ORDINANCE NO. 14

TITLE: An ordinance to regulate and criminalize certain activity detrimental to the public peace encompassing the areas of fighting, noise, abusive language, disruption of lawful assembly, circulation of false reports, disrespect of the U.S. flag, and obstruction of public ways. Violations to be classified as simple misdemeanors.

DISORDERLY CONDUCT. No person shall do any of the following:

1. Fighting. Engage in fighting or violent behavior in any public place or in or near any lawful assembly of persons, provided that participants in athletic contests may engage in such conduct which is reasonably related to that sport.

2. Noise. Make loud and raucous noise in the vicinity of any residence or public building which causes unreasonable distress to the occupants thereof.

3. Abusive Language. Direct abusive epithets or make any threatening gesture which the person knows or reasonable should know is likely to provoke a violent reaction by another.

4. Disrupt Lawful Assembly. Without lawful authority or color of authority, disturb any lawful assembly or meeting of persons by conduct intended to disrupt the meeting of assembly.

5. False Report of Catastrophe. By words or action, initiate or circulate a report or warning of fire, epidemic, or other catastrophe, knowing such report to be false or such warning to be baseless.

6. Disrespect of Flag. Knowingly and publicly use the flag of the United States in such a manner as to show disrespect for the flag as a symbol of the United States, with the intent or reasonable expectation that such use will provoke or encourage another to commit a public offense.

7. Obstruct Use of Street. Without authority or justification, obstruct any street, sidewalk, highway, or other public way, with the intent to prevent or hinder its lawful use by others.

8. Penalties. Any person, firm, or corporation violating any provision, section, or paragraph of this Article shall be guilty of a simple misdemeanor punishable a maximum of a $100.00 fine or 30 days in jail.

This Ordinance No. 14 was approved and adopted on October 6 and October 13, 1996 by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors by unanimous vote.

Attested By: Robert D. Paulson, Auditor

By: Scott N. Helgeson, Chairman
Winnebago County Supervisors