

**ORDINANCE NO. 1302 SUPPLEMENTAL  
AMENDING CHAPTER 242 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCE ADDING SECTION 242-5  
PROHIBITING THE POSSESSION OF FIREARMS AND EXPLOSIVES IN GOVERNMENT  
BUILDINGS AND POLLING PLACES**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Representatives desires to adopt an ordinance prohibiting the possession of explosives and firearms in government buildings and near polling places during times when voting is taking place, in order to ensure the general health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Stamford and to protect them from the use of explosives and firearms in Government Buildings.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF STAMFORD THAT:**

Chapter 242 of the Stamford Code of Ordinances, Weapons, be appended as follows:

**Sec. 242-5. - Possession of Firearms and Explosives in Government Buildings and Polling Places Prohibited.**

**A. Definitions.**

1. Explosive. The word "explosive" as used herein, has the same meaning as the word "explosive" as defined by Connecticut General Statutes § 29-343.
2. Firearm. Any instrument designed, made, and intended to expel a projectile by means of explosion of a combustible material, including but not limited to any sawed-off shotgun, machine gun, rifle, shotgun, pistol, revolver or other weapon, whether loaded or unloaded. The firearm need not be operable or capable of firing.
3. Government Building. Any building, its grounds, approaches, and appurtenances, that is owned, leased, or controlled by the City of Stamford. The word Government Building as used herein also includes the portion of any building that is owned, leased, or controlled by the City of Stamford.

**B. Acts Prohibited.**

1. No person may possess any explosive or any firearm, whether in an open or concealed manner, in any Government Building.
2. No person may possess any explosive or any firearm, whether in an open or concealed manner, within 500 feet of any polling location or a ballot drop box within the City of Stamford on the day of an election or during the time when voting is permitted for any election or at a place officially designated for the counting of ballots on any day when ballots are being counted or conducting activities related to a federal, state, or municipal election.

**C. Notice of Prohibitions.**

1. Notice of the prohibitions set forth herein shall be posted conspicuously at all public entrances to the locations wherein the prohibition is applicable.

(a) No person shall be determined to violate this section if signs are not posted as required by this subsection.

**D. Exceptions.**

1. The provisions of this ordinance do not apply to:
  - (a) Any federal, state, or local law enforcement officer when engaged in official duties.
  - (b) Any member of the United States Armed Forces or Connecticut National Guard when engaged in official duties.
  - (c) Private security guards acting in the course of their duties and with appropriate permits.
  - (d) The lawful carrying or lawful possession of a firearm inside a motor vehicle or the lawful storage of a firearm in a motor vehicle.
  - (e) Any retired law enforcement officer in good standing with current HR 218 credentials and with photographic identification issued by the agency from which the individual separated from service that identifies the person as a retired law enforcement officer.

**E. Penalties.**

1. Any person who violates any of the provisions of this Article shall be required to immediately leave the premises. A person who does not leave the premises when required may be subject to additional criminal penalties including but not limited to criminal trespass.

2. Any person who violates any of the provisions of this Article shall be fined an amount not exceeding Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$250.00).


**F. Severability Clause.**

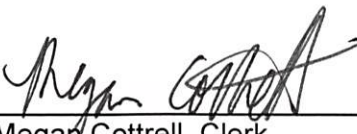
If any section, clause, sentence, or part of this ordinance is adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such invalidity shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the other provisions of this ordinance which can be given effect without such invalid provision.


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Jeff Curtis, President, and Megan Cottrell, Clerk, do hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was approved by a roll call vote of 24-9-2 by the 31st Board of Representatives at the regular Board Meeting held on Monday, February 5, 2024.

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Jeff Curtis, President  
Dated this 14<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2024

  
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Megan Cottrell, Clerk  
Dated this 12<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2024

  
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Caroline Simmons, Mayor, City of Stamford  
Dated this 27<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2024

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 8, 2024

- cc: Mayor Caroline Simmons  
Thomas Cassone, Esq., Law Department  
Elda Sinani, Director of OPM  
Ben Barnes, Director of Administration  
Matthew Quiñones, Director of Operations  
Lyda Ruijter, City & Town Clerk  
Leah Kagan, Director of Economic Development  
Bridget Fox, Chief of Staff  
Lou DeRubeis, Director of Public Safety, Health & Welfare