

**Ordinance No. \_\_\_\_\_**

**TOWN OF CLINT  
NOISE ORDINANCE**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF CLINT DECLARING CERTAIN NOISES TO BE A NUISANCE; ENACTING NOISE REGULATIONS, PROVIDING FOR ENFORCEMENT INCLUDING CRIMINAL FINES NOT TO EXCEED \$500 AND CIVIL PENALTIES NOT TO EXCEED \$100 PER OFFENSE AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF.**

**WHEREAS,** upon conducting a public hearing and reviewing testimony regarding the growing proliferation of certain noises within the Town of Clint, the Mayor and City Council find that certain unreasonably loud noises cause material distress, discomfort, and injury to person of ordinary sensibilities in the immediate vicinity thereof, and that these noises substantially interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of private homes and businesses by persons of ordinary sensibilities;

**WHEREAS,** the City Council finds that excessive noise and excessive vibration degrade the environment to such a degree they are harmful and detrimental to the health, welfare, and safety of its inhabitants, and interferes with the comfortable enjoyment of life, property, and recreation and with the conduct and operation of business; and causes nuisances;

**WHEREAS,** the City Council finds that no person has any right to create excessive noise or excessive vibration;

**WHEREAS,** effective control and elimination of excessive noise and excessive vibration is essential to the furtherance of the health and welfare of the Town of Clint's inhabitants and to the conduct of the normal pursuits of life, recreation, and commerce;

**WHEREAS,** the City Council seeks to protect the public welfare and safety of its residents, and to preserve property values within the Town of Clint through the reasonable regulation of certain noises;

**WHEREAS,** the City Council has the general statutory authority, pursuant to Texas Local Government Code Chapter 54, to adopt an ordinance, rule or police regulation that is for the good government, peace, and order of the Town of Clint;

**WHEREAS,** the City Council has the specific statutory authority, pursuant to Texas Local Government Code Chapter 217, to prevent and punish a person engaging in a breach of the peace and to suppress and prevent any noise or disturbance in any public or private place in the Town of Clint; and

**WHEREAS,** the City Council finds it to be in the best interest of the public safety, health, and general welfare to regulate certain noises within the Town of Clint; and

**NOW THEREFORE,** be it ordained by the City Council of the Town of Clint, Texas:

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **A. POPULAR NAME**

This Ordinance shall commonly be referred to as the "Noise Ordinance."

### **B. FINDINGS OF FACT**

All the above premises are hereby found to be true and correct legislative and factual findings of the City Council of the Town of Clint and are hereby approved and incorporated into the body of this Ordinance as if copied in their entirety.

### **C. PURPOSE**

It is the intent and purpose of this Ordinance to limit, control and eliminate excessive noise and excessive vibration from whatever source.

### **D. SCOPE**

This Ordinance provides regulatory standards throughout the Town of Clint's incorporated municipal boundaries (i.e., city limits) but not the extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ).

### **E. DEFINITIONS**

Words and phrases used in this Ordinance shall have the meanings set forth in this section. Words and phrases which are not defined in this Ordinance but are defined in other ordinances of the Town of Clint shall be given the meanings set forth in those ordinances. Other words and phrases shall be given their common, ordinary meaning unless the context clearly requires otherwise. Headings and captions are for reference purposes only and shall not be used in the interpretation of this Ordinance.

- (1) **Person:** means an individual, corporation, organization, government agency, business, trust, partnership, association, or any other legal entity.
- (2) **City:** means the Town of Clint, an incorporated municipality located in El Paso County, Texas. The term may also refer to employees, agents or other designee of the City Council of the Town of Clint.

## 2. GENERAL PROHIBITIONS

No person within the Town of Clint shall create, generate, emanate, make, continue or cause to be made or continued, any loud, unnecessary, or unusual noise that annoys, disturbs, distresses, injures or endangers the comfort, repose, convenience, health, peace, or safety of any person of reasonable nervous sensibilities within the City.

