

537.11 THREATENING OR HARASSING TELEPHONE CALLS.

537.11 THREATENING OR HARASSING TELEPHONE CALLS.

Document type	section
Identifier	537.11
Citation	§ 537.11
Ordinances detected	S, 116-84, ER, OR, 63-71, INANCE
Dates detected	September 13, 2010
Original source	American Legal Publishing
Content hash	6e152e7216b2f9dd792ec018416a3747a3d8af6a1db142505b2d2ffee00f0924

Codified Ordinances of Sheffield Lake, OH

CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SHEFFIELD LAKE, OHIO

CERTIFICATION

ROSTER OF OFFICIALS

ADOPTING ORDINANCE NO. 116-84

COMPARATIVE SECTION TABLE

TABLES OF SPECIAL ORDINANCES OF SHEFFIELD LAKE

CHARTER

PART ONE - ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

PART THREE - TRAFFIC CODE

PART FIVE - GENERAL OFFENSES CODE

CHAPTER 501 General Provisions and Penalty

CHAPTER 505 Animals and Fowl

CHAPTER 509 Disorderly Conduct and Peace Disturbance

CHAPTER 513 Drug Abuse Control

CHAPTER 517 Gambling

CHAPTER 521 Health, Safety and Sanitation

CHAPTER 525 Law Enforcement and Public Office

CHAPTER 529 Liquor Control

CHAPTER 531 Noise Control

CHAPTER 533 Obscenity and Sex Offenses

CHAPTER 537 Offenses Against Persons

537.01 NEGLIGENT HOMICIDE.

537.02 VEHICULAR HOMICIDE AND MANSLAUGHTER.

537.021 VEHICULAR ASSAULT IN A CONSTRUCTION ZONE.

537.03 ASSAULT.

537.04 NEGLIGENT ASSAULT.

537.05 AGGRAVATED MENACING.

537.051 MENACING BY STALKING.

537.06 MENACING.

537.07 ENDANGERING CHILDREN.

537.08 UNLAWFUL RESTRAINT.

537.09 COERCION.

537.10 TELECOMMUNICATION HARASSMENT.

537.11 THREATENING OR HARASSING TELEPHONE CALLS.

537.12 MISUSE OF 9-1-1 SYSTEM.

537.13 ADULTERATING OF OR FURNISHING ADULTERATED FOOD OR CONFECTION.

537.14 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.

537.15 ANNOYING BUILDING OCCUPANTS.

537.16 MOLESTING OR INSULTING PERSONS.

537.17 TEMPORARY PROTECTION ORDER.

537.18 ILLEGAL DISTRIBUTION OF CIGARETTES, OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS, OR ALTERNATE NICOTINE PRODUCTS; TRANSACTION SCANS.

537.19 RESERVED.

537.20 CONTRIBUTING TO UNRULINESS OR DELINQUENCY OF A CHILD.

537.21 HAZING PROHIBITED.

537.22 ILLEGAL USE OF A TRACKING DEVICE OR APPLICATION.

537.99 PENALTY.

CHAPTER 541 Property Offenses

CHAPTER 545 Theft and Fraud

CHAPTER 549 Weapons and Explosives

CHAPTER 553 Railroads

CHAPTER 557 Watercraft

CHAPTER 561 Weeds and Grass

PART SEVEN - BUSINESS REGULATION CODE

PART NINE - STREETS, UTILITIES AND PUBLIC SERVICES CODE

PART ELEVEN - PLANNING AND ZONING CODE

PART THIRTEEN - BUILDING CODE

PART FIFTEEN - FIRE PREVENTION CODE

OH

Sheffield Lake

Codified Ordinances of Sheffield Lake, OH

537.11 THREATENING OR HARASSING TELEPHONE CALLS.

CHAPTER 537 Offenses Against Persons

537.10 TELECOMMUNICATION HARASSMENT.

(a) No person shall knowingly make or cause to be made a telecommunication, or knowingly permit telecommunication to be made from a telecommunications device under the person's control, to another, if the caller does any of the following:

(1) Makes the telecommunication with purpose to harass, intimidate, or abuse, any person at the premises to which the telecommunication is made, whether or not actual communication takes place between the caller and a recipient;

(2) Describes, suggests, requests, or proposes that the caller, the recipient of the telecommunication, or any other person engage in sexual activity, and the recipient or another person at the premises to which the telecommunication is made has requested, in a previous telecommunication or in the immediate telecommunication, that the caller not make a telecommunication to the recipient or to the premises to which the telecommunication is made;

(3) During the telecommunication, violates Ohio R.C. 2903.21;

(4) Knowingly states to the recipient of the telecommunication that the caller intends to cause damage to or destroy public or private property, and the recipient, any member of the recipient's family, or any other person who resides at the premises to which the telecommunication is made owns, leases, resides, or works in, will at the time of the destruction or damaging be near or in, has the responsibility of protecting, or insures the property that will be destroyed or damaged;

(5) Knowingly makes the telecommunication to the recipient of the telecommunication, to another person at the premises to which the telecommunication is made, or to those premises, and the recipient or another person at those premises previously has told the caller not to make a telecommunication to those premises or to any person at those premises.

(6) Knowingly makes any comment, request, suggestion, or proposal to the recipient of the telecommunication that is threatening, intimidating, menacing, coercive, or obscene with the intent to abuse, threaten or harass the recipient;

(7) Without a lawful business purpose, knowingly interrupts the telecommunication service of any person;

(8) Without a lawful business purpose, knowingly transmits to any person, regardless of

whether the telecommunication is heard in its entirety, any file, document or other communication that prevents that person from using the person's telephone service or electronic communication device;

(9) Knowingly makes any false statement concerning the death, injury, illness, disfigurement, reputation, indecent conduct, or criminal conduct of the recipient of the telecommunication or family or household member of the recipient with purpose to abuse, threaten, intimidate, or harass the recipient;

(10) Knowingly incites another person through a telecommunication or other means to harass or participate in the harassment of a person;

(11) Knowingly alarms the recipient by making a telecommunication without a lawful purpose at an hour or hours known to be inconvenient to the recipient and in an offensive or repetitive manner.

