

AN ORDINANCE Amending Chapter 26, Offenses of the Joplin City Code, by enacting Section 26-200, Misuse of the Emergency Telephone System.

WHEREAS, Misuse of the Emergency Telephone System (911) creates a danger to life and property in the City, and;

WHEREAS, a Missouri Statute has recently been enacted which makes such use a misdemeanor, and;

WHEREAS, having referred the subject matter of this ordinance to the City's Communication Board, and received the favorable recommendation thereof;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOPLIN, MISSOURI as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 26, Offenses of the Joplin City Code be amended by the enactment of a new section 26-200 Misuse of the Emergency Telephone System to read as follows:

- (a) '26-200. Misuse of the Emergency Telephone System
  - (a) For the purposes of this section the following terms shall have the meanings herein ascribed to them:
    - (1) *Emergency.* Any incident involving danger to life or property that calls for an emergency response dispatch of police, fire, EMS or other public safety organization.
    - (2) *Misuse the Emergency Telephone System.* Any act which improperly uses the emergency telephone service including but not limited to repeatedly calling "911" for nonemergency situations causing operators or equipment to be in use when emergency situations may need such operators or equipment.
    - (3) *Repeatedly.* Calling the emergency telephone service three or more times within a thirty day period.
  - (b) It shall be unlawful for any person to misuse the emergency telephone service.
  - (c) Any person violating this section shall be punished upon conviction thereof as

provided by section 1-5 of the Joplin City Code.”

Section 2. That Section 26-110 thru Section 26-199 are hereby reserved.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOPLIN, MISSOURI, this 18th  
day of August, 1997.



MAYOR

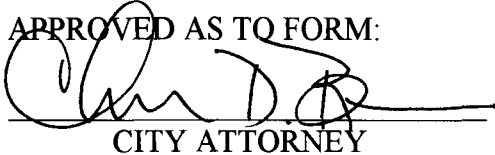
ATTEST:



ACTING CITY CLERK

**EFFECTIVE 20 DAYS FROM DATE**

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



CITY ATTORNEY