

ORIGINAL
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ORDINANCE NO.: 2019-011

Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 14, Offenses and Miscellaneous Provision, Article IV, Offenses Against the Public Peace and Order to add Sec. 14-107 Careless operation of drone

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council this 19th day of February, 2019, that the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 14, Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions, Article IV, Offenses Against the Public Peace and Order, is amended to add Sec. 14-107 Careless operation of drone and read as follows:

Sec. 14-107. Careless operation of drone.

- (a) For purposes of this section, the term "drone" shall be defined as an unmanned aircraft system without a human pilot onboard but instead is controlled from an operator on the ground.
- (b) It shall be unlawful for any person within the city limits to operate a drone in any one or more of the following ways:
 - (1) In violation of any Federal or State statute or regulation which applies to drones, including provisions of mandatory registration;
 - (2) In any manner which causes personal injury, however slight, to another person or persons;
 - (3) In any manner which causes damage, however slight, to the property of any person or entity;
 - (4) At any time while under the influence of alcohol or drugs;
 - (5) In any manner in furtherance of the commission of any crime;
 - (6) Over any gathering or group of people which exceeds 50 persons without lawful permission by the event organizer and any applicable Federal or State agencies which have jurisdiction;
 - (7) In any manner which impedes the normal and safe flow of vehicular traffic on any public roadway, street or highway; or,
 - (8) In any manner which interferes with the safe and efficient operations of any first responder while engaged in a call for service.
- (c) A violation of this section is within the jurisdiction of the Columbia Municipal Court and punishable as provided in Section 1-5.
- (d) Use of a drone in any manner which violates this section is hereby declared to be a public nuisance.

Requested by:

City Manager _____



Mayor

Approved by:



City Manager

Approved as to form:



City Attorney

ATTEST:


City Clerk

Introduced: 2/5/2019
Final Reading: 2/19/2019