

CITY OF ST. GEORGE

BY COUNCIL MEMBER MAX HIMMEL:

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 027

AMEND TITLE 12, CHAPTER 9, RELATIVE TO KEEPING AND LETTING A DISORDERLY PLACE

WHEREAS, the Council for the City of St. George has enacted Title 12, Chapter 9 of its ordinances to regulate the keeping or letting of disorderly places within City's corporate limits in furtherance of public health, safety, and welfare and to mitigate the negative impacts to area residents and businesses as a result of the same;

WHEREAS, there are property owners, tenants, renters, and leaseholders within the City whose conduct necessitates a disproportionate consumption of public services, including law enforcement, fire response, emergency medical services, and other public safety personnel, thereby reducing the availability of such services for other residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, the Council for the City of St. George desires to amend its ordinances to clarify and expand the consequences for the keeping or letting of a disorderly place,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the St. George City Council, State of Louisiana, that Title 12, Chapter 9 of the Ordinances of the City of St. George be, and it is hereby, amended as follows:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENTS

Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law and words **underscored in bold** are additions to existing law.

Title 12, Chapter 9 of the ordinances of the City of St. George is hereby amended as follows:

Title 12. NUISANCES

Chapter 9. KEEPING AND LETTING A DISORDERLY PLACE

Sec. 12:901. Definitions

- (a) *Disorderly place* means a residential, commercial or vacant building or premise used habitually for any illegal purpose.
- (i) A building or premise shall be presumed to be a disorderly place when law enforcement officers have on more than one occasion in the preceding 12-month period, cited or arrested any individual for or executed any search warrant for any

crime involving alcohol consumption, controlled substances, excessive noise, human trafficking, illegal discharge of a firearm, possession or storing of contraband or stolen things, prostitution or violence.

- (ii) A building or premise shall be presumed to be a disorderly place when first responders, as that term is defined in La. R.S. 40:1372(6), have engaged in qualifying first-responder responses on three or more occasions within any rolling twelve-month period.

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- (d) Qualifying first-responder response shall mean a response to or upon a premises by one or more first responders, acting in the course and scope of official duties, where an incident report, citation, arrest report, fire report, EMS report, code-enforcement report, or other official record documents conduct occurring at, within, upon, or emanating from the premises that constitutes, contributes to, or is reasonably associated with keeping or letting a disorderly place as defined herein.

- (i) Multiple first-responder responses arising from the same continuous event, occurrence, or episode shall count as one qualifying first-responder response. Responses by multiple agencies to the same event shall count as one qualifying first-responder response.
- (ii) The following shall not be counted as qualifying first-responder responses unless independent disorderly or unlawful conduct by the owner, occupant, lessee, operator, or person in charge is documented: medical emergencies; disability-related or mental-health crisis calls; domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other victimization calls where the person associated with the premises is the victim, witness, or good-faith requester of assistance; good-faith calls made by an owner, tenant, occupant, manager, neighbor, or witness requesting emergency assistance or law-enforcement protection; canceled, unfounded, or mistaken dispatches; or incidents not reasonably attributable to the use, condition, occupancy, operation, or control of the premises.

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Sec. 12:905. Abatement

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- (d) The issuance of an order to close and vacate shall constitute grounds for the revocation of the relevant occupational license(s) pursuant to Title 9, and for the denial of an occupational license to do business within the corporate limits of the City when such application is submitted by the person(s), individual(s), or business entity subject to the order to close and vacate within the 12-month

period following the issuance of the order to close and vacate.

- (e) A preclusion, suspension, revocation, denial, or waiting period imposed under this Section upon any person, applicant, licensee, or business entity shall not be avoided or defeated by a change in name, form, ownership structure, trade name, assumed name, registered agent, corporate status, membership, partnership, affiliation, leasehold arrangement, or other reorganization or transfer.

SECTION 2. SEVERABILITY

If any provision or section of this Ordinance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such a decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions.

SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall be effective upon publication.

This ordinance having been submitted to a vote; the vote thereon was:

For: Cook, Edmonds, Himmel, Monachello, Murrell, Talbot

Against:

Absent: Dellucci

Adopted this 25th day of August, 2026

Signed this 26th day of August, 2026

Delivered to the Mayor on the 26th day of August, 2026



Lorraine Beaman, City Clerk

Approved:



Dustin Yates, Mayor

Received from the Mayor on the 31st day of August, 2026



Lorraine Beaman, City Clerk

Adopted Ordinance published in The Advocate on the 1st day of Sept, 2026