

**Ordinance No. 2164 -13**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE AMENDING ARTICLE I OF CHAPTER 15  
OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE, NEW JERSEY**

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Township Council of the Township of Lawrence, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey that Article I of Chapter 15, entitled "Offenses - Miscellaneous" of The Code of the Township of Lawrence, New Jersey ("CODE") is hereby amended and supplemented as follows:

**Section 1.**

**Section 15-8 entitled Public Nuisance, shall be added to the Code and shall read as follows:**

**Sec. 15-8. Public Nuisance**

**A. No person shall, within the boundaries of the Township, by any means or instrumentality:**

- 1. Interfere with or annoy the comfort or general well-being of the inhabitants of the Township;**
- 2. Disturb the public peace and quiet by loud, boisterous or vulgar conduct;**
- 3. Create or participate in a diversion, disturbance or disorderly assemblage, in any public place, tending to breach the peace;**
- 4. Engage in acts of vice and immorality in any public place; or**
- 5. Obstruct or interfere with any person lawfully being in a public place.**

**B. Penalty.**

**The penalty for the first violation of this section shall be a fine not to exceed two thousand dollars (\$2,000) and/or a period of community service not to exceed thirty (30) days; for a subsequent offense within a one year period from the initial violation, the penalty shall be a fine not to exceed two thousand dollars (\$2,000) and/or a period of community service not to exceed sixty (60) days.**

## **Section 2.**

### **Section 15-9 Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages**

#### **A. Definition.**

**For the purposes of this Section, alcoholic beverages shall be defined as: any fluid or solid capable of being converted into a fluid, suitable for human consumption, and having an alcohol content of more than one-half of one per centum (1/2 of 1%) by volume, including alcohol, beer, lager beer, ale, porter, naturally fermented wine, treated wine, blended wine, fortified wine, sparkling wine, distilled liquors, blended distilled liquors and any brewed, fermented or distilled liquors fit for use for beverage purposes or any mixture of the same, and fruit juices.**

#### **B. Prohibition.**

- 1. No person of legal age shall consume or possess in any open container any alcoholic beverage in or upon any public or quasi-public place, including, but not limited to, any public street, alley, sidewalk, mall, park, playground, public conveyance, parking facility or in or around any public building. For the purposes of this Section, a quasi-public area shall be defined as that portion of private land which has been made open to the public for their use and enjoyment by the owners of said lands in connection with zoning approvals, dedication of said lands or similar means, and where the Township Council, upon written application from the owner of said lands, determined that the provision of this Section be made applicable thereto.**
- 2. No person shall consume any alcoholic beverage in or upon any private vehicle while it is parked upon any such public or quasi-public place.**
- 3. No underage person, which shall be defined as a person being under the age of 21, shall possess or consume any alcoholic beverage in or upon any private property located within the boundaries of the Township.**

#### **C. Exceptions.**

**Nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit:**

- 1. The possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages within or upon premises duly licensed for the consumption of alcoholic beverages;**
- 2. The possession, distribution or consumption of alcoholic beverages in any public park, recreation area, public building, or other public area in connection with any organized function or social affair for which express prior permission has been received in writing from the Township Council upon prior notice and subject to any terms and restrictions relating to the public safety and the general welfare of the Township;**

3. The possession or consumption of alcoholic beverage by underage persons in connection with a religious observance, ceremony or rite;
4. The possession of an alcoholic beverage by underage persons in the preparation of food while enrolled in a culinary arts or hotel management program at a county vocational school or post-secondary educational institution;
5. The possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages by underage persons in the presence of and with the permission of a parent, guardian or relative who has attained the legal age, which shall be defined as any person 21 years of age or older, to purchase and consume alcoholic beverages.

**D. Penalty.**

The penalty for the first violation of this Section shall be a fine not to exceed two thousand dollars (\$2000) and/or a period of community service not to exceed thirty (30) days; for a subsequent offense within a one year period from the initial violation, the penalty shall be a fine not to exceed two thousand dollars (\$2000) and/or a period of community service not to exceed sixty (60) days.

**Section 3.**

Sections 15-10 through 15-19 of the Code shall remain reserved.

**Section 4.**

This ordinance shall take effect twenty (20) days after passage.

**Adopted: September 17, 2013**

**RECORD OF VOTE**

<b>COUNCIL</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>NAY</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>	<b>MOVE</b>	<b>SECOND</b>
Mr. Brame							
Ms. Lewis							
Dr. Maffei							
Mr. Powers							
Mayor Kownacki							