2013 Juvenile Curfew Ordinance Overview

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Juvenile Division
November 9, 1991 – Curfew Ordinance enacted by City Council.


1998 1st mandated review of ordinance

2001 2nd mandated review

2004 3rd mandated review

2007 4th mandated review (amended)

2010 5th mandated review

2013 6th mandated review
Juvenile Curfew Ordinance Highlights

Age = 10 through 16

Offenses:

a) It shall be unlawful for any minor to knowingly remain, walk, run, stand, drive, or ride about, in or upon any public place in the city during curfew hours.

b) It shall be unlawful for the parent or guardian having legal custody of a minor to knowingly allow or permit the minor to be in violation of the curfew.

c) Violations of this section shall be a penalty not more than $500.00
Juvenile Curfew Ordinance Highlights

Defenses:

1) minor accompanied by parent or guardian;
2) minor accompanied by an adult designated by parent or guardian;
3) minor was on an errand made necessary by an emergency;
4) minor attending school, religious, or government-sponsored activity or traveling to or from same;
5) minor engaged in lawful employment activity or going directly to or from lawful employment;
Juvenile Curfew Ordinance Highlights

6) minor was on the sidewalk directly in front of the place he/she resides;

7) minor was on an errand directed by his/her parent or guardian;

8) minor was in a motor vehicle involved in intrastate or interstate transportation;

9) minor was engaged in, participating in, or traveling to or from any event, function or activity for which his/her rights are protected by the Texas or United States Constitution;

10) minor was married or had been married or had disabilities of minority removed in accordance with chapter 31 of the Texas Family Code;
Juvenile Curfew Ordinance Highlights

11) with respect to the hours between 9:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., the offense occurred during the school summer vacation break period of the school in which the minor is enrolled or on a holiday observed by the closure of classes in the school in which the minor is enrolled or that the minor has graduated from high school or received a high school equivalency certificate.

12) with respect to the hours between 11:00 p.m. and 12:00 a.m. (midnight), the day following the offense is a holiday observed by the closure of classes in the school in which the minor is enrolled; or

13) minor was attending or was traveling to or from a recreational activity supervised by adults and sponsored by the city, a civic organization, or another similar entity that takes responsibility for the minor.
Juvenile Curfew Ordinance Highlights

Curfew hours: 11:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m. Sunday-Thursday
Midnight – 6:00 a.m. Friday and Saturday
9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Monday-Friday

May cite parents who knowingly allow or permit violations

Penalty for violations up to $500.00
Juvenile Curfew Ordinance Highlights
2013 Review

2010  1802 Curfew Citations – 6971 Juveniles Processed

2011  1552 Curfew Citations – 6107 Juveniles Processed

2012  1221 Curfew Citations – 5568 Juveniles Processed
Juvenile Curfew Ordinance Highlights
2013 Review

Criminal Charges by Harris County Juvenile Probation

Crimes Against Persons 2010 – 2225
Crimes Against Persons 2011 – 2009
Crimes Against Persons 2012 – 1783

Property Crimes 2010 – 2980
Property Crimes 2011 – 2631
Property Crimes 2012 – 3892
## Juvenile Curfew Ordinance Highlights

### 2013 Review

#### Juvenile Suspect UCR Part I & II Crimes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Violent Crimes</th>
<th>Non-Violent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>1708</td>
<td>3626</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>1927</td>
<td>3610</td>
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Juvenile Curfew Ordinance Highlights
2013 Review

Juvenile Complainant (Victim) UCR Part I & II Crimes

Violent Crimes

- 2010 --- 2818
- 2011 --- 2697
- 2012 --- 2493

Non-Violent

- 2010 --- 1553
- 2011 --- 1527
- 2012 --- 1552
Juvenile Curfew Ordinance Highlights
2013 Review

Curfew citations peaked in 1996, with 14325 citations issued. 1221 curfew citations issued in 2012.

Not all Juvenile offenders are issued citations. Alternative solutions are often utilized.

Ordinance serves as a valuable tool to impact juvenile crime and victimization. Run-a-ways, thrown-a-way juveniles and criminal enterprises (prostitution, pornography, etc.)