(b) (1) No person shall make or cause to be made a telecommunication, or permit a telecommunication to be made from a telecommunications device under the person's control, with purpose to abuse, threaten, or harass another person.

(2) No person shall knowingly post a text or audio statement or an image on an internet web site or web page for the purpose of abusing, threatening, or harassing another person.

(c) (1) Whoever violates this section is guilty of telecommunication harassment.

(2) A violation of subsections (a)(1), (2), (3), (5), (6), (7), (8), (9), (10), or (11) or (b) hereof is a misdemeanor of the first degree on a first offense. Each subsequent offense is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law.

(3) Whoever violates subsection (a)(4) hereof is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree for a first offense. For each subsequent offense or if a violation of subsection (a)(4) hereof results in economic harm of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more, a violation of subsection (a)(4) hereof is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law.

(d) No cause of action may be asserted in any court of this State against any provider of a telecommunications service, interactive computer service as defined in Section 230 of Title 47 of the United States Code, or information service, or against any officer, employee, or agent of a telecommunication service, interactive computer service as defined in Section 230 of Title 47 of the United States Code, or information service, for any injury, death, or loss to person or property that allegedly arises out of the provider's, officer's, employee's, or agent's provision of information, facilities, or assistance in accordance with the terms of a court order that is issued in relation to the investigation or prosecution of an alleged violation of this section. A provider of a telecommunications service, interactive computer service as defined in Section 230 of Title 47 of the United States Code, or information service, or an officer, employee, or agent of a telecommunications service, interactive computer service as defined in Section 230 of Title 47 of the United States Code, of information service, is immune from any civil or criminal liability for injury, death, or loss to person or property that allegedly arises out of the provider's, officer's, employee's, or agent's provision of information, facilities, or assistance in accordance with the terms of a court order that is issued in relation to the investigation or prosecution of an alleged violation of this section.

(e) (1) This section does not apply to a person solely because the person provided access or connection to or from an electronic method of remotely transferring information not under that person's control, including having provided capabilities that are incidental to providing access or connection to or from the electronic method of remotely transferring the information, and that do not include the creation of the content of the material that is the subject of the access or

connection. In addition, any person providing access or connection to or from an electric method of remotely transferring information not under that person's control shall not be liable for any action voluntarily taken in good faith to block the receipt or transmission through its service of any information that the person believes is, or will be sent, in violation of this section.

(2) Subsection (e)(1) of this section does not create an affirmative duty for any person providing access or connection to or from an electronic method of remotely transferring information not under that person's control to block the receipt or transmission through its service of any information that it believes is, or will be sent, in violation of this section except as otherwise provided by law.

(3) Subsection (e)(1) of this section does not apply to a person who conspires with a person actively involved in the creation or knowing distribution of material in violation of this section or who knowingly advertises the availability of material of that nature.

(4) A provider or user of an interactive computer service, as defined in Section 230 of Title 47 of the United States Code, shall neither be treated as the publisher or speaker of any information provided by another information content provider, as defined in Section 230 of Title 47 of the United States Code, nor held civilly or criminally liable for the creation or development of information provided by another information content provider, as defined in Section 230 of Title 47 of the United States Code. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to protect a person from liability to the extent that the person developed or created any content in violation of this section.

(f) Subsections (a)(5) to (11) and (b)(2) of this section do not apply to a person who, while employed or contracted by a newspaper, magazine, press association, news agency, news wire service, cable channel or cable operator, or radio or television station, is gathering, processing, transmitting, compiling, editing or disseminating information for the general public, within the scope of the person's employment in that capacity or the person's contractual authority in that capacity.

(g) As used in this section:

(1) "Economic harm" means all direct, incidental, and consequential pecuniary harm suffered by a victim as a result of criminal conduct. "Economic harm" includes, but is not limited to, all of the following:

- A. All wages, salaries, or other compensation lost as a result of the criminal conduct;
- B. The cost of all wages, salaries or other compensation paid to employees for time those employees are prevented from working as a result of the criminal conduct;
- C. The overhead costs incurred for the time that a business is shut down as a result of the criminal conduct;
- D. The loss of value to tangible or intangible property that was damaged as a result of the criminal conduct.

(2) "Caller" means the person described in subsection (a) hereof who makes or causes to be made a telecommunication or who permits a telecommunication to be made from a telecommunications device under that person's control.

(3) "Telecommunication" and "telecommunications device" have the same meanings as in Ohio R.C. 2913.01.

(4) "Sexual activity" has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 2907.01.

(5) "Family or household member" means any of the following:

- A. Any of the following who is residing or has resided with the recipient of the telecommunication against whom the act prohibited in subsection (a)(9) of this section is

committed:

1. A spouse, a person living as a spouse, or a former spouse of the recipient;
2. A parent, a foster parent, or a child of the recipient, or another person related by consanguinity or affinity to the recipient;
- 3.. A parent or a child of a spouse, person living as a spouse, or former spouse of the recipient, or another person related by consanguinity or affinity to a spouse, person living as a spouse, or former spouse of the recipient.

B. The natural parent of any child of whom the recipient of the telecommunication against whom the act prohibited in subsection (a)(9) of this section is committed is the other natural parent or is the putative other natural parent.

(6) "Person living as a spouse" means a person who is living or has lived with the recipient of the telecommunication against whom the act prohibited in subsection (a)(9) of this section is committed in a common law marital relationship, who otherwise is cohabiting with the recipient, or who otherwise has cohabited with the recipient within five years prior to the date of the alleged commission of the act in question.

(7) "Cable operator" has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 1332.21.

