

1 AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE A TEMPORARY  
2 ADDITIONAL CURFEW FOR UNACCOMPANIED MINORS  
3 AND TO AUTHORIZE CERTAIN ADDITIONAL ACTIONS TO  
4 ASSIST LAW ENFORCEMENT AT THE RESORT AREA  
5

6 WHEREAS, on March 7, 2026 ("March 7"), the City experienced large crowds at  
7 the Oceanfront with approximately 50% or more of such crowds being minors;  
8

9 WHEREAS, on the evening of March 7, there were multiple incidents of actual or  
10 threatened violent behavior, including a shooting that injured 6 persons, and several other  
11 near stampedes or riots arising from actual or perceived threats of violence, all of which  
12 represented an imminent threat to public health and safety;  
13

14 WHEREAS, on March 7, the police department took in excess of 30 juveniles into  
15 temporary custody for violating the existing city-wide curfew, some of whom were found  
16 to be illegally possessing firearms;  
17

18 WHEREAS, the experience of March 7 is consistent with the City's recent historical  
19 experience of Oceanfront gatherings on warm evenings in the late winter and early spring;  
20

21 WHEREAS, the presence of large crowds of juveniles has tended to correlate to  
22 past civil commotions and violent crime occurrences, such as those that occurred on  
23 March 7, before the time when the City's unaccompanied minor curfew was in effect;  
24

25 WHEREAS, the City has intelligence that certain events likely to result in the  
26 gathering of large groups of juveniles or young adults are being advertised for upcoming  
27 weekends in March and April and the City believes that events similar to those of March  
28 7 could reoccur;  
29

30 WHEREAS, the perils associated with such crowds create a complex and dynamic  
31 public safety problem, and unaccompanied minors are both part of this problem and  
32 potential victims of criminal acts associated with this public safety problem;  
33

34 WHEREAS, the City's experience combined with current intelligence gives the City  
35 Council a reasonable concern of an imminent threat of a civil commotion or disturbance  
36 at the Resort Area for Friday, March 13, 2026, and Saturday, March 14, 2026 and  
37 subsequent weekends through April 30, 2026;  
38

39 WHEREAS, the City Council finds the existing tools – including the existing city-  
40 wide curfew for unaccompanied minors – are not sufficient to effectively respond to urgent  
41 public safety threats, like those experienced on March 7 and believed likely to imminently  
42 reoccur, and therefore, the City Council needs to implement other tools;  
43

44 WHEREAS, the City's enactment of an imminent threat curfew is more limited than  
45 the full possible scope authorized by Virginia Code § 15.2-925 and City Code § 23-2.1

46 because it is limited to unaccompanied minors and for only the hours of 7:00 p.m. to 5:00  
47 a.m.;

48

49 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY  
50 OF VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA, THAT:

51

52 (1) The City Council incorporates the findings set forth above.

53

54 (2) The City Council takes this action as a matter of its exercise of the police power  
55 consistent with the general grant of such powers by Virginia Code §§ 15.2-1102, 15.2-  
56 1700, and City Charter § 2.01.

57

58 (3) The City Council hereby authorizes and directs the Police Chief, upon the  
59 concurrence of the City Manager and Mayor, to enact a temporary additional curfew  
60 for unaccompanied minors, pursuant to Virginia Code § 15.2-925 and City Code §  
61 23-2.1, for Friday, March 13, 2026, from 7:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. on Saturday, March  
62 14, 2026; and Saturday, March 14, 2026, from 7:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. on Sunday  
63 March 15, 2026 and continuing thereafter for a similar time period each weekend  
64 through April 30, 2026. The geographical area of such curfew shall be bounded to  
65 the south by Rudee Park, the west by the western boundary of Pacific Avenue, the  
66 north by the northern boundary of 31<sup>st</sup> Street, and the east by the Atlantic Ocean.

67

68 (4) The curfew for unaccompanied minors authorized by this ordinance shall supersede  
69 any conflicting provision of the City's unaccompanied minor curfew set forth in City  
70 Code § 23-2.

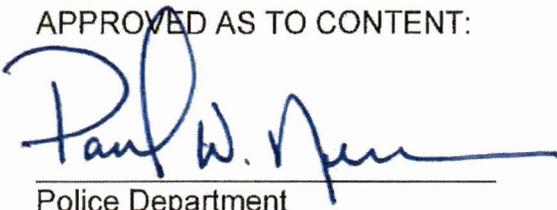
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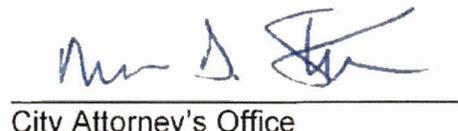
72 (5) The City Manager shall provide appropriate public information using the City's  
73 website and other means of promulgating information to provide the public with  
74 information regarding the curfew and limitations upon pedestrian and vehicular traffic  
75 at the Resort Area.

Adopted by the Council of the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia, on the \_\_\_\_\_ day  
of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026.

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Police Department

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney's Office

CA17114

R-2

March 11, 2026