

**ORDINANCE
AMENDMENT
NO. OA - 2025 - 06**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF
THE CITY OF DALLAS, GEORGIA, TO REPEAL AND
REPLACE SECTION 24-7 (“DISORDERLY CONDUCT”); TO
PROVIDE FOR MODERNIZED DEFINITIONS AND
PROHIBITIONS; TO PROVIDE PENALTIES; TO PROVIDE AN
EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER LAWFUL PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, The Charter of the City of Dallas, Georgia does allow the Mayor and Council to adopt Ordinances to provide for the health welfare and safety of the Citizens of Dallas and those people within the City of Dallas, Georgia; AND

WHEREAS, The Constitution of the State of Georgia and the Charter of the City of Dallas, Georgia does allow the Mayor and the City Council, by ordinance, to exercise their police powers by defining violations and providing for penalties for violation of same; AND

WHEREAS, The Mayor and the City Council of Dallas, Georgia considered the proposed changes to the general offense of 24-7 Disorderly Conduct; AND

WHEREAS, The Mayor and the City Council of Dallas, Georgia have determined that this amendment is in the best interest of the City’s residents and for their safety, health and welfare and the public good; AND

THEREFORE, be it ordained by the Mayor and the City Council of Dallas, Georgia:

**SECTION I. REPEAL OF EXISTING ORDINANCE - Chapter 24 -
OFFENSES AND MUNICIPAL COURT, ARTICLE I. – IN GENERAL, Sec.
24-7. – Disorderly Conduct**

The existing Section 24-7 of Chapter 24, Article I of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Dallas, Georgia, entitled “Disorderly Conduct,” and all amendments thereto, are hereby repealed in their entirety.

SECTION II. ADOPTION OF NEW SECTION 24-7

Section 24-7 of the Code of Ordinances is hereby replaced with the following:

Sec. 24-7. Disorderly Conduct.

(a) Purpose. This section is enacted to preserve the peace, safety, and good order of the City of Dallas by prohibiting conduct that unreasonably disturbs or endangers the public or obstructs lawful governmental functions.

(b) Prohibited Acts. It shall be unlawful for any person within the city to engage in disorderly conduct, including but not limited to the following:

1. *Fraudulent or Deceptive Schemes.* To assemble or conspire to engage in any fraudulent scheme, device, or trick intended to obtain anything of value from any person or place, or to aid or abet such conduct.
2. *Forcible or Offensive Physical Contact.* To accost or attempt to force physical contact upon another without consent, or to engage in conduct intended to harass or intimidate another.
3. *Violent or Threatening Behavior.* To engage in fighting, physically threatening conduct, or violent or tumultuous behavior that disturbs the peace or interferes with another person's lawful occupation or activity.
4. *Unreasonably Loud or Disturbing Noise.* To create unreasonably loud, disturbing, or unnecessary noise which annoys, disturbs, injures, or endangers the comfort, repose, health, peace, or safety of others.
5. *Public Urination or Defecation.* To urinate or defecate on streets, sidewalks, or public places, or in view of the public, except in appropriate sanitary facilities.
6. *Public Indecency.* To appear in any public place not properly clothed so that the genitals, buttocks, or, in the case of females, the breast below the top of the areola, are not completely covered by an opaque garment, consistent with O.C.G.A. § 16-6-8.
7. *Property Damage or Vandalism.* To intentionally or recklessly damage, deface, disturb, or destroy the property of another, including but not limited to holiday decorations, or to throw or hurl objects at athletic contests, exhibitions, or other public events that may cause injury or damage.
8. *Careless Fire Creation.* To carelessly cause or risk causing a fire by smoking or the improper use of lighted materials.
9. *Obstruction of Public Ways or Events.* To congregate, stand, or loiter upon sidewalks, streets, alleys, or other public ways so as to impede the free flow of vehicular or pedestrian traffic or to invade the playing area of any athletic contest or exhibition, and to fail or refuse to disperse or clear such area when lawfully ordered to do so.
10. *Failure to Obey Lawful Order.* To knowingly fail or refuse to comply with any lawful order, signal, or direction of a law enforcement officer or other city official acting within the scope of their lawful authority.
11. *Unreasonable Resistance or Interference.* To unreasonably resist, obstruct, hinder, or delay any law enforcement officer or other city official in the lawful discharge of their duties.
12. *Disorderly or Offensive Conduct.* To act in an indecent, boisterous, or disorderly manner in a public place, or to use abusive or obscene language or gestures that constitute "fighting words" or a true threat likely to provoke an immediate breach of the peace.
13. *Firearm Discharge.* To discharge a firearm within the city limits without lawful authority or legal justification.

(c) Penalty. Any person violating this section shall, upon conviction in the municipal court, be punished by a fine not to exceed \$1,000.00, by imprisonment not to exceed six (6) months, or by both, in the discretion of the court. Each act of violation and each day on which a violation continues shall constitute a separate offense.

SECTION III. SEVERABILITY CLAUSE

If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance or any part thereof is for any reason found to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision will not affect the validity of the remainder of this ordinance or any part thereof.

SECTION IV. CODIFICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE

The City Clerk is directed to cause this ordinance to be codified in the Code of Ordinances of the City of Dallas, Georgia. This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

First read _____

SO SHALL IT BE ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DALLAS, GEORGIA, THIS THE _____ DAY OF _____, 2025.

L. James Kelly, Mayor

James R. Henson, Councilmember

Cooper Cochran, Councilmember

Nancy R. Arnold, Councilmember

Christopher B. Carter, Councilmember

Leah Alls, Councilmember

Candace Callaway, Councilmember

ATTEST:

Tina Clark, City Clerk
City of Dallas, Georgia

Date