



YOUTH PROTECTION SAFETY ORDINANCE



June 15, 2026



MAJOR YOUTH INCIDENTS IN 2025-2026 DURING PROPOSED LATE NIGHT HOURS

- **Breaking and Entering** – 4000 Block of Brownsboro Road (March 14, 2025, 3:55 a.m.)

Two (2) unsupervised juveniles were arrested following multiple vehicle break-ins.

- **Ongoing Incidents – May 2025**

Over a span of several weeks, unsupervised juveniles were involved in repeated incidents during curfew hours, including fights, throwing rocks at individuals, property, and motorists, as well as scooter-related street takeovers involving careless driving.

- **Shooting – Outside Dash Stadium** (July 4, 2025, 10:18 p.m.)

A group of unsupervised juveniles were involved in a fight that escalated when one (1) juvenile shot another. The suspect, who was arrested, was 16 years old.



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- **Traffic Fatality – Indiana Avenue (February 7, 2026, 1:48 a.m.)**

Two (2) unsupervised juveniles were involved in a crash in which one (1) impaired juvenile driver caused the death of the juvenile passenger.

- **Robbery – Jonestown Road (April 2, 2026, 10:43 p.m.)**

Three (3) unsupervised juveniles attempted to rob a pedestrian walking along the street. The victim was shot during the encounter.

- **Teen Takeovers (Past 3 Months)**

Two (2) unsupervised teen takeover events involving hundreds of youth resulted in multiple arrests. These gatherings typically begin at public parks such as Hobby, Winston Lake, and Little Creek, before shifting downtown.



YOUTH PROTECTION SAFETY ORDINANCE

Purpose

- Protect juveniles from victimization and exposure to criminal activity
- Reinforce and support parental guidance and responsibility
- Promote public safety and security for both juveniles and adults
- Improve safety citywide



YOUTH PROTECTION SAFETY ORDINANCE - WINSTON-SALEM PROPOSAL

Enforced Hours

- Applies to juveniles under the age of 18
- 10:00 PM – 6:00 AM
- Applies 7 days per week

Enforcement Area & Duration of Ordinance

- Citywide
- From ordinance adoption to October 12, 2026 at 6:00am



YOUTH PROTECTION SAFETY ORDINANCE: WINSTON-SALEM PROPOSAL

Violations

- A juvenile is present in a public place during restricted hours
- A parent or guardian knowingly allows the violation
- A business owner knowingly allows juveniles to remain on the premises
- An adult aids or abets a juvenile in violating the ordinance

Penalties

- Juveniles may be adjudicated delinquent
- Adults charged under the ordinance may face a misdemeanor, a fine, and a mandatory court appearance
- *The desired outcome is compliance.*



YOUTH PROTECTION SAFETY ORDINANCE

Juveniles are NOT in violation if:

- Accompanied by a parent or guardian, or by an adult aged 21 or older who is authorized to accompany the juvenile for the designated time and purpose.
- On an errand, using a direct route, before 10:30 p.m.
- In a motor vehicle with parental consent while engaged in interstate travel that originates in or terminates in the city.
- Traveling in a motor vehicle with a parent, guardian, or other authorized adult aged 21 or older.
- Engaged in lawful employment or using a direct route to or from a place of employment.
- Reacting to or responding to an emergency.



YOUTH PROTECTION SAFETY ORDINANCE

Juveniles are NOT in violation if:

- Attending or traveling to or from an official function sponsored by a school, government agency, religious entity, civic organization, or other entity that accepts responsibility for the juveniles.
- Exercising First Amendment rights, including the free exercise of religion, freedom of speech, and the right of assembly.
- Married or emancipated.
- Member of the armed forces of the United States.
- A person classified by age as a juvenile but can show proof of student enrollment at a college or university.
- Authorized by a special permit issued by the Chief of Police when the juvenile's necessary nighttime activities are not adequately addressed by other provisions of this ordinance.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH & ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN

- Workgroup composed of sworn personnel and potentially non-sworn staff responsible for follow-ups, home visits, and providing services to juveniles and their parents.
- Staffing levels are to be determined.
- A program similar to JADE and JPOST, tailored to our community's needs and departmental capabilities.



YOUTH PROTECTION SAFETY ORDINANCE

North Carolina Cities with Curfews:

- Charlotte
- Fayetteville
- Knightdale
- Rocky Mount
- Edenton
- Four Oaks
- Landis
- Pineville



WHY CHARLOTTE'S MODEL?

- After reviewing all models, Charlotte's approach demonstrated the greatest success, with a significant reduction in juvenile crime.
 - A 15% decrease in juvenile crime was reported from 2024 to 2025.
 - A 33% decrease in juvenile crime has been reported in 2026.
- While Charlotte's model serves as a strong blueprint, this proposal is tailored to reflect Winston-Salem's specific needs and priorities.
- We recognize that each city operates differently and may measure success using different benchmarks.



PRIOR COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ EDUCATION EFFORTS

- Conducted multiple news conferences requesting support from parents, community members, and organizations.
- Met with multi-denominational clergy on May 20th, 2025 to discuss strategies to reduce youth violence and delinquency.
- Met with Hate Out of Winston-Salem on April 7, 2026, to address youth violence and delinquency.
- Participated in live TV and radio interviews with local media, addressing community questions and concerns.
- Partnered with the Winston-Salem Police Foundation and Arts Council to expand youth programming, including sports, academics, and arts.
- Hosted a Youth Citizens Police Academy for high school students in the community.
- Active participant in the Gang Steering Committee, Youth Crime Summit, and STARS.
- Partnered with FCSO to supplement policing efforts as needed.