## 3. SPECIFIC PROHIBITIONS

The following acts are declared to be loud, disturbing, and unnecessary noises in violation of this section:

### A. Vehicles:

- (1) **Horns, Signaling Devices:** The sounding of any horn or signaling device on any automobile, motorcycle, or other vehicle on any street or public place in the City, except as a danger warning; the creation by means of any such signaling device of any unreasonably loud or harsh sound; the sounding of any such device for an unnecessary and unreasonable period of time; the use of any horn, whistle, or other device operated by engine exhaust. This section does not apply to authorized emergency vehicles, which may use warning sounds.
- (2) **Engine Exhausts:** The discharge into the open air within the Town of Clint of the exhaust of any steam engine, gasoline engine, stationary internal combustion engine, or other kind or type of engine, motorboat, or motor vehicle, except through a muffler or other device which will effectively prevent loud or explosive noises therefrom.
- (3) **Defect in Vehicle or Load:** The use within the Town of Clint of any wagon, cart, automobile, truck, motorcycle, or other vehicle, so out of repair or loaded in such manner or with material of such nature as to create loud and unnecessary grating, grinding, rattling or other noises.
- (4) **Loading, Unloading, or Opening Boxes:** The creation within the Town of Clint of loud and excessive noise in connection with loading or unloading of any vehicle, or the opening or destruction of bales, boxes, crates, containers, or the like, without exercising reasonable care to limit such noise and to confine the same.

- B. Construction, Repairing of Buildings:** The creation (including excavating), demolition, alteration or repair of any building within the City, other than between the hours of seven o'clock (7:00) a.m. and ten o'clock (10:00) p.m. on weekdays, except in case of urgent necessity in the interest of public health and safety, and then only with a permit from the, Mayor or Mayor's designee which may be granted for a period up to three (3) days while

the emergency continues and may be renewed for periods of three days while the emergency continues.

- C. **Drums:** The use within the Town of Clint of any drum, percussion instrument or other instrument or device for the purpose of attracting attention, by the creation of noise, to any place of business or entertainment or place of public assembly.
- D. **Pile Drivers, Hammers:** The operation within the Town of Clint City between the hours of ten o'clock (10:00) p.m. and seven o'clock (7:00) a.m. of any pile driver, power shovel, pneumatic hammer, derrick or noise, or other appliance, the use of which is attended by loud or unusual noises.
- E. **Blowers:** The operation within the Town of Clint of any noise-creating blower or power fan, the operation of which causes loud disturbing noise, between the hours of ten o'clock (10:00) p.m. and seven o'clock (7:00) a.m. unless such blower or fan is muffled to deaden such noise.
- F. **Loudspeakers, Amplifiers, Paging Systems:**
  - (1) **Sound on Streets:** The playing, using, operating, or permitting to be played, used or operated any radio receiving set, musical instrument, phonograph, loudspeaker, sound amplifier, or other machine or device for the producing or reproducing of music or sound which is cast upon the public streets of the City.
  - (2) **Restrictions Upon Hours of Permitted Use:** No machine or device specified in paragraph 1 above shall be operated between the hours of ten o'clock (10:00) p.m. and seven o'clock (7:00) a.m. from Sunday evening through Friday morning, and between eleven o'clock (11:00) p.m. and seven o'clock (7:00) a.m. from Friday evening through Sunday morning and on those evenings preceding national holidays and legal school holidays enumerated in statutes in such a manner as to be plainly audible at a distance of fifty feet (50') from the location of such set, instrument or device.
- G. **Radios, Phonographs:** The playing, using, operating or permitting to be played, used or operated, any radio receiving set, musical instrument, phonograph, tape player, television receiving set or other machine or device for the producing or reproducing of music or sound between the hours of ten o'clock (10:00) p.m. and seven o'clock (7:00) a.m. from Sunday evening through Friday morning, and between eleven o'clock (11:00) p.m. and seven o'clock (7:00) a.m. from Friday evening through Sunday morning and on those evenings preceding holidays as established by Town of Clint ordinance, loud enough to be clearly heard fifty feet (50') from any the boundary of the property on which the sound is produced or reproduced.
- H. **Schools, Courts, Churches and Hospitals:** The creation within the Town of Clint of any excessive noise in the vicinity of any school, institution of learning, court,

government administration facility, hospital or church, while the same is in use, which unreasonably interferes with the workings of such institution, or which disturbs or unduly annoys occupants of the institution, provided conspicuous signs are displayed at or near such buildings indicating that the same is a school, court, hospital government administration facility, or church.

- I. Yelling, Shouting:** Yelling, shouting, hooting, whistling, or singing on the public streets of the City, between the hours of ten o'clock (10:00) p.m. and seven o'clock (7:00) a.m. or at any time or place to annoy or disturb the peace, quiet, comfort or repose of persons in any office, residential dwelling, hotel, or other type of residence or of persons in the vicinity.
- J. Animals, Birds:** The keeping of any animal or bird shut up or tied up in any yard, enclosure, stable, or other place that, by frequently repeated barking, howling, crying, or singing, causes frequent or long continued noise.

