

LOADED FIREARMS

Adopted April 17, 1950--see Volume 5, pages 111-112.

"AN ORDINANCE providing for the Prevention of Unlawful Possession of Loaded Firearms upon the Public Roads and Other places in James City County, Virginia, and Penalties.

"Whereas, it is the opinion of this, the Board of Supervisors, of James City County, Virginia; that, with greater accessibility and the heavily increased travel on and over the public roads of this County, has come an even greater increase in the improper use of these roads for improper parking and general loitering, idle shooting by persons both in and out of vehicles, and trespassing upon lands adjoining the said roads; and that such improper usage of the said roads have greatly lessened the personal safety of the general public and has greatly increased the trespassing upon the lands of others whose taxes constitute the principal moneys this Board expends to support all of the public activities of this County;

"NOW BE IT ORDAINED BY this, the Board of Supervisors of James City County, Virginia, under authority vested therein by Article 65 of the Constitution of Virginia and Section 15-8 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as follows:

"SECTION I. That no person shall have in his or her possession or under his or her control, or, have in any vehicle in which he or she may be in charge or have in control,

LOADED FIREARMS (CONT.)

(Section I, cont.)

any loaded shot gun, rifle, or other firearm, while he, she or said vehicle is upon any public road in James City County, Virginia, or, while either is unlawfully upon the land of another; provided, that such officers and other persons as shall have special power or authority to enforce the laws of Virginia shall be excepted; and provided, further, that such persons who shall be able to show at the time apprehended that his or her possession of the loaded firearm was required or reasonably necessary, under the then appearing circumstances, for the protection of his or her person or family from bodily injury or his or her property from serious damage by another shall also be excepted.

SECTION II. That it shall be the duty of all officers and other persons having powers of arrest in James City County to arrest all persons known by them to violate SECTION I of this ordinance; and all such officers and other persons as have powers of arrest, are hereby authorized to and it shall be their duty, in all cases where they have reasonable grounds for believing that said ordinance is being violated, to inspect such firearms as they reasonably suspect of being loaded and to arrest, without warrant, violators of this ordinance.

LOADED FIREARMS

"SECTION III. That the violation of SECTION I of this ordinance shall constitute a misdemeanor and such persons as are convicted or found guilty of violation thereof shall be fined not less than \$50.00 nor more than \$300.00, and they may also be imprisoned in the county jail not to exceed thirty days."

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