(h) Nothing in this section prohibits a person from making a telecommunication call to a debtor that is in compliance with the "Fair Debt Collection Practices Act", 91 Stat. 874 (1977), 15 U.S.C. 1692, as amended, or the "Telephone Consumer Protection Act", 105 Stat. 2395 (1991), 47 U.S.C. 227, as amended. (ORC 2917.21)

537.11 THREATENING OR HARASSING TELEPHONE CALLS.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Former Ohio R.C. 4931.31 from which Section 537.11 was derived was repealed by Senate Bill 162, effective September 13, 2010. See now Section 537.10 "Telecommunication Harassment".)

537.12 MISUSE OF 9-1-1 SYSTEM.

(a) "9-1-1 system" means a system through which individuals can request emergency service using the access number 9-1-1. (ORC 128.01(A))

(b) No person shall knowingly use the telephone number of the 9-1-1 system established under Ohio R.C. Chapter 128 to report an emergency if he knows that no emergency exists.

(c) No person shall knowingly use a 9-1-1 system for a purpose other than obtaining emergency service.

(d) No person shall disclose or use any information concerning telephone numbers, addresses, or names obtained from the data base that serves the public safety answering point of a 9-1-1 system established under Ohio R.C. Chapter 128, except for any of the following purposes or under any of the following circumstances:

- (1) For the purpose of the 9-1-1 system;
- (2) For the purpose of responding to an emergency call to an emergency service provider;
- (3) In the circumstance of the inadvertent disclosure of such information due solely to technology of the wireline telephone network portion of the 9-1-1 system not allowing access to the data base to be restricted to 9-1-1 specific answering lines at a public safety answering point;
- (4) In the circumstance of access to a data base being given by a telephone company that is a wireline service provider to a public utility or municipal utility in handling customer calls in times of public emergency or service outages. The charge, terms, and conditions for the disclosure or use of such information for the purpose of such access to a data base shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the steering committee.

(5) In the circumstance of access to a data base given by a telephone company that is a

wireline service provider to a state and local government in warning of a public emergency, as determined by the steering committee. The charge, terms, and conditions for the disclosure or use of that information for the purpose of access to a data base is subject to the jurisdiction of the steering committee.

(ORC 128.32)

(e) (1) Whoever violates subsection (b) hereof is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.

(2) Whoever violates subsection (c) or (d) hereof is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree on a first offense. For each subsequent offense such person is guilty of a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law. (ORC 128.99)

537.13 ADULTERATING OF OR FURNISHING ADULTERATED FOOD OR CONFECTION.

(a) No person shall do either of the following, knowingly or having reasonable cause to believe that any person may suffer physical harm or be seriously inconvenienced or annoyed thereby:

(1) Place a pin, needle, razor blade, glass, laxative, drug of abuse, or other harmful or hazardous object or substance in any food or confection;

(2) Furnish to any person any food or confection which has been adulterated in violation of subsection (a)(1) hereof. (ORC 3716.11)

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.
(ORC 3716.99(C))

537.14 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.

(a) No person shall knowingly cause or attempt to cause physical harm to a family or household member.

(b) No person shall recklessly cause serious physical harm to a family or household member.

(c) No person, by threat of force, shall knowingly cause a family or household member to believe that the offender will cause imminent physical harm to the family or household member.

(d) (1) Whoever violates this section is guilty of domestic violence.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (d)(3) to (5) of this section, a violation of subsection (c) of this section is a misdemeanor of the fourth degree, and a violation of subsection (a) or (b) of this section is a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(3) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (d)(4) of this section, if the offender previously has pleaded guilty to or been convicted of domestic violence, a violation of an existing or former municipal ordinance or law of this or any other state or the United States that is substantially similar to domestic violence, a violation of Ohio R.C. 2903.14, 2909.06, 2909.07, 2911.12, 2911.211, or 2919.22 if the victim of the violation was a family or household member at the time of the violation, a violation of an existing or former municipal ordinance or law of this or any other state or the United States that is substantially similar to any of those sections if the victim of the violation was a family or household member at the time of the commission of the violation, or any offense of violence if the victim of the offense was a family or household member at the time of the commission of the offense, a violation of subsection (a) or (b) of this section is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate state law, and a violation of subsection (c) of this section is a misdemeanor of the second degree.

(4) If the offender previously has pleaded guilty to or been convicted of two or more offenses of domestic violence or two or more violations or offenses of the type described in subsection (d)(3) of this section involving a person who was a family or household member at the time of the violations or offenses, a violation of subsection (a) or (b) of this section is a felony to be prosecuted under appropriate state law. A violation of subsection (c) of this section is a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the offender previously has pleaded guilty to or been convicted of two or more

offenses of domestic violence or two or more violations or offenses of the type described in subsection (d)(3) of this section involving a person who was a family or household member at the time of the violations or offenses, and the offender knew that the victim of the violation was pregnant at the time of the violation, a violation of subsection (a) or (b) of this section is a felony to be prosecuted under appropriate state law.

(5) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (d)(3) or (4) of this section, if the offender knew that the victim of the violation was pregnant at the time of the violation, a violation of subsection (a) or (b) of this section is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law, and a violation of subsection (c) of this section is a misdemeanor of the third degree.

(e) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, no court or unit of local government shall charge any fee, cost, deposit, or money in connection with the filing of charges against a person alleging that the person violated this section or in connection with the prosecution of any charges so filed.

(f) As used in this section:

(1) "Family or household member" means any of the following:

A. Any of the following who is residing or has resided with the offender:

1. A spouse, a person living as a spouse or a former spouse of the offender;
2. A parent, a foster parent or a child of the offender, or another person related by

consanguinity or affinity to the offender;

3. A parent, or a child of a spouse, person living as a spouse, or former spouse of the offender; or another person related by consanguinity or affinity to a spouse, person living as a spouse or former spouse of the offender.

B. The natural parent of any child of whom the offender is the other natural parent or is the putative other natural parent.

