

ORDINANCE NO. 24-1288

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKE FOREST PARK, WASHINGTON, AMENDING CHAPTER 9.06 OF THE LAKE FOREST PARK MUNICIPAL CODE, FIREARMS AND DANGEROUS WEAPONS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND INCLUDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the state of Washington preempts the entire field of firearm regulations within the boundaries of the state, and cities may enact only those ordinances relating to firearms that are authorized by state law, consistent with Chapter 9.41 RCW, and have the same penalties as provided for by state law; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 9.06 of the Lake Forest Park Municipal Code (LFPMC), Firearms and Dangerous Weapons, provides restrictions and penalties regarding the use and possession of firearms and weapons within the City of Lake Forest Park consistent with state statutes; and

WHEREAS, RCW 9.41.305 authorizes cities to prohibit persons from knowingly open carry a firearm while knowingly being in a municipal building used in connection meetings and hearings of a city's governing body, commissions, and boards; and

WHEREAS, Lake Forest Park City Hall, located at 17425 Ballinger Way Northeast in Lake Forest Park, Washington, is used in connection with meetings of the Lake Forest Park City Council and is the location of public meeting and hearing held by the City Council, and City commissions and boards; and

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKE FOREST PARK, WASHINGTON, DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. AMENDMENT. The City Council of the City of Lake Forest Park hereby amends Chapter 9.06, Firearms and Dangerous Weapons, in the Lake Forest Park Municipal Code as follows:

9.06.010 Discharge of firearms prohibited.

The discharge of a firearm in the city of Lake Forest Park when there is a reasonable likelihood of injury to humans, domestic animals, or property is unlawful; provided, that this prohibition does not apply to law enforcement officers engaged in the performance of duty. Any violation of this section shall be a gross misdemeanor.

9.06.20 Weapons prohibited in the municipal court room.

A. Possession of the following in the municipal courtroom is unlawful:

1. Firearms, to include rifles, shotguns, pistols, or any other firearm, regardless of whether the person in possession is licensed to carry the firearm.
2. Knives, swords, daggers or other cutting or stabbing instruments with a blade length of three inches or more, or any razor with an unguarded blade.
3. Any instrument or weapon commonly recognized as a martial arts weapon, any club, blackjack, metal pipe, explosive device, injurious gas, or any other instrument capable of producing bodily harm.

B. The foregoing shall not apply to any military, law enforcement or security personnel while performing official duties.

C. All persons entering the municipal courtroom are subject to a search of their persons or belongings.

D. The judge of the municipal court shall cause warning signs to be posted in the municipal courtroom in substantially the following form:

The possession of any firearm or dangerous weapon, including knives with blades exceeding three inches or longer in the Municipal Courtroom is unlawful. All persons entering the Municipal Courtroom are subject to a search of their persons or belongings.

City of Lake Forest Park Ordinance No. 794 (1999)

E. Any violation of this section shall be a gross misdemeanor.

9.06.030 Penalty Open carry of firearms or other weapons prohibited.

~~A violation of any provision of this chapter shall be a gross misdemeanor.~~

A. It is unlawful for any person to knowingly open carry a firearm or other weapon, as defined in RCW 9.41.300(1)(b), and as such statute may be hereafter amended, in the Lake Forest Park City Hall located at 17425 Ballinger Way Northeast in Lake Forest Park, Washington.

B. Provided, however, that duly authorized federal, state, or local law enforcement officers or personnel are exempt from this section when carrying a firearm or other weapon in conformance with their employing agency's policy. Members of the armed forces of the United States or the state of Washington are also exempt from this section when carrying a firearm or other weapon in the discharge of official duty or traveling to or from official duty.

C. A person violating this section is guilty of a misdemeanor. Second and subsequent violations of this section are a gross misdemeanor.

D. Nothing in this section applies to the lawful concealed carry of a firearm by a person who has a valid concealed pistol license.

E. The city shall post signs providing notice of the restrictions on possession of firearms and other weapons under this section.

Section 2. SEVERABILITY. Should any portion of this ordinance, or its application to any person or circumstance, be declared unconstitutional or otherwise invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance or its application to other persons or circumstances.

Section 3. CORRECTIONS. The City Clerk is authorized to make necessary corrections to this ordinance including, but not limited to, the correction of scrivener's/clerical errors, references, ordinance numbering, section/subsection numbers and any references thereto.

Section 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This ordinance shall take effect five (5) days after passage and publication.

APPROVED BY A MAJORITY the Lake Forest Park City Council this 11th day of January, 2024

APPROVED:



Tom French
Mayor

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:



Matthew McLean
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Kim Adams Pratt
City Attorney

Introduced: January 11, 2024
Adopted: January 11, 2024
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