

1 Introduced by Council Members Cumber and Carlucci:  
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4 **ORDINANCE 2023-48-W**

5 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 656 (ZONING CODE),  
6 PART 13 (SIGN REGULATIONS), SUBPART A (GENERAL  
7 PROVISIONS), SECTION 656.1309 (UNLAWFUL SIGN  
8 MESSAGES), *ORDINANCE CODE*, TO PROHIBIT  
9 UNAUTHORIZED SIGNS THAT ARE PROJECTED ONTO  
10 BUILDINGS, STRUCTURES OR OTHER PLACES; PROVIDING  
11 CODIFICATION INSTRUCTIONS; REQUESTING EMERGENCY  
12 PASSAGE UPON INTRODUCTION; PROVIDING AN  
13 EFFECTIVE DATE.

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15 **BE IT ORDAINED** by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

16 **Section 1. Amending Chapter 656 (Zoning Code), Part 13**  
17 **(Sign Regulations), Subpart A (General Provisions), Section 656.1309**  
18 **(Unlawful sign messages), Ordinance Code.** Chapter 656 (Zoning Code),  
19 Part 13 (Sign Regulations), Subpart A (General Provisions), Section  
20 656.1309 (Unlawful sign messages), *Ordinance Code*, is hereby amended  
21 to read as follows:

22 **CHAPTER 656**

23 \* \* \*

24 **PART 13. - SIGN REGULATIONS**

25 **SUBPART A. - GENERAL PROVISIONS**

26 \* \* \*

27 **Sec. 656.1309. Unlawful signs.~~Unlawful sign messages.~~**

- 28 (a) Projections of light, laser beams or any other medium  
29 to form text, graphics, logos, or artwork upon streets,  
30 walkways, fences, sign structures, land or water  
31 surfaces, or exterior walls or other exterior portions

1 of buildings or any other structure are prohibited,  
2 except that an owner may project a sign onto an exterior  
3 portion of his or her own property, building or structure  
4 if the area occupied by such sign does not otherwise  
5 violate applicable sign regulations included in this  
6 Part. The person or business who owns or is advertised  
7 or identified on the sign shall be presumed to have  
8 permitted the placement of the sign in the absence of  
9 credible evidence to the contrary and may be cited for  
10 violation of this subsection by either the City's  
11 Municipal Code Compliance Division or the Jacksonville  
12 Sheriff's Office, and the person or business installing  
13 or projecting the sign is also in violation of this  
14 subsection. Violations of this subsection shall  
15 constitute a class D offense; however, projections of  
16 text, graphics, logos, or artwork onto a building,  
17 structure or any other place (including public spaces)  
18 without the consent of the owner or person in control  
19 of the building, structure or space shall constitute  
20 blight and graffiti, and pursuant to Sections 806.13 and  
21 125.69, Florida Statutes, these violations shall  
22 constitute a second degree misdemeanor punishable by a  
23 definite term of imprisonment of up to 60 days  
24 (discretionary) and a fine not less than \$2000 (non-  
25 discretionary), and any equipment or vehicles used in  
26 furtherance of this crime shall be seized by the  
27 Jacksonville Sheriff's Office and forfeited to the  
28 City.~~Reserved.~~

29 \* \* \*

30 **Section 2. Codification Instructions.** The Codifier and the  
31 Office of General Counsel are authorized to make all chapter and

1 division "table of contents" consistent with the changes set forth  
2 herein. Such editorial changes and any other necessary changes to  
3 make the *Ordinance Code* consistent with the intent of this legislation  
4 are approved and directed herein, and the changes to the *Ordinance*  
5 *Code* shall be made forthwith and when inconsistencies are discovered.

6 **Section 3. Requesting Emergency Passage Upon Introduction**  
7 **Pursuant to Council Rule 4.901 Emergency.** Emergency passage upon  
8 introduction of this legislation is requested. The nature of the  
9 emergency is that publicly and privately owned lands, buildings and  
10 structures are not appropriate venues for installation or display of  
11 signage depicting personal or private messages or opinions without  
12 the consent of the property owner. Such illegal projections have  
13 recently been used to publish the personal messages of the projecting  
14 individual, to which the owners of the spaces used to display such  
15 personal messages have ardently objected. To ensure the types of  
16 displays prohibited by this new Code provision can be immediately  
17 enforced by the City's Municipal Code Compliance Division and the  
18 Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, emergency passage upon introduction  
19 of this legislation is necessary.

20 **Section 4. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall become  
21 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective  
22 without the Mayor's signature.

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24 Form Approved:

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26           /s/ Carla A. Lopera          

27 Office of General Counsel

28 Legislation prepared by: Mary E. Staffopoulos

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