

City of Woonsocket
Rhode Island

March 16, A.D. 2020



Ordinance

Chapter

8184

**AMENDING CHAPTER 13, ENTITLED "LICENSES AND PERMITS", OF THE
CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WOONSOCKET**

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to create a safe and inviting environment for all residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the City Council intends to regulate door-to-door sales by licensing sales agents; establishing a No Solicitation List; and promulgating reasonable time and manner restrictions on door-to-door solicitation, including enforcement of the No Solicitation List.

**IT IS ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF WOONSOCKET AS FOLLOWS:**

SECTION 1. That Chapter 13, Article 1, Section 13-14. Door-to-Door Solicitation of the Woonsocket City Code is amended by adding the following:

13-14 Door-to-Door Solicitation

13-14.1 Intent:

This chapter is intended to regulate door-to-door sales by licensing sales agents; establishing a No Solicitation List and promulgating reasonable time and manner restrictions on door-to-door solicitation, including enforcement of the No Solicitation List.

13-14.2 Definitions:

The following words and phrases shall have the following meanings:

Door-to-Door Solicitation or Sales: The in-person solicitation of goods or services for present or future delivery by entry upon residential property, including multi-family or duplex residential property from a street, sidewalk, or other adjacent property, without the prior invitation of the person to be solicited.

Door-to-Door Solicitation or Sales Permit: A permit issued to a sales agent to engage in door-to-door sales in accordance with this chapter.

No Solicitation List: A list of residential addresses in the City organized alphabetically by street name, indicating those residential properties placed on the list at the request of the property owner or occupant indicating that they do not want sales agents to enter their property.

Sales Organization: Any entity engaged in the supervision, recruitment, retention, or employment of a salesperson or persons, including any person or representative thereof.

Salesperson: Any person engaged in door-to-door sales of goods or services for present or future delivery.

Sales Supervisor: Any person who directs or supervises a salesperson or persons engaged in door-to-door sales.

13-14.3 Administration:

The City of Woonsocket door-to-door sales permit process shall be administered by the Woonsocket Police Department

13-14.4 Application Requirements:

- A. Each salesperson must apply individually to the Woonsocket Police Department during posted administrative hours by submitting a completed application which shall require:
1. Government-issued photographic identification
 2. Date of birth
 3. Social security number
 4. Permanent residential address
 5. Home telephone number
 6. Temporary local address
 7. Current cell phone number
 8. Sales organization information

9. Sales supervisor identity
10. Make, model, color, and registration number of any vehicle(s) used to transport the sales agent(s), their supervisor, or sales material
11. Such other verifying information as may be reasonably required.

B. An application fee to be established and adjusted from time to time by the City Council shall accompany each City of Woonsocket door-to-door sales permit application.

C. The application will be considered and acted upon within two business days of its submission. If not acted upon within two business days, the applicant shall be notified.

13-14.5 Background Check:

The Woonsocket Police Department shall conduct a criminal record background check of each applicant for a City of Woonsocket door-to-door sales permit to determine the applicant's fitness and suitability to conduct door-to-door sales.

13-14.6 No Solicitation List:

- A. The No Solicitation List shall be established and maintained by the Woonsocket City Clerk. Residents may submit their property for inclusion on the list without charge.
- B. Upon approval and issuance of a City of Woonsocket door-to-door sales permit, each salesperson shall be provided with a copy of the No Solicitation List.

13-14.7 Door-to-Door Sales Regulations:

- A. No salesperson shall engage in door-to-door sales without first having applied for and received a City of Woonsocket door-to-door sales permit
- B. No sales organization shall allow any salesperson to engage in door-to-door sales without first having applied for and received a City of Woonsocket door-to-door sales permit
- C. No sales supervisor shall direct, supervise, or allow any salesperson to engage in door-to-door sales without first having applied for and received a City of Woonsocket door-to-door sales permit
- D. No salesperson shall enter within the perimeter of any residential property included on the No Solicitation List. In addition to the fine(s) established below, inclusion of a residential property on the No Solicitation List shall constitute notice prohibiting trespass.

- E. No salesperson shall solicit sales from a person situated within a residential property included on the No Solicitation List from a street, sidewalk or other adjacent property.
- F. Each person shall carry the City of Woonsocket door-to-door sales permit and corresponding government-issued photographic identification at all times while engaged in door-to-door sales and shall display said permit upon request by any police officer, City Official, or any person present at a residential property where door-to-door sales is solicited.
- G. No salesperson or supervisor shall use any vehicle to transport persons or materials for door-to-door sales unless said vehicle is identified in the City of Woonsocket door-to-door sales permit application and the exterior of said vehicle is marked with the name of the sale organization and the words "DOOR-TO-DOOR SALES." All required information shall be in letters a minimum of four inches in height on both sides of the vehicle.
- H. Door-to-door sales shall only be conducted between the hours of 9:00 am to 7:00 pm Monday through Friday, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm on Saturdays and no door-to-door sales on Sundays.

13-14.8 Penalties:

- A. Each violation of this ordinance shall be punished by a fine not to exceed \$300.00.
- B. Upon the occurrence of a second violation of this ordinance by any salesperson, the issuing authority may revoke that salesperson's City of Woonsocket door-to-door sales permit.

13-14.9 Severability:

The invalidity of any portion or portions of this chapter shall not invalidate any other portion, provision or section thereof.

SECTION 2. This Ordinance shall take effect on the eleventh consecutive day following its passage by the City Council as provided in Chapter III, Section 9 of the Woonsocket Home Rule Charter and all Ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.



Daniel Gendron
City Council President

IN CITY COUNCIL June 1, 2020 - Read by title and passed for the first time unanimously.

IN CITY COUNCIL June 15, 2020 - Read by title and passed unanimously.