(2) "Person living as a spouse" means a person who is living or has lived with the offender in a common law marital relationship, who otherwise is cohabiting with the offender, or who otherwise has cohabited with the offender within five years prior to the date of the alleged commission of the act in question.

(ORC 2919.25)

(g) The same relief available under the Ohio Revised Code for filing a complaint for violation of Ohio R.C. 2919.25 shall be available for filing a complaint for violation of this section.

537.15 ANNOYING BUILDING OCCUPANTS.

(a) No person, without proper occasion, shall disturb or annoy the occupants of any dwelling, building, store or other place by knocking on the door, gate or window of such structure, or by ringing the doorbell attached thereto.

(Ord. 63-71. Passed 9-14-71.)

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.

537.16 MOLESTING OR INSULTING PERSONS.

(a) No person shall, unreasonably and without lawful purpose, follow, pursue, lay hands on or otherwise molest or insult any other person.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.

537.17 TEMPORARY PROTECTION ORDER.

(a) No person shall recklessly violate the terms of any of the following:

(1) A protection order issued or consent agreement approved pursuant to Ohio R.C. 2919.26 or 3113.31;

- (2) A protection order issued pursuant to Ohio R.C. 2151.34, 2903.213 or 2903.214;
 - (3) A protection order issued by a court of another state.
- (b) (1) Whoever violates this section is guilty of violating a protection order.
- (2) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b)(3) of this section, violating a protection order is a misdemeanor of the first degree.
- (3) Violating a protection order is a felony and shall be prosecuted under State law if the offender previously has been convicted of, pleaded guilty to, or been adjudicated a delinquent child for any of the following:
- A. A violation of a protection order issued or consent agreement approved pursuant to Ohio R.C. 2151.34, 2903.213, 2903.214, 2919.26, or 3113.31;
 - B. Two or more violations of Ohio R.C. 2903.21, 2903.211, 2903.22, or 2911.211 or any combination of those offenses that involved the same person who is the subject of the protection order or consent agreement;
 - C. One or more violations of this section.
- (4) If the offender violates a protection order or consent agreement while committing a felony offense, violating a protection order is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate state law.
- (5) If the protection order violated by the offender was an order issued pursuant to Ohio R.C. 2151.34 or 2903.214 that required electronic monitoring of the offender pursuant to that section, the court may require in addition to any other sentence imposed upon the offender that the offender be electronically monitored for a period not exceeding five years by a law enforcement agency designated by the court. If the court requires under this subsection that the offender be electronically monitored, unless the court determines that the offender is indigent, the court shall order that the offender pay the costs of the installation of the electronic monitoring device and the cost of monitoring the electronic monitoring device.
- (c) It is an affirmative defense to a charge under subsection (a)(3) of this section that the protection order issued by a court of another state does not comply with the requirements specified in 18 U.S.C. 2265(b) for a protection order that must be accorded full faith and credit by a court of this State or that it is not entitled to full faith and credit under 18 U.S.C. 2265(c).
- (d) In a prosecution for a violation of this section, it is not necessary for the prosecution to prove that the protection order or consent agreement was served on the defendant if the prosecution proves that the defendant was shown the protection order or consent agreement or a copy of either or a judge, magistrate, or law enforcement officer informed the defendant that a protection order or consent agreement had been issued, and proves that the defendant recklessly violated the terms of the order or agreement.
- (e) As used in this section, "protection order issued by a court of another state" means an injunction or another order issued by a criminal court of another state for the purpose of preventing violent or threatening acts or harassment against, contact or communication with, or physical proximity to another person, including a temporary order, and means an injunction or order of that nature issued by a civil court of another state, including a temporary order and a final order issued in an independent action or as a pendente lite order in a proceeding for other relief, if the court issued it in response to a complaint, petition or motion filed by or on behalf of a person seeking protection. "Protection order issued by a court of another state" does not include an order for support or for custody of a child. (ORC 2919.27)

NICOTINE PRODUCTS; TRANSACTION SCANS.

(a) Illegal Distribution of Cigarettes, Other Tobacco Products, or Alternative Nicotine Products.

(1) As used in this section:

A. "Age verification." A service provided by an independent third party (other than a manufacturer, producer, distributor, wholesaler, or retailer of cigarettes, other tobacco products, alternative nicotine products, or papers used to roll cigarettes) that compares information available from a commercially available database, or aggregate of databases, that regularly are used by government and businesses for the purpose of age and identity verification to personal information provided during an internet sale or other remote method of sale to establish that the purchaser is twenty-one years of age or older.

B. "Alternative nicotine product."

1. Subject to subsection (a)(1)B.2. of this section, an electronic smoking device, vapor product, or any other product or device that consists of or contains nicotine that can be ingested into the body by any means, including, but not limited to, chewing, smoking, absorbing, dissolving, or inhaling.

2. The phrase does not include any of the following:

- a. Any cigarette or other tobacco product;
- b. Any product that is a "drug" as that term is defined in 21 U.S.C. 321(g)(1);
- c. Any product that is a "device" as that term is defined in 21 U.S.C. 321(h);
- d. Any product that is a "combination product" as described in 21 U.S.C. 353(g).

C. "Cigarette." Includes clove cigarettes and hand-rolled cigarettes.

D. "Distribute." Means to furnish, give, or provide cigarettes, other tobacco products, alternative nicotine products, or papers used to roll cigarettes to the ultimate consumer of the cigarettes, other tobacco products, alternative nicotine products, or papers used to roll cigarettes.

E. "Electronic smoking device." Means any device that can be used to deliver aerosolized or vaporized nicotine or any other substance to the person inhaling from the device including an electronic cigarette, electronic cigar, electronic hookah, vaping pen, or electronic pipe. The phrase includes any component, part, or accessory of such a device, whether or not sold separately, and includes any substance intended to be aerosolized or vaporized during the use of the device. The phrase does not include any product that is a drug, device, or combination product, as those terms are defined or described in 21 U.S.C. 321 and 353(g).

