

The Dallas City Council amended several sections of 30-1 and 30-2 and added Section 30-3.1 to Chapter 30 "Noise" of the Dallas City Code on Wednesday, June 8, 2005.

Chapter 30, the City's Noise Ordinance, has been in place for a number of years and regulates loud and disturbing noises and certain activities that may produce this type of noise.

Please be advised of the following amendments.

**Section 30-1. LOUD AND DISTURBING NOISES AND VIBRATIONS**

Vibrations were added to loud and disturbing noises as an offense.

**Section 30-2. LOUD AND DISTURBING NOISE AND VIBRATIONS PRESUMED OFFENSIVE.**

Vibrations were added to paragraph (7) of Section 30-2. The discharge into the open air of the exhaust from any motor vehicle, except through a muffler or other device that will effectively and efficiently prevent loud and disturbing noises or vibrations.

Section 30-2, paragraph (8); modified the allowable hours for construction of a building on or adjacent to a residential use as defined in the Dallas Development Code. Construction of a building is allowed:

- Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. (previously 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.);
- Saturdays and certain holidays, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. (previously 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.)

The holidays included in the 8 a.m. start time are: New Year's Day (January 1); Memorial Day (observed); Independence Day (July 4); Labor Day (observed); Thanksgiving Day; and Christmas Day.

Construction in or adjacent to a residential use is still prohibited on Sunday.

Section 30-2, added paragraph (13); prohibiting the operation of sound equipment in a motor vehicle in such a manner that the noise is so audible or causes such a vibration as to unreasonably disturb the peace, quiet, or comfort of another person.

**Section 30-3.1; Noise from the Idling of Motor Vehicles.** This section was added. It applies to Commercial Motor Vehicles having a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) over 14,000 pounds.

Idling is prohibited for more than 10 consecutive minutes on or within 300 feet of a residential use, as defined in the Dallas Development Code. Both the driver and the person who owns or controls the property where the offense takes place are responsible.

Nine defenses to prosecution for commercial vehicles that are idling in response to a situation or the vehicle was in:

1. Traffic signals;
2. Traffic jams;
3. A police officer;
4. Being repaired in an enclosed structure;
5. Defrosting the windshield;
6. A school bus;
7. Intended for commercial passenger transportation and not idling on a public street or alley;
8. A concrete truck while pouring concrete or staging for pouring;
9. A utility truck idling to provide power as needed to perform utility work.