CITY OF WARRIOR ORDINANCE NO. 2025-06

AN ORDINANCE ENACTING A CURFEW FOR ALL YOUTH UNDER THE AGE OF 19 DURING NORTH JEFFERSON MIDDLE SCHOOL AND MORTIMER JORDAN HIGH SCHOOL HOMECOMING EVENTS.

WHEREAS, the Cities of Kimberly, Morris and Warrior, Alabama have knowledge that in some year's past, homecoming activities have not been limited to wholesome and non-destructive fun. There have been large groups of young people gathering on both public and private property during the homecoming events which will occur from September 21, 2025 through September 26, 2025; and

WHEREAS, said groups have been the subject of numerous complaints and there is the risk of, and documented previous cases of destruction of property and potential violence between minors and other minors and/or between minors and adults during said period of time; and

WHEREAS, both North Jefferson Middle School (NJMS) and Mortimer Jordan High School (MJHS) have homecoming activities on the same week this year, and

WHEREAS, due to both schools having homecoming activities within the same week, there is concern with the cities that our public safety resources will be compromised to be able to protect their citizens and commercial development not participating in homecoming activities, and

WHEREAS, the cities want to encourage homecoming fun and activities, but none of a destructive nature,

WHEREAS, realizing that said situations should not be allowed to escalate and that the only way to provide for the safety and welfare of the citizens of Kimberly, Morris and Warrior, Alabama is for the City Council to enact, through its police powers, a temporary curfew to protect the citizens of the Cities; and

WHEREAS, the cities, not wishing to enact a year-round curfew of this nature, wish to empower the mayor to enact a temporary curfew for the specified period as stated Section 2.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL:

SECTION 1. Authority is granted to the mayors to enact a temporary curfew during the NJMS and MJHS Homecoming week in order to protect and promote the health, safety and general welfare of the citizens.

SECTION 2. A temporary curfew is established for the following time periods: Individuals under the age of 19 ("minors") shall retire from public places and establishments beginning at 12:00 A.M. on September 21, 2025 and ending at 6:00 A.M. on September 26, 2025. Each day, the curfew begins at 11:00 P.M. and ends the following morning at 6:00 A.M.

SECTION 3. Additional Offenses.

- a) It shall be unlawful for a parent or custodian to knowingly permit a minor to violate this ordinance. "Parent or custodian" includes natural or adoptive parents, legal guardians, custodians pursuant to court order, or a person standing in loco parentis.
- b) It shall be unlawful for an operator, establishment, or their agents/employees to knowingly permit a minor to remain in or upon the premises during curfew hours, unless:
- i. the minor is employed by the operator/establishment; or
- ii. the minor is present due to a school function (classroom project, field trip, etc.).

SECTION 4. Exceptions. This ordinance does not apply when:

- a) The minor is accompanied by parents
- b) The minor is on an emergency errand directed by parents.
- c) The minor is traveling directly to/from lawful employment.
- d) The minor is attending or traveling directly to/from an activity involving First Amendment rights.
- e) The minor is in a motor vehicle with parental consent for normal travel (including interstate/intrastate travel through the city).

SECTION 5. Police Procedures.

- a) Police officers may question suspected violators to document name, age, address, and reason for being out. In absence of proof, officers will use their judgment.
- b) If in violation, the minor will be taken to the police department and parents contacted. A written notice will warn that a subsequent violation will result in a ticket.
- c) If parents cannot be reached, officers will continue efforts and send certified mail notice of the violation.
- d) Law Enforcement Officers are authorized to stop and detain suspected minor violators operating motor vehicles, and after determining such minor is in violation of the curfew ordinance. The motor vehicle can be impounded per law enforcement departmental policies. Law Enforcement Officers will then follow the procedures outlined in Sec.
- 5 (b.). for processing the minor.
- e) Any parent or guardian as defined in Sec. 3 (a) may be charged criminally if he or she fails to promptly report to the local police station holding such minor child and take immediate custody and care of the minor. In any instance where such negligence takes place, the State of Alabama Department of Human Resources may be called to take the minor into protective custody.
- f) Any parent, legal guardian or other person adult found to be facilitating or assisting a minor child in violating any criminal law or municipal ordinance may be charged with a criminal violation of Contributing to the Delinquency of a minor.

SECTION 6. Penalties.

- a) First Offense Court appearance and \$100 fine.
- b) Second Offense Court appearance and up to \$500 fine.
- c) Third Offense and Beyond Court appearance, up to \$500 fine, and/or imprisonment of parent/custodian for up to six (6) days.

CITY OF WARRIOR:

r City Cl

CERTIFICATION

I, Demetra Mixon, hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of an ordinance that was adopted at the meeting held on September 15, 2025.

Demetra Mixon, City Clerk