F. "Proof of age." Means a driver's license, a commercial driver's license, a military identification card, a passport, or an identification card issued under Ohio R.C. 4507.50 to 4507.52 that shows that a person is twenty-one years of age or older.

G. "Tobacco product." Means any product that is made or derived from tobacco or that contains any form of nicotine, if it is intended for human consumption or is likely to be consumed, whether smoked, heated, chewed, absorbed, dissolved, inhaled, or ingested by any other means, including, but not limited to, a cigarette, an electronic smoking device, a cigar, pipe tobacco, chewing tobacco, snuff, or snus. The phrase also means any component or accessory used in the consumption of a tobacco product, such as filters, rolling papers, pipes, blunt or hemp wraps, and liquids used in electronic smoking devices, whether or not they contain nicotine. The phrase does not include any product that is a drug, device, or combination product, as those terms are defined or described in 21 U.S.C. 321 and 353(g).

H. "Vapor product." Means a product, other than a cigarette or other tobacco product as defined in Ohio R.C. Chapter 5743, that contains or is made or derived from nicotine and that is intended and marketed for human consumption, including by smoking, inhaling, snorting, or sniffing. The

phrase includes any component, part, or additive that is intended for use in an electronic smoking device, a mechanical heating element, battery, or electronic circuit and is used to deliver the product. The phrase does not include any product that is a drug, device, or combination product, as those terms are defined or described in 21 U.S.C. 321 and 353(g). The phrase includes any product containing nicotine, regardless of concentration.

I. "Vending machine." Has the same meaning as "coin machine" in Ohio R.C. 2913.01.

(2) No manufacturer, producer, distributor, wholesaler, or retailer of cigarettes, other tobacco products, alternative nicotine products, or papers used to roll cigarettes, no agent, employee, or representative of a manufacturer, producer, distributor, wholesaler, or retailer of cigarettes, other tobacco products, alternative nicotine products, or papers used to roll cigarettes, and no other person shall do any of the following:

A. Give, sell, or otherwise distribute cigarettes, other tobacco products, alternative nicotine products, or papers used to roll cigarettes:

1. To any person under twenty-one years of age; or
2. Without first verifying proof of age.

B. Give away, sell, or distribute cigarettes, other tobacco products, alternative nicotine products, or papers used to roll cigarettes in any place that does not have posted in a conspicuous place a legibly printed sign in letters at least one-half inch high stating that giving, selling, or otherwise distributing cigarettes, other tobacco products, alternative nicotine products, or papers used to roll cigarettes to a person under twenty-one years of age is prohibited by law;

C. Knowingly furnish any false information regarding the name, age, or other identification of any person under twenty-one years of age with purpose to obtain cigarettes, other tobacco products, alternative nicotine products, or papers used to roll cigarettes for that person;

D. Manufacture, sell, or distribute in this state any pack or other container of cigarettes containing fewer than twenty cigarettes or any package of roll-your-own tobacco containing less than six-tenths of one ounce of tobacco;

E. Sell cigarettes or alternative nicotine products in a smaller quantity than that placed in the pack or other container by the manufacturer;

F. Give, sell, or otherwise distribute alternative nicotine products, papers used to roll cigarettes, or tobacco products other than cigarettes over the internet or through another remote method without age verification.

G. Allow an employee under eighteen years of age to sell any tobacco product;

H. Give away or otherwise distribute free samples of cigarettes, other tobacco products, alternative nicotine products, or coupons redeemable for cigarettes, other tobacco products or alternative tobacco products.

(3) No person shall sell or offer to sell cigarettes, other tobacco products, or alternative nicotine products by or from a vending machine, except in the following locations:

A. An area within a factory, business, office, or other place not open to the general public;

B. An area to which persons under twenty-one years of age are not generally permitted access;

C. Any other place not identified in subsection (a)(3)A. or B. of this section, upon all of the following conditions:

1. The vending machine is located within the immediate vicinity, plain view, and control of the person who owns or operates the place, or an employee of that person, so that all cigarettes, other tobacco product, and alternative nicotine product purchases from the vending machine will be readily observed by the person who owns or operates the place or an employee of that person.

For the purpose of this section, a vending machine located in any unmonitored area, including an unmonitored coatroom, restroom, hallway, or outer waiting area, shall not be considered located within the immediate vicinity, plain view, and control of the person who owns or operates the place, or an employee of that person.

2. The vending machine is inaccessible to the public when the place is closed.

3. A clearly visible notice is posted in the area where the vending machine is located that states the following in letters that are legibly printed and at least one-half inch high: "It is illegal for any person under the age of twenty-one to purchase tobacco or alternative nicotine products."

(4) The following are affirmative defenses to a charge under subsection (a)(2)A. of this section:

A. The person under twenty-one years of age was accompanied by a parent, spouse who is twenty-one years of age or older, or legal guardian of the person under twenty-one years of age.

B. The person who gave, sold, or distributed cigarettes, other tobacco products, alternative nicotine products, or papers used to roll cigarettes to a person under twenty-one years of age under subsection (a)(2)A. of this section is a parent, spouse who is twenty-one years of age or older, or legal guardian of the person under twenty-one years of age.

(5) A. It is not a violation of subsection (a)(2)A. or B. of this section for a person to give or otherwise distribute to a person under twenty-one years of age cigarettes, other tobacco products, alternative nicotine products, or papers used to roll cigarettes while the person under twenty-one years of age is participating in a research protocol if all of the following apply:

1. The parent, guardian, or legal custodian of the person under twenty-one years of age has consented in writing to the person under twenty-one years of age participating in the research protocol.

2. An institutional human subjects protection review board, or an equivalent entity, has approved the research protocol.

3. The person under twenty-one years of age is participating in the research protocol at the facility or location specified in the research protocol.

