

# Noise Complaints

## What noises are illegal?

### Loud House Parties (Residential Disturbances)

Noise is unlawful if:

- There is a gathering of more than one person
- Noise is frequent, repetitive or continuous
- Noise can be heard at a distance of 75 feet from the property
- Noise is coming from property in a residentially zoned area - this does not include commercial zones
- Noise is occurring between the hours of 10 PM - 7 AM on Fridays, or 11 PM - 7 AM on Saturdays.

### What can be done legally?

- Officers can issue a civil infraction with a fine of \$250.
- If a second noise violation occurs within 24 hours of the initial incident, criminal charges may be filed.
- Additionally, if the person making noise is a tenant, the property owner will be notified.

### Unreasonable Noise:

Noise is unlawful if:

- The noise is *knowingly* caused and continues even after being ordered to stop by a police officer.
- Noise is loud, frequent, or continuous and caused by animals, horns or sirens (not emergency equipment) motor-vehicles being repaired or tested, musical instruments or sounds amplifiers, human voices.
- Noise is occurring between the hours of 10 PM - 7 AM.

### What can be done legally?

- Officers must first issue a warning.
- If the noise continues after the warning, you must report it to us again, to report the violation and request contact.
- You must be willing to allow the officer to verify how the noise sounds from your premises and you may need to testify in a criminal case.
- If the unreasonable noise is found to be criminal, maximum penalty can include up to 180 days in jail and/or up to a \$500 fine.