

Nuisance Party Ordinance

Background

- Substantial expenditure of police resources
- Purpose is to deter criminal behavior associated with nuisance parties
- Ordinance passed on May 19th, 2015
- Became law on June 18th, 2015

Nuisance Party

- Gathering of five (5) or more persons
- On private property (including a business)
- Which causes a disturbance
- May include excessive noise or traffic, blocking streets, drinking in public, minors drinking fighting or littering.

Modifications to Ordinance

- A violation is civil and not criminal
- Attendees only cited if officer can clearly articulate such individual(s) are contributing to the "Nuisance"
- Prohibits parties within **120** day period (modified from **90** day period)
- Can hold property owners responsible if "Nuisance Parties" continue.

Citizen Concerns

- Unfairly targets student demographics.
- Wants definition changed from five people to 15 people.
- Language so offenders could not get charged both civilly and criminally from the same incident.
- Vague language within the statute.
- Change from 120 days back to 90 days.
- Wanted safeguards to make sure the ordinance is not abused.

Concerns Continued

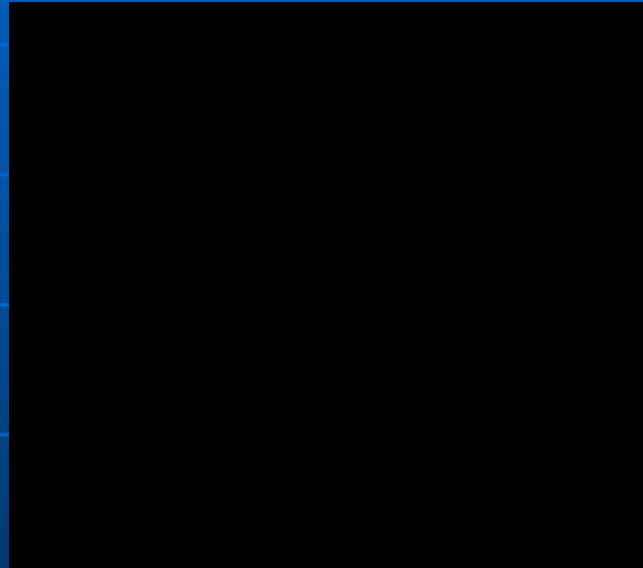
- Just being present at a gathering could subject a person to a fine
- Vague Language, allows police to enforce the ordinance for reasons not clearly listed in the ordinance
- The autonomy of the law will lead to selective enforcement and harassment in certain locations and with certain groups
- Infringes on civil liberties of citizens right to peacefully assemble
- Police resources should go to other calls that are higher priority
- The ordinance is overreaching and unnecessary, this in turn breeds public resentment of the police.
- Marginalizes people based on sociodemographic status

Concerns Continued

- Attacks the assembly of groups of five or more.
- The civil fine is excessive.
- Does not provide an adequate forum for the accused to face the accuser (no due process).
- Makes people guilty by association
- Definition of party should be increased from 5 to 15.
- The 120 day period should be reduced to 90 days.
- There could be some refinement of definitions in the ordinance.
- People are unhappy with the ordinance

Chiefs Comments

Party Footage



Party Nuisance Audit findings

- Between July 28th, 2015 to February 28th, 2016
- Police Department has issued 120 Nuisance party response notices.
- Out of the 120 responses the Police Department has issued 95 civil citations and 22 associated criminal citations.
- To date there have been no citations issued to property owners.

Thank You