B. It is not a violation of subsection (a)(2)A. or B. of this section for an employer to permit an employee eighteen, nineteen or twenty years of age to sell a tobacco product.

(6) A. No delivery service shall accept from, transport or deliver to, or allow pick-up by, a person under twenty-one years of age with respect to any of the following:

1. Alternative nicotine products;
2. Papers used to roll cigarettes;
3. Tobacco products other than cigarettes.

B. A delivery service shall require proof of age as a condition of accepting, transporting, delivering, or allowing pickup of the items described in subsections (a)(6)A1. to 3. of this section.

(7) Whoever violates subsections (a)(2)A., B., D., E., F., G., H., (3) or (6) of this section is guilty of illegal distribution of cigarettes, other tobacco products, or alternative nicotine products. Except as otherwise provided in this division, illegal distribution of cigarettes, other tobacco products, or alternative nicotine products is a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to illegal distribution of cigarettes, other tobacco products, or alternative nicotine products is a misdemeanor of the third degree.

(8) A. Notwithstanding Ohio R.C. 2929.28(A)(2), if an offender is convicted of or pleads guilty to a violation of subsection (a)(2)A. of this section, the court shall impose a fine in the following amount:

1. Except as otherwise provided in subsections (a)(8)A.2., (a)(8)A.3., (a)(8)A.4., and

(a)(8)A.5. of this section, not more than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00);

2. Except as otherwise provided in subsections (a)(8)A.3., (a)(8)A.4., and (a)(8)A.5. of this section, if an offender has previously been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a violation of subsection (a)(2)A. of this section or a substantially equivalent state law or municipal ordinance, not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00);

3. Except as otherwise provided in subsections (a)(8)A.4. and (a)(8)A.5. of this section, if an offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to two or more violations of subsection (a)(2)A. of this section or a substantially equivalent state law or municipal ordinance, five hundred dollars (\$500.00);

4. Except as otherwise provided in subsection (a)(8)A.5. of this section, if an offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to three or more violations of subsection (a)(2)A. of this section or a substantially equivalent state law or municipal ordinance, one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00);

5. If an offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to four or more violations of subsection (a)(2)A. of this section or a substantially equivalent state law or municipal ordinance, one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500),

B. The financial sanctions required by subsection (a)(8)A. of this section are in lieu of the financial sanctions described in Ohio R.C. 2929.28(A)(2), but are in addition to any other sanctions or penalties that may apply to the offender, including other financial sanctions under that section or a jail term under Ohio R.C. 2929.24.

(9) Whoever violates subsection (a)(2)C. of this section is guilty of permitting a person under twenty-one years of age to use cigarettes, other tobacco products, or alternative nicotine products. Except as otherwise provided in this division, permitting a person under twenty-one years of age to use cigarettes, other tobacco products, or alternative nicotine products is a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If the offender previously has been convicted of a violation of subsection (a)(2)C. of this section or a substantially equivalent state law or municipal ordinance, permitting a person under twenty-one years of age to use cigarettes, other tobacco products, or alternative nicotine products is a misdemeanor of the third degree.

(10) Any cigarettes, other tobacco products, alternative nicotine products, or papers used to roll cigarettes that are given, sold, or otherwise distributed to a person under twenty-one years of age in violation of this section and that are used, possessed, purchased, or received by a person under twenty-one years of age in violation of Ohio R.C. 2151.87 are subject to seizure and forfeiture as contraband under Ohio R.C. Chapter 2981. (ORC 2927.02)

(b) Transaction Scan.

(1) For the purpose of this subsection (b) and subsection (c) of this section, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

A. "Card holder." Any person who presents a driver's or commercial driver's license or an identification card to a seller, or an agent or employee of a seller, to purchase or receive cigarettes, other tobacco products, or alternative nicotine products from a seller, agent or employee.

B. "Identification card." An identification card issued under Ohio R.C. 4507.50 to 4507.52.

C. "Seller." A seller of cigarettes, other tobacco products, or alternative nicotine products and includes any person whose gift of or other distribution of cigarettes, other tobacco products, or alternative nicotine products is subject to the prohibitions of subsection (a) of this section.

D. "Transaction scan." The process by which a seller or an agent or employee of a seller checks, by means of a transaction scan device, the validity of a driver's or commercial driver's license or an identification card that is presented as a condition for purchasing or receiving

cigarettes, other tobacco products, or alternative nicotine products.

E. "Transaction scan device." Any commercial device or combination of devices used at a point of sale that is capable of deciphering in an electronically readable format the information encoded on the magnetic strip or bar code of a driver's or commercial driver's license or an identification card.

(2) A. A seller or an agent or employee of a seller may perform a transaction scan by means of a transaction scan device to check the validity of a driver's or commercial driver's license or identification card presented by a card holder as a condition for selling, giving away or otherwise distributing to the card holder cigarettes, other tobacco products, or alternative nicotine products.

B. If the information deciphered by the transaction scan performed under subsection (b)(2)A. of this section fails to match the information printed on the driver's or commercial driver's license or identification card presented by the card holder, or if the transaction scan indicates that the information so printed is false or fraudulent, neither the seller nor any agent or employee of the seller shall sell, give away or otherwise distribute any cigarettes, other tobacco products, or alternative nicotine products to the card holder.

C. Subsection (b)(2)A. of this section does not preclude a seller or an agent or employee of a seller from using a transaction scan device to check the validity of a document other than a driver's or commercial driver's license or identification card, if the document includes a bar code or magnetic strip that may be scanned by the device, as a condition for selling, giving away or otherwise distributing cigarettes, other tobacco products, or alternative nicotine products to the person presenting the document.

(3) Rules adopted by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles under Ohio R.C. 4301.61(C) apply to the use of transaction scan devices for purposes of this subsection (b) and subsection (c) of this section.

