



City Manager's Office
16 W. 9th St.
Shawnee, OK 74801
ShawneeOK.org

No Sit, No Lie Ordinance Frequently Asked Questions

What is the No Sit, No Lie ordinance about?

The 'No Sit, No Lie' ordinance prohibits sitting or lying on public sidewalks and sleeping outdoors within the City of Shawnee downtown area.

Why was this ordinance created?

The City of Shawnee wishes to promote family-friendly public areas, support tourism and businesses, accessibility for individuals with disabilities, and maintain an inviting environment.

Who does this ordinance apply to?

This ordinance applies to all individuals within the City of Shawnee downtown area, which is bounded by Highland Street, 7th Street, Harrison Street, and Kickapoo Street.

What activities are prohibited?

Within the downtown area, the ordinance prohibits sleeping outdoors. It also prohibits sitting, lying down, or placing items in the right-of-way between the roadway and the adjacent structure or property line.

Are there any exceptions to the No Sit, No Lie ordinance?

The ordinance does not apply to individuals experiencing a medical emergency. It also excludes any individuals who are participating in or watching public events, using provided private or public seating, or waiting in line for goods and services.

Is there any defense against prosecution of this ordinance?

Yes, it is considered an affirmative defense if a person sits or lies down as a result of a physical manifestation of a disability, visible or not.

Does the state of mind need to be proven when committing an offense against this ordinance?

No, the state of mind does not need to be proven. Diminished mental capacity, including intoxication, may not be used as a defense for violation of the ordinance.

Are there consequences of violating this ordinance?

Per Chapter 20, Section 20-41 of the Shawnee, Oklahoma Code of Ordinances, a fine plus cost can be assessed upon conviction by the court.

Where can I find more information or clarification about this ordinance?

For more information, refer to the news story on the City's website or contact the City of Shawnee at 405-878-1601 or citymanager@shawneeok.org.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION!