

**ARTICLE V. PUBLIC ASSEMBLIES SERVING ALCOHOL - LIFE SAFETY  
ORDINANCE (DRAFT)**

**SEC. 10-45. Definitions**

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

*AHJ* means Authority Having Jurisdiction which in the corporate limits of Gainesville is the City of Gainesville Fire official.

*Approved locking devices* means those locking devices listed in the Florida Fire Prevention Code and approved by the AHJ.

*Blocked, locked exit* means any exit or exit path that is part of the AHJ required egress path for occupants to safely leave a structure.

*Crowd manager* means an individual who has successfully completed the Gainesville Fire Rescue Operation Safe Club crowd manager program and has obtained an Operation Safe Club identification card. The crowd manager must be approved by the AHJ.

*Emergency plan* means an AHJ approved site specific notification and evacuation plan with staff assignments and emergency contact numbers.

*FDC Connection* means Fire Department Connection to the automatic sprinkler system or standpipe system of a structure that is utilized by the Fire Department to provide additional water pressure for the system to work at capacity due to hose streams or inadequate supply.

*Fire Alarm system* means any AHJ required fire or smoke occupant alerting system.

*Fire suppression system* means any AHJ required automatic or manual sprinkler, standpipe or suppression system.

*Imminent danger* means a condition or practice in an occupancy that poses a danger that could reasonably be expected to cause death, serious physical harm, or serious property loss.

*Public assembly (Alcoholic beverage establishment)* means structures in which groups gather for purposes of consuming alcohol, food and for entertainment within the city limits of Gainesville that include bottle clubs, cocktail bars, nightclubs or billiard halls per ordinance 0-07-121.

*Promoter* means any person who contracts with the owner or manager of a public assembly to utilize the facility to promote an individual event.

*Owner* means the business owner and person who is the decision maker for the policies and procedures for the staff and is responsible for the maintenance of the structure and its fire safety components

**Sec. 10-46. Uniform training for all crowd managers of public assembly occupancies**

- (a) All public assembly occupancies must have at least one trained crowd manager on site prior to opening the doors for business.
- (b) The crowd manager must have a valid crowd manager card on his/her person while on duty.
- (c) Crowd manager training will be provided on a quarterly basis by the Risk Reduction Bureau of the Fire Department or as needed for new business occupancies.

**Sec. 10-47. Blocked or locked exits are prohibited in public assemblies**

- (a) It shall be unlawful to conduct business in a public assembly with a blocked or locked exit.
- (b) All entry and egress points of a public assembly shall be prohibited from having unapproved locking devices, including, but not limited to padlocks, bars, and slide bolts, on any required exit that prevent egress from the building.
- (c) If upon inspection an unapproved device is found the AHJ shall have the authority to immediately order a cease and desist of all activities until the conditions are corrected.

**Sec 10-48. Fire Protection Systems, Fire Alarm System and unsecured fire department connections at public assemblies**

- (a) It shall be unlawful to operate a public assembly without a fully operational Fire protection system, Fire Alarm System as required by the Florida Fire Prevention code.
- (b) If upon inspection a malfunctioning Fire alarm System or device is found the AHJ shall have the authority to immediately order a cease and desist of all activities until the conditions are corrected.
- (c) All public assembly occupancies shall insure the security of all fire department connections utilizing an AHJ approved fire department connection securing device that prevents tampering and debris from entering the sprinkler or standpipe system and prevents the caps from being stolen.

**Sec. 10-49 Promoters utilizing public assemblies**

- (a) Promoters utilizing public assemblies shall be responsible for all public assembly rules and regulations set forth in this section and the Florida Fire Prevention Code.
- (b) All promoters must have a valid permit and attend an approved crowd manager training program prior to operating in a public assembly.
- (c) **Any promoter or trained crowd manager that violates this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in -----.**

**Sec 10-50 Overcrowding in public assemblies**

- (a) It shall be unlawful to allow the official posted occupant load of a public assembly to be exceeded for any reason.
- (b) If upon inspection a condition of overcrowding is detected, the AHJ shall have the authority to immediately order a cease and desist of all activities until the conditions are corrected.
- (c) Each public assembly will provide approved devices to keep an accurate count of the occupancy, including staff members, at all times that the business is open to the public.
- (d) Each public assembly will provide emergency evacuation plans and provide proof of training for all staff.
- (e) Each public assembly will provide an emergency evacuation alert system approved by the AHJ to assist with immediate evacuations.
- (f) It shall be unlawful for any owner, promoter or trained crowd manager to conduct business in a public assembly with an occupancy load exceeding the posted limit.

**Sec. 10-51 Enforcement of public assembly ordinance**

Police officers, fire inspectors and firefighters shall report all violations of this chapter to the chief of police or to the chief of the fire department who shall seek appropriate prosecution. (Code 1960, § 13-14)