(4) A. No seller or agent or employee of a seller shall electronically or mechanically record or maintain any information derived from a transaction scan, except for the following:

1. The name and date of birth of the person listed on the driver's or commercial driver's license or identification card presented by the card holder;
2. The expiration date and identification number of the driver's or commercial driver's license or identification card presented by the card holder.

B. No seller or agent or employee of a seller shall use the information that is derived from a transaction scan or that is permitted to be recorded and maintained under subsection (b)(4)A. of this section, except for purposes of subsection (c) of this section.

C. No seller or agent or employee of a seller shall use a transaction scan device for a purpose other than the purpose specified in subsection (c)(2)A. of this section.

D. No seller or agent or employee of a seller shall sell or otherwise disseminate the information derived from a transaction scan to any third party, including but not limited to selling or otherwise disseminating that information for any marketing, advertising or promotional activities, but a seller or agent or employee of a seller may release that information pursuant to a court order or as specifically authorized by subsection (c) of this section or another section of these Codified Ordinances or the Ohio Revised Code.

(5) Nothing in this subsection (b) or subsection (c) of this section relieves a seller or an agent or employee of a seller of any responsibility to comply with any other applicable local, state or federal laws or rules governing the sale, giving away or other distribution of cigarettes, other tobacco products, or alternative nicotine products.

(6) Whoever violates subsection (b)(2)B. or (b)(4) of this section is guilty of engaging in an

illegal tobacco product or alternative nicotine product transaction scan, and the court may impose upon the offender a civil penalty of up to one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each violation. The Clerk of the Court shall pay each collected civil penalty to the County Treasurer for deposit into the County Treasury.

(ORC 2927.021)

(c) Affirmative Defenses.

(1) A seller or an agent or employee of a seller may not be found guilty of a charge of a violation of subsection (a) of this section in which the age of the purchaser or other recipient of cigarettes, other tobacco products, or alternative nicotine products is an element of the alleged violation, if the seller, agent or employee raises and proves as an affirmative defense that all of the following occurred:

A. A card holder attempting to purchase or receive cigarettes, other tobacco products, or alternative nicotine products presented a driver's or commercial driver's license or an identification card.

B. A transaction scan of the driver's or commercial driver's license or identification card that the card holder presented indicated that the license or card was valid.

C. The cigarettes, other tobacco products, or alternative nicotine products were sold, given away or otherwise distributed to the card holder in reasonable reliance upon the identification presented and the completed transaction scan.

(2) In determining whether a seller or an agent or employee of a seller has proven the affirmative defense provided by subsection (c)(1) of this section, the trier of fact in the action for the alleged violation of subsection (a) of this section shall consider any written policy that the seller has adopted and implemented and that is intended to prevent violations of subsection (a) of this section. For purposes of subsection (c)(1)C. of this section, the trier of fact shall consider that reasonable reliance upon the identification presented and the completed transaction scan may require a seller or an agent or employee of a seller to exercise reasonable diligence to determine, and that the use of a transaction scan device does not excuse a seller or an agent or employee of a seller from exercising reasonable diligence to determine, the following:

A. Whether a person to whom the seller or agent or employee of a seller sells, gives away or otherwise distributes cigarettes, other tobacco products, or alternative nicotine products is twenty-one years of age or older;

B. Whether the description and picture appearing on the driver's or commercial driver's license or identification card presented by a card holder is that of the card holder.

(3) In any criminal action in which the affirmative defense provided by subsection (c)(1) of this section is raised, the Registrar of Motor Vehicles or a Deputy Registrar who issued an identification card under Ohio R.C. 4507.50 to 4507.52 shall be permitted to submit certified copies of the records of that issuance in lieu of the testimony of the personnel of or contractors with the Bureau of Motor Vehicles in the action.

(ORC 2927.022)

(d) Shipment of Tobacco Products.

(1) As used in this subsection (d):

A. "Authorized recipient of tobacco products" means:

1. In the case of cigarettes, a person who is:

a. Licensed as a cigarette wholesale dealer under Ohio R.C. 5743.15;

b. Licensed as a retail dealer as long as the person purchases cigarettes with the appropriate tax stamp affixed;

- c. An export warehouse proprietor as defined in Internal Revenue Code Section 5702;
- d. An operator of a customs bonded warehouse under 19 U.S.C. Section 1311 or 19 U.S.C. Section 1555;
- e. An officer, employee, or agent of the federal government or of this state acting in the person's official capacity;
- f. A department, agency, instrumentality, or political subdivision of the federal government or of this state;
- g. A person having a consent for consumer shipment issued by the Ohio Tax Commissioner under Ohio R.C. 5743.71.

2. In the case of electronic smoking devices or vapor products, a person who is:

- a. Licensed as a distributor of tobacco or vapor products under Ohio R.C. 5743.61;
- b. A retail dealer of vapor products, as defined in Ohio R.C. 5741.01(C)(3), that is not licensed as a vapor distributor, as long as the tax levied by Ohio R.C. 5743.51, 5743.62, or 5743.63, as applicable, has been paid;
- c. An operator of a customs bonded warehouse under 19 U.S.C. Section 1311 or 19 U.S.C. Section 1555;
- d. An officer, employee, or agent of the federal government or of this state acting in the person's official capacity;
- e. A department, agency, instrumentality, or political subdivision of the federal government or of this state.

B. "Motor Carrier," Has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 4923.01.

(2) The purpose of this section is to prevent the sale of cigarettes, electronic smoking devices, and vapor products to minors and to ensure compliance with the Master Settlement Agreement, as defined in Ohio R.C. 1346.01.

(3) A. No person shall cause to be shipped any cigarettes, electronic smoking devices, and vapor products to any person in this municipality other than an authorized recipient of tobacco products.