#### **4. NONAPPLICABILITY**

##### **A. EXCEPTIONS**

The provisions of this Ordinance shall not apply to:

- (1) Sound generated by an emergency vehicle or for the purposes of alerting persons to an emergency;
- (2) Sound produced by a duly authorized officers, agents, or employees of a government agency in the performance of a governmental function;
- (3) Sound generated at or by a parade route during a lawful and permitted parade, a scheduled civic or sporting event, an outdoor festival or celebration, or a musical or theatrical production co-sponsored or authorized by the City.

##### **B. VARIANCES**

The City Council may grant variances from the technical application of this Ordinance upon receipt of a twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) administrative fee and upon finding that:

- (1) The activity, operation, noise, or vibration will be of temporary duration and cannot reasonably be done in a manner that will comply with this Ordinance;
- (2) No reasonable alternative is available to the applicant;
- (3) The variance is not contrary to the public interest;
- (4) Due to special circumstances, a literal enforcement of the Ordinance would result in undue hardship (which does not necessarily include financial hardship); and
- (5) The spirit of the Ordinance will be observed, and substantial justice done.

## **5. NUISANCE**

Any unreasonably loud, disturbing noise which causes material distress, discomfort, or injury to persons of ordinary sensibilities in the immediate vicinity thereof is hereby declared to be a nuisance and is hereby prohibited. Any noise of such character, intensity and continued duration which substantially interferes with the comfortable enjoyment of private homes, government administration facilities, or businesses by persons of ordinary sensibilities, is hereby declared to be a nuisance and is hereby prohibited.

## **6. RELATION TO OTHER ORDINANCES**

This Ordinance is enacted in addition to other regulations adopted by the City. When possible, ordinances addressing the same topic shall be read together in harmony. When Town of Clint regulations conflict, the most stringent shall govern unless a variance is granted.

## **7. REPEALER**

This Ordinance, upon its enactment and effective date, shall repeal all conflicting provisions that may be contained in other Town of Clint ordinances or regulations.

## **8. SEVERABILITY**

It is hereby declared to be the intention of the City Council that the phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs and sections of this Ordinance be severable, and if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this Ordinance shall be declared unconstitutional by the valid judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs or sections of this Ordinance, and the remainder of this Ordinance shall be enforced as written.

## **9. ENFORCEMENT**

### **A. NUISANCE**

The Town of Clint shall have the power to administer and enforce the provisions of this Ordinance as may be required by governing law. Any person violating any provision of this Ordinance is subject to suit for injunctive relief as well as prosecution for criminal violations. Any violation of this Ordinance is hereby declared to be a nuisance.

### **B. CRIMINAL PROSECUTION**

Any person violating any provision of this Ordinance shall, upon conviction, be fined a sum not exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per offense. Each day that a provision of this Ordinance is violated shall constitute a separate offense. An offense under this Ordinance is a misdemeanor.

### **C. CIVIL REMEDIES**

Nothing in this Ordinance shall be construed as a waiver of the City's right to bring a civil action to enforce the provisions of this Ordinance and to seek remedies as allowed by law, including, but not limited to the following:

1. injunctive relief to prevent specific conduct that violates the Ordinance or to require specific conduct that is necessary for compliance with the Ordinance; and
2. a civil penalty up to one hundred dollars (\$100.00) a day when it is shown that the defendant was notified of the provisions of the Ordinance and after receiving notice committed acts in violation of the Ordinance or failed to take action necessary for compliance with the Ordinance; and
3. other available relief.

### **10. PROPER NOTICE AND MEETING**

It is hereby officially found and determined that the meeting at which this Ordinance was passed was open to the public as required and that public notice of the time, place, and purpose of said meeting was given as required by the Texas Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code. Notice was also provided as required by Chapter 52 of the Texas Local Government Code.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** this, the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_, 2004, by a \_\_\_\_ (ayes) to \_\_\_\_ (nays) to \_\_\_\_ (abstentions) vote of the City Council of the Town of Clint, Texas.

### **TOWN OF CLINT**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dora Aguirre, Mayor

### **ATTEST:**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Susie Rodriguez, Town Secretary

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

---

**Sylvia Borunda Firth**  
**Assistant City Attorney**