

**CITY OF WHITE SALMON WASHINGTON
ORDINANCE NO. 2023-03-1127**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING WEAPONS SECTION WSMC CHAPTER 9.08 TO ADD
DISCHARGE OF FIREARM PROHIBITED AND REVISING OTHER PROVISIONS**

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of White Salmon wishes to maintain the safety and welfare of city residents by prohibiting the discharge of a firearm within the city limits; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of White Salmon wants to update obsolete municipal codes in chapter 9.08; and

WHEREAS, the City finds that amendments are necessary to ensure the health and safety of City residents; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the City of White Salmon do ordain as follows:

SECTION 1. WSMC Ch. 9.08 is hereby amended as follows:

Key: Deleted = ~~strikethrough~~

Added = underlined

Chapter 9.08 - WEAPONS

Sections:

9.08.010 - Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

"Firearm" means a weapon or device from which a projectile or projectiles may be fired by an explosive such as gunpowder. "Firearm" does not include a flare gun or other pyrotechnic visual distress signaling device, or a powder-actuated tool or other device designed solely to be used for construction purposes.

~~A. "Nunchaku" means an instrument consisting of two or more sticks, clubs, bars or rods, to be used as handles, connected by a rope, cord, wire or chain, in the design of a weapon used in connection with the practice of a system of self-defense such as karate.~~

~~B. "Spring blade knife" means any knife, including a prototype, model, or~~

~~other sample, with a blade that is automatically released by a spring mechanism or other mechanical device, or any knife having a blade which opens, or falls, or is ejected into position by the force of gravity, or by an outward, downward, or centrifugal thrust or movement. A knife that contains a spring, detent, or other mechanism designed to create a bias toward closure of the blade and that requires physical exertion applied to the blade by hand, wrist, or arm to overcome the bias toward closure to assist in opening the knife is not a spring blade knife.~~

~~D. "Throwing star" means any instrument, without handles, consisting of a metal plate having three or more radiating points with one or more sharp edges, and designed in the shape of a polygon, trefoil, cross, star, diamond or other geometric shape, for the use as a weapon for throwing.~~

“Taser” means an electronic or energy device or weapon which, upon coming in contact with a person, is capable of inflicting injury or an electric or energy shock to such a person and is otherwise known as a “stun gun”.

9.08.011 – Discharge of firearms prohibited.

It is unlawful for any person to fire, shoot or discharge any firearm within the city except as provided in WSMC Section 9.08.030, below. Any person who violates this provision is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

9.08.020 – Manufacture, sale, possession, or use of certain weapons prohibited.

~~Every person who manufactures, sells or disposes of, or has in his possession any instrument, martial arts weapon, or other weapons of the kind usually known as blackjack, slung shot, nunchaku, throwing star, sand club, metal knuckles, or spring blade knife, or any knife the blade of which is automatically released by a spring mechanism or other mechanical device, or any knife having a blade which opens or falls or is ejected into position by the force of gravity, or by an outward, downward or centrifugal thrust or movement, who furtively carries, with intent to conceal any dagger, dirk, pistol or other dangerous weapon, or who uses any contrivance or device for suppressing the noise of any firearm, is guilty of a misdemeanor.~~

9.08.025 – Possession, Firing or Discharging Taser Prohibited

It shall be unlawful for any person under the age of 18 years to possess, fire or discharge any taser or similar electronic device or weapon within the White Salmon City limits or towards any person inside the White Salmon City limits. No one shall possess or discharge a taser in any public park or school within the City. Any person who violates this provision is guilty of a

misdemeanor.

9.08.027 - Sale or Transfer of Taser to a Minor

It shall be unlawful to sell, gift or otherwise transfer a taser to a person under the age of 18 years within the White Salmon City Limits. Any person who violates this provision is guilty of a misdemeanor.

9.08.030 - Exemptions to chapter provisions.

The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to the following:

~~**Section 9.08.020 shall not apply to any of the following:**~~

- A. **The discharge of a firearm or taser by law enforcement officers in the performance of their duties.**
- B. **The discharge of a firearm for the purposes of target practicing in a duly licensed shooting gallery or at a target range maintained and operated by law enforcement or an organized rifle or gun club affiliated with a national shooting organization.**
- C. The possession of a taser, ~~or of a nunchaku, throwing star or other martial arts weapon~~ on the premises of a school which holds a regulatory or business license and teaches the arts of self-defense.
- D. ~~The manufacture of a taser, or of a nunchaku, throwing star or other martial arts weapon for sale to, or the sale of a taser, or of a nunchaku or throwing star or other martial arts weapon to, a school which holds a regulatory or business license and teaches the arts of self-defense.~~

SECTION 3: EFFECTIVE DATE

This ordinance shall become effective five days after publication as provided by law.

SECTION 4: SEVERABILITY

If any part of this ordinance is declared unconstitutional or otherwise invalid for any reason, the remaining provisions shall be construed to be effective after removing the objectionable provision(s).

PASSED by the Council and approved by the Mayor on March 1st, 2023.

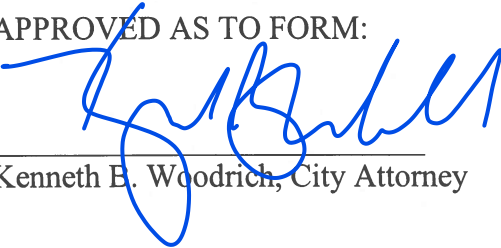


Mayor Marla Keethler



Stephanie Porter, Clerk/Treasurer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Kenneth E. Woodrich, City Attorney