

ORDINANCE NO. **BG2012 – 2**

ORDINANCE AMENDING CODE OF ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 9 (GENERAL OFFENSES) OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES TO MAKE CHANGES RECOMMENDED BY THE BOWLING GREEN POLICE DEPARTMENT RELATED TO THE DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS AND SIMILAR EQUIPMENT

WHEREAS, Chapter 9 (General Offenses) of the Bowling Green Code of Ordinances prohibits the discharge of firearms in the City with specified exceptions and also prohibits the discharge of sling shots, bows and arrows and air guns in the City; and,

WHEREAS, the Police Department has recommended various amendments to Chapter 9 to provide for additional exceptions related to the discharge of firearms and to provide new exceptions related to the discharge of sling shots, bows and arrows and air guns; and,

WHEREAS, these amendments are in the best interests of the City.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City of Bowling Green, Kentucky as follows:

1. Chapter 9 (General Offenses) is hereby amended as follows:

9-1 MISCELLANEOUS OFFENSES.

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9-1.03 Discharge of Firearms Unlawful.

It shall be unlawful for any person to shoot or discharge firearms in the City, unless: (1) necessary or proper for the protection of person or property; ~~or unless (2) the shooting or discharging of the firearms takes place in a properly zoned and properly constructed indoor firing range; or (3) the shooting or discharging is performed by peace officers, military personnel and similar officers in the execution of their official duties or takes place in indoor or outdoor training exercises conducted by peace officers or military personnel.~~ In addition, peace officers are authorized to conduct indoor and outdoor law enforcement training with rifles, handguns, explosives, pyrotechnics and other devices

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capable of expelling a non-lethal projectile.

9-1.04 Discharge of Slingshots, Bow and Arrow, Air Guns Unlawful.

It shall be unlawful for any person to shoot or cause to be released in the City any slingshot, bow and arrow, or air gun, except: (1) for protection of person or property; (2) in properly zoned and properly constructed indoor ranges; (3) in temporary indoor/outdoor inflatable shooting ranges designed specifically for air guns with the shooting range under the direct supervision of an adult over the age of eighteen (18); (4) in competitions or for instructional purposes at schools and universities; or (5) in other regional, state or national competitive indoor supervised events.

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2. The provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable, and if any section, phrase or provision shall for any reason be declared invalid, such declaration of invalidity shall not affect the validity of the remainder of this Ordinance.

3. All prior Municipal Orders or Ordinances or parts of any Municipal Order or Ordinance in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

4. This Ordinance is adopted pursuant to KRS 83A.060 in that it was introduced on January 17, 2012, and given final reading on February 7, 2012, and said Ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon signature, recordation and publication in summary pursuant to KRS Chapter 424.

ADOPTED: February 7, 2012

APPROVED: Bruce Wilkerson
Mayor, Chairman of Board of Commissioners

ATTEST: Kate Shaheen
City Clerk

SPONSORED BY: Kevin D. DeFebbo, City Manager, 01/09/2012, 10:30 a.m.