

**AN ORDINANCE ADDING
CHAPTER 31; SECTION 31-111 TAMPERING AND THEFT OF SERVICES
OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE
CITY OF MANSFIELD, GEORGIA**

Whereas, the City of Mansfield has the responsibility to regulate and prohibit any act, practice, or conduct which is detrimental or likely to be detrimental, to the health, sanitation, cleanliness, welfare and safety of the inhabitants of the City and to provide for the enforcement of such standards; and,

Whereas, the City of Mansfield has the power to make, ordain, and establish such ordinances, rules and regulations as shall appear necessary for the security, welfare, convenience and interest of the City and its inhabitants and for preserving the health, peace, order and good government of the City; and,

Whereas, pursuant to its police powers, the City of Mansfield is authorized to enact legislation to regulate certain conduct which could affect the public health, safety and welfare; and,

Therefore, we, the members of the City Council for the City of Mansfield, Georgia, **HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:**

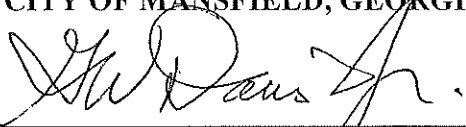

Section 1: Section 31-111 of Chapter 31 of the of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Mansfield, Georgia entitled "Criminal Trespass – Meters" is added and shall read as set forth on Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated herein.

1. It shall be unlawful for any person intentionally and without authority to, with respect to any service manufactured, sold, or distributed by the City of Mansfield:
 - A. injure or destroy any meter, pipe, conduit, wire, line, post, lamp, or other apparatus belonging to the City of Mansfield;
 - B. prevent a meter from properly registering the quantity of such service supplied;
 - C. in any way to interfere with the proper action of the City of Mansfield while engaged in the provision of such services;
 - D. divert any such services; or
 - E. use or cause to be used, without the consent of the City of Mansfield, any such service.
2. The property owner, legal tenant or person(s) noted on the utility account shall be held responsible for the violation of this section. A tampering fine of seven hundred and fifty dollars (\$750.00) shall be assessed for each violation of Section 31-111(1).
3. The City of Mansfield reserves the right to prosecute in the accordance with established laws any violation of Section 31-111(1).
4. If the City of Mansfield determines theft of service has occurred, it reserves the right to adjust the customer's current bill and the bills for the past six (6) months usage. If the approximate amount of service that was stolen cannot be reasonably determined, the customer's usage will be set at three (3) times the average volume.

Section 2: All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby waived to the extent of any such conflict.

Section 3: Such amendment shall be effective as of the day adopted by the City Council for the City of Mansfield, Georgia,

This Ordinance is adopted this 13 day of March, 2023.

	<p>CITY OF MANSFIELD, GEORGIA</p>  <hr/> <p>G. W. Davis, J., Mayor</p>
<p>Attest:</p>  <hr/> <p>Crystal Smallwood, City Clerk</p>	