

COUNTY OF HORRY )  
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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )

ORDINANCE -17

**AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS AND OTHER PROJECTILE WEAPONRY WITHIN THE MORE DENSELY POPULATED AREAS OF UNINCORPORATED HORRY COUNTY.**

**WHEREAS**, in recognition of the increased density of population in certain areas of the County, and the dangers inherent in the use of firearms and other projectile weaponry, the noise levels associated with the discharge of firearms, and in the interest of the health, welfare, and safety of the citizens, residents, and visitors of Horry County, and the peaceable enjoyment of one's property, it shall be the policy of the County to discourage the discharge of firearms and other projectile weaponry within the more densely populated areas of unincorporated Horry County.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, by the power and authority granted to the Horry County Council by the Constitution of the State of South Carolina and the powers granted to the County by the General Assembly of the State, the following hereby is ordained and enacted:

**1. DISCHARGING FIREARMS.**

(a) *Definition.* "Major residential development" shall mean a development of eleven (11) or more lots or units for residential purposes, located within the unincorporated area of the County.

(b) *Within the boundaries of a major residential development.* It shall be unlawful for any person in the unincorporated area of the County to discharge any rifle, gun, pistol, revolver, bow, or other similar instrument from or by means of which any bullet, shot, or other missile of any kind may be projected from within or into any major residential development.

(c) It shall be unlawful for any person in the unincorporated area of the county to intentionally, negligently, or carelessly discharge any rifle, gun, pistol, revolver, bow, or other similar instrument from or by means of which any bullet, shot, or other missile of any kind may be projected in a manner as to be likely to cause bodily injury or death to persons or domestic animals or damage to or destruction of property, or to enter the property of another without prior permission so to do.

(d) This section shall not apply to:

- conduct specifically provided for under Section 23-31-510 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina (1976, as amended),
- a law enforcement officer or member of the armed forces of the United States in the performance of his or her lawful duty,
- in the lawful defense of persons or property,
- as part of a sporting event or theatrical, ceremonial, or military or similar event using blank ammunition and duly permitted by the County as a special event, or
- a County sponsored or otherwise permitted special event.

(e) Any person convicted of violating this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished in accordance with the provisions of Section 1-8 of this Code.

**2. SEVERABILITY.** If any Section, Subsection, or part of this Ordinance shall be deemed or found to conflict with a provision of South Carolina law, or other pre-emptive legal principle, then

that Section, Sub-section or part of this Ordinance shall be deemed ineffective, but the remaining parts of this Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

**3. CONFLICT WITH PRECEDING ORDINANCES.** If a Section, Sub-section or provision of this Ordinance shall conflict with the provisions of a Section, Sub-section or part of a preceding Ordinance of Horry County, unless expressly so providing, then the preceding Section, Sub-section or part shall be deemed repealed and no longer in effect.

**4. EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Ordinance shall become effective on Third Reading.

**AND IT IS SO ORDAINED, ENACTED AND ORDERED.**

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2017.

**HORRY COUNTY COUNCIL**

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Mark Lazarus, Chairman

Harold G. Worley, District 1  
Bill Howard, District 2  
Dennis DiSabato, District 3  
Gary Loftus, District 4  
Tyler Servant, District 5  
Cam Crawford, District 6

Harold Phillips, District 7  
Johnny Vaught, District 8  
W. Paul Prince, District 9  
Danny Hardee, District 10  
Al Allen, District 11

Attest:

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Patricia S. Hartley, Clerk to Council

Date of First Reading:

Date of Second Reading:

Date of Third Reading: