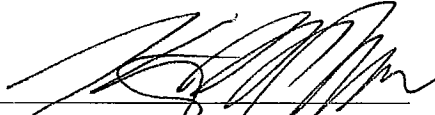
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\_\_\_\_\_  
PEGEEN HANRAHAN  
MAYOR

8    ATTEST

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

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10

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
KURT M. LANNON  
CLERK OF THE COMMISSION

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MARION J. RADSON  
CITY ATTORNEY

**NOV 29 2005**

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17    This Ordinance passed on first reading this 14<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2005.

18    This Ordinance passed on second reading this 28<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2005.