

Town of Clinton Curfew Ordinance

Purpose: This Ordinance is required to control and manage the activities and behaviors of youth in the Main Street area of the Town of Clinton. The in town business district has particularly been subjected to the unruly and disorderly behaviors of youthful persons who loiter or congregate on or near the public ways and sidewalks, unsupervised by a parent or guardian. During business hours, such behaviors have significantly interfered with and adversely impacted the in town business and their customers; ad these businesses have sustained continuing vandalism and other property damage during the nighttime hours. This Ordinance is enacted, pursuant to Title 30-A M.R.S.A. §3001 and §3009(1)(A) to regulate the use of public ways and sidewalks within the Town of Clinton.

1. Curfew-Civil Violation:

It shall be unlawful for any child under the age of eighteen (18) years to stand, walk, wander, stroll or set in a motor vehicle about the streets of the Town of Clinton between the hours of 10:00 PM – 5:00 AM, unless accompanied by a parent, guardian or custodian, or if the minor is on an emergency errand, or specific business or activity directed or permitted by the parent, guardian or custodian, or when the presence of the minor is in connection with or required by some legitimate employment or occupation.

2. Parents Responsibility:

It shall be unlawful for the parent, guardian, or custodian of any minor to suffer or permit, or by negligent or inefficient control allow such minor to be in a public place with the hours set forth in section #1 of this Ordinance. However, this provision does not apply, if a minor is accompanied by a parent, guardian, or custodian or if the minor is on an emergency errand or specific business or activity directed or permitted by the parent, guardian or custodian, or if the parent, guardian or custodian has reported the minor to police as a missing person.

3. Enforcement:

Any law enforcement officer hereby authorized to charge, by issuance of the Uniform Summons and Complaint pursuant to Title 17-A M.R.S.A. §17. It is encouraged but not required that a written warning be issued for a first offense., It is required that if a summons or warning is issued the parent, guardian, or custodian of the minor be notified within 48 hours of the violation.

4. Penalties:

Violation of this Ordinance is punishable by a fine of \$25.00 for first offense, \$50.00 for second offense and \$100 for third and all subsequent offenses. This applies to violations of either Section #1 or Section #2.