AN ORDINANCE REQUIRING LOST OR STOLEN FIREARMS TO BE REPORTED AND ESTABLISHING A PENALTY FOR A VIOLATION.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS, MISSOURI, as follows:

SECTION 1. CHAPTER 215 OFFENSES of the Municipal Code of the City of Richmond Heights, Missouri, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 215.400 Unattended Firearms

- A. **Definitions.** As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings set forth as follows:
- 1. "Firearm" is any weapon that is designed or adapted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive;
 - B. Reporting of stolen or lost firearms required.
- 1. **Findings.** The City of Richmond Heights finds that it has a compelling interest to prevent gun thefts and losses in the City, thereby making it easier for law enforcement to locate lost or stolen firearms and to prevent illegal gun trafficking, and therefore enacts these reasonable regulations requiring the reporting of lost and stolen firearms as set forth herein. This ordinance shall not conflict with any state or federal law.
- 2. **Reporting Requirement.** It is unlawful for any person to fail to report the theft or loss of his or her firearm to the Richmond Heights Police Department within 48 hours of the time he or she knew or should have known the firearm has been stolen or lost, when either the owner or possessor lives or lived in the City of Richmond Heights, or the theft or loss of the firearm occurs in the City of Richmond Heights. A person commits the violation of failure to report a missing or stolen firearm if in violation of this section.
- 3. **Manner of Reporting.** Such report to the Richmond Heights Police Department shall include the serial number, make, model, and all identifying features of the firearm, as well as the circumstances surrounding the firearm's status as stolen or missing.

SECTION 2. Penalty for violation.

A violation of this chapter shall be punishable upon conviction by a fine of no more than \$500.00 and incarceration of no longer than 90 days, or any combination of both fine and incarceration. There shall be no penalty for a first-time offense of this Ordinance.

SECTION 3. It is hereby declared to be the intention of the City Council that each and every part, section and subsection of this Ordinance shall be separate and severable from each and every other part, section and subsection hereof and that the City Council intends to adopt each said part, section and subsection separately and independently of any other part, section and subsection. In the event that any part of this Ordinance shall be determined to be or to have been unlawful or unconstitutional, the remaining parts, sections and subsections shall be and remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 4. All Ordinances, parts of ordinance or resolutions in conflict with the Ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 5. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect on the 31" day after its passage as provided by law.

PASSED and SIGNED this 5th day of June, 2023.

JIM THOMSON MAYOR

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

KENNETH J. HEINZ CITY ATTORNEY

First reading:

April 17, 2023

Second reading:

May 1, 2023

First reading as amended:

May 15, 2023

Second reading as amended June 5, 2023