



# KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

## Signature Report

October 4, 2011

Ordinance 17204

Proposed No. 2011-0327.3

Sponsors Lambert

1 AN ORDINANCE prohibiting certain door-to-door  
2 solicitations; adding a new chapter to K.C.C. Title 12 and  
3 prescribing penalties.

4 STATEMENT OF FACTS:

- 5 1. Currently, property owners and residents in unincorporated King  
6 County who post "No Solicitation" or "No Trespassing" signs have no  
7 effective way of enforcing this request because no county ordinance  
8 restricts the activities of solicitors.
- 9 2. Law enforcement and neighborhood groups report that solicitors using  
10 aggressive tactics have intimidated and harassed residents and sometimes  
11 created fear in neighborhoods, particularly among immigrant cultures and  
12 retirement communities where residents might be more vulnerable.
- 13 3. King County law enforcement agencies have identified some door-to-  
14 door solicitors who appear to have used their access to private property as  
15 an opportunity to engage in criminal activity. For example, police reports  
16 indicate that individuals apparently engaged in door-to-door solicitation  
17 use their access to determine if a residence is occupied before burglarizing  
18 a home.

19 4. Police reports in recent years also indicate that door-to-door solicitation  
20 has been connected to a growing number of complaints and incidents in  
21 unincorporated King County of criminal activity such as scams collecting  
22 money for products or services that are not delivered.

23 5. Residences in the unincorporated areas are more vulnerable to criminal  
24 activity connected to door-to-door solicitation because low-density  
25 neighborhoods have fewer witnesses to criminal activity.

26 6. For residents posting "No Solicitation" or "No Trespassing" signs on  
27 their property, this ordinance will provide law enforcement officers with a  
28 new tool to respond to and address complaints, with the intent of deterring  
29 criminal activities and assisting residents in protecting themselves and  
30 their property.

31 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

32 SECTION 1. Sections 2 through 5 of this ordinance should constitute a new  
33 chapter in K.C.C. Title 12.

34 NEW SECTION. SECTION 2. If a person has not been requested or invited by  
35 the occupant, the person shall not enter or remain upon any private premises for the  
36 purpose of contacting the occupant to solicit the immediate or future purchase or sale of  
37 goods, services or any other thing of value if a sign stating "No Solicitation" or "No  
38 Trespassing" is posted at or near the entrance to the premises.

39 NEW SECTION. SECTION 3. The following are exempted from the  
40 prohibitions in section 2 of this ordinance

41           A. The leaving at private premises printed materials advertising products or  
42 services;

43           B. Solicitations by organizations that are charitable, nonprofit, religious or  
44 political in nature, or by government agencies; and

45           C. Solicitations by farmers exempted under chapter 36.71.090 RCW.

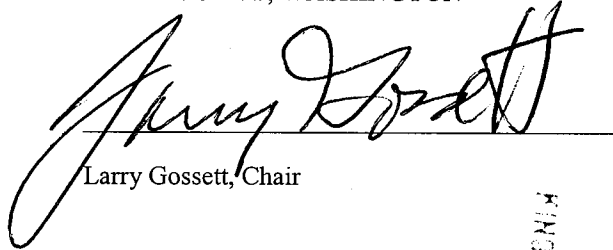
46           NEW SECTION. SECTION 4. The sheriff shall enforce this ordinance, through  
47 means including but not limited to K.C.C. Title 23.

48            NEW SECTION. SECTION 5. A violation of this chapter is a class 2 civil  
49    infraction punishable under chapter 7.80 RCW.  
50

Ordinance 17204 was introduced on 7/18/2011 and passed as amended by the Metropolitan King County Council on 10/3/2011, by the following vote:


Yes: 7 - Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Hague, Ms. Patterson,  
Ms. Lambert, Mr. Ferguson and Mr. McDermott  
No: 0  
Excused: 2 - Mr. Phillips and Mr. Dunn

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Larry Gossett, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this 6 day of OCTOBER, 2011.



Dow Constantine, County Executive

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CLERK  
KING COUNTY COUNCIL

Attachments: None