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DEPARTMENT OF  
POLICE

CITY OF SACRAMENTO  
CALIFORNIA

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SACRAMENTO, CA  
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JOHN P. KEARNS  
CHIEF OF POLICE

November 7, 1989

Law and Legislation Committee  
Sacramento, California

Honorable Members in Session

SUBJECT: Loud Party Ordinance

SUMMARY

The Police Department constantly receives complaints from citizens of loud parties and gatherings. These events frequently call for return responses by officers. Repeated calls to one location are a serious drain on Police resources. This is a request for an ordinance allowing the city to bill responsible individuals for the costs associated with repeated calls to such events.

BACKGROUND

The Police Department frequently responds to complaints of loud parties and gatherings. All too often it is necessary to make repeated responses to these disturbances. The return calls leave officers unavailable to perform more important duties having a greater community priority. These calls are a serious drain on manpower and leave other areas of the city exposed with no available officers.

The requested ordinance would deem return calls as security assignments over and above police services normally provided. Officers first dispatched would provide a written warning to responsible parties. If subsequent responses are required, the responsible person would be issued a notice that he will be billed by the city for the costs of these additional services. Fees up to \$500.00 could be assessed.

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FINANCIAL DATA

The cost of enforcing this ordinance would be minimal. There would be a slight income from fines collected from violators.

POLICY MATTERS

Enactment of this ordinance would cause no changes in present policies.

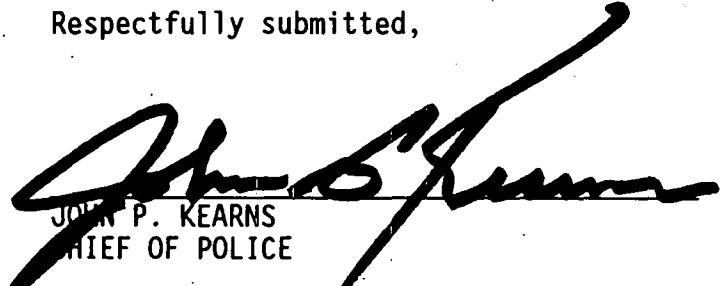
MBE/WBE

No input.

RECOMMENDATION

The enactment of this ordinance is essential to the Police Department's efforts to reduce the drain on resources caused by repeated responses to loud parties and gatherings.

Respectfully submitted,

  
JOHN P. KEARNS  
CHIEF OF POLICE

Contact person to answer questions:

David Fontaine, Lieutenant  
Office of Operations  
449-8644

JPK:lt

Ref. No: 11-18

# ORDINANCE NO.

ADOPTED BY THE SACRAMENTO CITY COUNCIL

ON DATE OF \_\_\_\_\_

**AN ORDINANCE ADDING SECTION 66.209 OF THE SACRAMENTO CITY CODE AUTHORIZING THE POLICE DEPARTMENT TO RECOVER COSTS FOR MULTIPLE RESPONSES TO LOUD PARTIES**

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO:**

**SECTION 1.**

Section 66.209 of the Sacramento City Code is added as follows:

**Sec. 66.209. Recovery of Police Officer Cost for Multiple Responses to Large Parties or Gatherings.**

- (a) When a large party or gathering occurs at a premises and a police officer at the scene determines that there is a threat to the public peace, health, safety or general welfare, the person(s) in charge of the premises and the person(s) responsible for the event, or if any of those persons are minors, then the parent(s) or guardian(s) of those minors, will be held jointly and severally liable for the cost of providing police personnel on special security assignment over and above the services normally provided by the department to respond to such events. The police personnel utilized during a second response after the first warning to control the threat to the public peace, health, safety or general welfare shall be deemed to be on special security assignment over and above the services normally provided. The costs of such special security assignment may include minor damages to City property and/or injuries to City personnel.
- (b) The fee charged will not be in excess of Five Hundred and no/100 Dollars (\$500.00) for a single incident. No fee shall be assessed unless a written warning has been issued by police personnel during the first response.

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DATE ADOPTED: \_\_\_\_\_

The City reserves its legal options to elect any other legal remedies when said costs or damage exceed Five Hundred and no/100 Dollars (\$500.00).

- (c) The expense of services provided by special security assignment officers shall be charged against the person liable for the expenses under this section. The charge constitutes a debt of that person to the City of Sacramento, and is collectible by said City in the same manner as in the case of an obligation under a contract, express or implied.

DATE PASSED FOR PUBLICATION:

DATE ENACTED:

DATE EFFECTIVE:

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY CLERK

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ORDINANCE NO.: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE ADOPTED: \_\_\_\_\_