B. No motor carrier, or other person shall knowingly transport cigarettes, electronic smoking devices, and vapor products to any person in this municipality that the carrier or other person reasonably believes is not an authorized recipient of tobacco products. If cigarettes, electronic smoking devices, and vapor products are transported to a home or residence, it shall be presumed that the motor carrier, or other person knew that the person to whom the cigarettes, electronic smoking devices, and vapor products were delivered was not an authorized recipient of tobacco products.

(4) No person engaged in the business of selling cigarettes, electronic smoking devices, and vapor products who ships or causes to be shipped cigarettes, electronic smoking devices, and vapor products to any person in this municipality in any container or wrapping other than the original container or wrapping shall fail to plainly and visibly mark the exterior of the container or wrapping in which the cigarettes, electronic smoking devices, and vapor products are shipped with the words "cigarettes", "electronic smoking devices", or "vapor products", as applicable.

(5) A court shall impose a fine of up to one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each violation of subsection (d)(3)A., (d)(3)B. or (d)(4) of this section.

(ORC 2927.023)

(e) Furnishing False Information to Obtain Tobacco Products.

(1) No person who is eighteen years of age or older but younger than twenty-one years of age shall knowingly furnish false information concerning that person's name, age, or other

identification for the purpose of obtaining tobacco products.

(2) Whoever violates subsection (e)(1) of this section is guilty of furnishing false information to obtain tobacco products. Except as otherwise provided in this division, furnishing false information to obtain tobacco products is a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a violation of subsection (e)(1) of this section or a substantially equivalent state law or municipal ordinance, furnishing false information to obtain tobacco products is a misdemeanor of the third degree.

(ORC 2927.024)

Disclaimer: This Code of Ordinances and/or any other documents that appear on this site may not reflect the most current legislation adopted by the Municipality. American Legal Publishing provides these documents for informational purposes only. These documents should not be relied upon as the definitive authority for local legislation. Additionally, the formatting and pagination of the posted documents varies from the formatting and pagination of the official copy. The official printed copy of a Code of Ordinances should be consulted prior to any action being taken.

For further information regarding the official version of any of this Code of Ordinances or other documents posted on this site, please contact the Municipality directly or contact American Legal Publishing toll-free at 800-445-5588.

Hosted by: American Legal Publishing

[Back to Code Library](#)

[Previous Doc](#)

[Next Doc](#)

0 items available

Detected legislative history

- Ordinances of Sheffield Lake, OH
- ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SHEFFIELD LAKE, OHIO
- ORDINANCE NO. 116-84
- ORDINANCES OF SHEFFIELD LAKE
- orderly Conduct and Peace Disturbance
- ORDER
- ordance with the terms of a court order that is issued in relation to the investigation or prosecution of an alleged violation of this section
- amended, or the "Telephone Consumer Protection Act", 105 Stat
- amended
- repealed by Senate Bill 162, effective September 13, 2010
- ordinance or law of this or any other state or the United States that is substantially similar to domestic violence, a violation of Ohio R

- ordinance or law of this or any other state or the United States that is substantially similar to any of those sections if the victim of the violation was a family or household member at the
- Ord. 63-71
- order issued or consent agreement approved pursuant to Ohio R
- order issued pursuant to Ohio R
- order issued by a court of another state
- order
- order is a misdemeanor of the first degree
- order is a felony and shall be prosecuted under State law if the offender previously has been convicted of, pleaded guilty to, or been adjudicated a delinquent child for any of the fo
- order or consent agreement;
- order or consent agreement while committing a felony offense, violating a protection order is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate state law
- order violated by the offender was an order issued pursuant to Ohio R
- order that the offender pay the costs of the installation of the electronic monitoring device and the cost of monitoring the electronic monitoring device
- order issued by a court of another state does not comply with the requirements specified in 18 U
- order that must be accorded full faith and credit by a court of this State or that it is not entitled to full faith and credit under 18 U
- order or consent agreement was served on the defendant if the prosecution proves that the defendant was shown the protection order or consent agreement or a copy of either or a judge,
- order or consent agreement had been issued, and proves that the defendant recklessly violated the terms of the order or agreement
- order issued by a court of another state” means an injunction or another order issued by a criminal court of another state for the purpose of preventing violent or threatening acts or
- order, and means an injunction or order of that nature issued by a civil court of another state, including a temporary order and a final order issued in an independent action or as a
- order in a proceeding for other relief, if the court issued it in response to a complaint, petition or motion filed by or on behalf of a person seeking protection
- order issued by a court of another state” does not include an order for support or for custody of a child
- ordinance, not more than five hundred dollars (\$500
- ordinance, five hundred dollars (\$500
- ordinance, one thousand dollars (\$1,000
- ordinance, one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500),
- ordinance, permitting a person under twenty-one years of age to use cigarettes, other tobacco products, or alternative nicotine products is a misdemeanor of the third degree
- adopted by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles under Ohio R
- ord or maintain any information derived from a transaction scan, except for the following:
- orded and maintained under subsection (b)(4)A

- order or as specifically authorized by subsection (c) of this section or another section of these Codified Ordinances or the Ohio Revised Code
- adopted and implemented and that is intended to prevent violations of subsection (a) of this section
- ords of that issuance in lieu of the testimony of the personnel of or contractors with the Bureau of Motor Vehicles in the action
- ords "cigarettes", "electronic smoking devices", or "vapor products", as applicable
- ordinance, furnishing false information to obtain tobacco products is a misdemeanor of the third degree
- Ordinances and/or any other documents that appear on this site may not reflect the most current legislation adopted by the Municipality
- Ordinances should be consulted prior to any action being taken
- Ordinances or other documents posted on this site, please contact the Municipality directly or contact American Legal Publishing toll-free at 800-445-5588

Imported automatically by MunicipalWiki. The original publisher remains the authoritative source pending legal normalization and verification.

Revision #1

Created 2026-07-18 21:37:03 UTC by MunicipalWiki Indexer

Updated 2026-07-18 21:37:03 UTC by MunicipalWiki Indexer