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CHAPTER 5

Abandonment of Vehicles Regulation

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Sec. 8-5-1 Title.

This chapter shall be known and referred to as the "City of Wrens Abandonment of Vehicles Regulation Ordinance."

Sec. 8-5-2 Purpose.

In the City of Wrens vehicles are or may be abandoned in the future in the streets and other places within the City. There are or may in the future be dismantled, partially dismantled, wrecked, junked, non-operating or discarded vehicles left about the City other than in junk yards or other appropriate places. Such conditions tend to impede traffic in the streets or interfere with the enjoyment of and reduce the value of private property; invite plundering; create fire hazards and other safety and health hazards to children as well as adults; and interfere with the comfort and general welfare of the public. This chapter is adopted for the physical and economic growth of the City as will best promote the public health, safety, morals, convenience, prosperity, and general welfare of the citizens of the City, and for the purpose of protecting the public. Adequate protection of the public health, safety and welfare requires that such conditions be regulated, abated or prohibited.

Sec. 8-5-3 Definitions.

The following definitions shall apply in the interpretation and enforcement of this chapter:

- a. <u>Person</u> shall mean any person, firm, partnership, association, corporation, company or organization of any kind.
- b. <u>Vehicle</u> shall mean a machine propelled by power other than by human power designed to travel along the ground by use of wheels, treads, runners or slides and transport persons or property or pull machinery and shall include, without limitation, automobile, truck, trailer, mobile home, motorcycle, tractor, buggy and wagon.
- c. <u>Street or Highway</u> shall mean the entire width between the boundary lines of every way publicly maintained when any part thereof is open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel.

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- d. <u>Property</u> shall mean any real property within the City which is not a street or highway.
- e. <u>City</u> shall mean the incorporated area within the City of Wrens, Georgia, and all other areas within the jurisdictional limits of the City of Wrens.

Sec. 8-5-4 Abandonment of Vehicles.

No person shall abandon any vehicle within the City and no person shall leave any vehicle at any place within the City for such time and under such circumstances as to cause such vehicle reasonably to appear to have been abandoned.

Sec. 8-5-5 Leaving of Wrecked, Non-operating Vehicle on Street.

No person shall leave any partially dismantled, non-operating, wrecked or junked vehicle on any street or highway within the City.

Sec. 8-5-6 Disposition of Wrecked or Discarded Vehicles.

No person in charge or control of any property within the City whether as owner, tenant, occupant, lessee, or otherwise, shall allow any partially dismantled, non-operating, wrecked, junked or discarded vehicle to remain on such property longer than seventy-two (72) hours; except that this chapter shall not apply with regard to a vehicle in an enclosed building; a vehicle on the premises of a business enterprise operated in a lawful place and manner, when necessary to the operation of such business enterprise; or a vehicle in an appropriate storage place or depository maintained in a lawful place and manner by the City.

Sec. 8-5-7 Impounding.

The Chief of Police or any duly designated officer of the City is hereby authorized to remove or have removed any vehicle left at any place within the City which reasonably appears to be in violation of this chapter or lost, stolen or unclaimed. Such vehicle shall be impounded until lawfully claimed or disposed of in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 40-11-1 et seq .

Sec. 8-5-8 Penalties.

Any person violating any of the provisions of this chapter shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined in an amount not to exceed One-Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars or be imprisoned for a period not exceeding thirty (30) days or be both so fined and imprisoned. Each day a violation of this chapter is committed or permitted shall constitute a separate offense and shall be punishable as such.