

ORDINANCE NO. _____

An ordinance amending Section 55.07 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code to regulate the possession of laser pointers and laser-style devices at public protests, demonstrations, rallies, picket lines, and public assemblies.

The City finds and declares the following:

WHEREAS, it is imperative that individuals engaging in peaceful expressive public activity, and law enforcement personnel dedicated to protecting such activity, be allowed to do so without suffering injury;

WHEREAS, numerous public protests, demonstrations, and rallies conducted throughout the nation, as well as cities throughout California, have erupted in violence between demonstrators and counter-demonstrators, and violence against law enforcement personnel; and

WHEREAS, individuals, acting alone or in concert with others, have used improvised weapons, such as laser pointers and laser-style devices, to inflict injury on members of the public attending these events and law enforcement personnel responding to these events, thereby posing a real and serious threat to life and safety.

NOW, THEREFORE,

**THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. A new Subdivision 13 is added to Subsection (a) of Section 55.07 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code to read as follows:

13. Laser pointers or laser-style devices emitting any color beam, milliwatt output level, intensity class level or any visibility level, including infrared, or nonvisible.

Sec. 2. **SEVERABILITY.** If any subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance. The City Council hereby declares that it would have adopted this ordinance, and each and every subsection, sentence, clause and phrase thereof not declared invalid or unconstitutional, without regard to whether any portion of the ordinance would be subsequently declared invalid or unconstitutional.

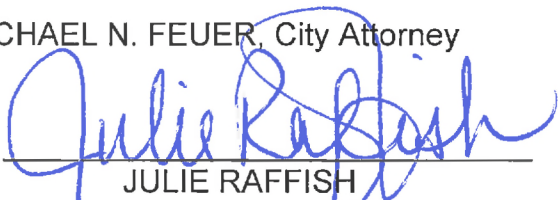
Sec. 3. **URGENCY CLAUSE.** The City Council finds and declares that this ordinance is required for the immediate protection of the public peace, health, and safety for the following reason: Based on the findings set forth above, and that such events are likely to occur within the City without notice and in an unpermitted fashion, the Council adopts this ordinance as an urgency ordinance that is required for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety. This ordinance shall become effective upon publication.

Sec. 4. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage of this ordinance and have it published in accordance with Council policy, either in a daily newspaper circulated in the City of Los Angeles or by posting for ten days in three public places in the City of Los Angeles: one copy on the bulletin board located at the Main Street entrance to the Los Angeles City Hall; one copy on the bulletin board located at the Main Street entrance to the Los Angeles City Hall East; and one copy on the bulletin board located at the Temple Street entrance to the Los Angeles County Hall of Records.

Approved as to Form and Legality

MICHAEL N. FEUER, City Attorney

By



JULIE RAFFISH
Assistant City Attorney

Date

10/23/2020

File No. 20-1362

M:\PGEN\PGEN\JULIE RAFFISH\Ordinances\Draft Ordinance Amending LAMC 55.07 Re Laser Pointers and Devices (final).docx

The Clerk of the City of Los Angeles hereby certifies that the foregoing ordinance was passed by the Council of the City of Los Angeles, **by a vote of not less than three-fourths** of all its members.

CITY CLERK

MAYOR

Ordinance Passed _____

Approved _____