I. PURPOSE

The Davis Police Department may respond to complaints of loud noise and unlawful indoor wood-burning.

II. PROCEDURE

A. Noise Complaint

1. Dispatch Procedure

   a. The call taker must obtain the complainant’s name, address, and phone number if they want a patrol officer or PSS to take enforcement action.

   b. Enter a call for service using the incident type specific to the violation (Note: Public Works, utility companies, and public safety agencies are exempt from the noise ordinance requirements due to emergency responses):

      MUSIC (loud music)
      NOISE (general or miscellaneous noise: any unreasonable sound, powered blowers, cars, etc.)
      CONSTR (construction noise: power tools, construction equipment, etc.)
      PARTY (party complaint)
      BARK (barking dog, or noise from animal or foul)

      - 9:00 P.M. to 7:00 A.M. –barking three out of five minutes continuously, during a ten-minute period.
      - 7:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M. –barking five out of ten minutes continuously, during a ten-minute period.

   c. Check location history for previous complaints, warnings, citations issued, etc.

   d. Dispatch a PSS unit when on duty, or the beat officer as necessary. If the complaint is in regard to a large party or there are indications from the complainant that the party goers are intoxicated, fighting, or out of control, the beat officer or cover officer should be notified without delay. Include the premise history information with the call broadcast. It is the intent of this policy that an officer be dispatched as soon as possible to reports of large parties.

   e. When field personnel advise or update dispatch with corrected address or apartment number information for the responsible party, edit the incident with the corrected location and record
all dispositions on the call’s incident history. This creates accurate premise history for future problems.

2. Anonymous Complaints

The Police Department cannot take enforcement action on noise complaints when the reporting party refuses to give their name. However, dispatch should enter a call for service with the appropriate incident type as stated above, include extra patrol in the comments, and broadcast an anonymous caller extra patrol noise complaint to the beat officer or PSS. It is the intent of this policy that an officer receiving loud party information check on the status of the party, as time allows.

3. Extra-duty assignments

Officers working extra-duty assignments should be dispatched to handle noise complaints at the location they are working.

4. Permit Information

Noise permits shall be forwarded to special event coordinator for possible approval. All Noise Permits have general restrictions.

a. No more than 4 hours of music/noise during the term of permit.
b. All speakers to be placed at ground level and no double height speakers.
c. Maximum noise limits apply.
d. Permits are usually valid until midnight on weekends and holidays, and 2200 hours on other nights.
e. The party host must adhere to the submitted permit application plan.
f. Other restrictions may apply (alcohol, number of attendees, inside, outside, etc.)
g. The Watch Commander has the authority to immediately cancel a permit for permit violations.

B. Indoor Wood-Burning Complaints

Code Enforcement will handle complaints and any needed follow-up. However, from time-to-time, a patrol officer or PSS may need to respond and handle the initial investigation.

1. General complaints and inquiries regarding nuisance wood burning should be referred to Code Enforcement. Code Enforcement will handle complaints and inquiries during regular work hours, which is generally during the daytime.

2. If Code Enforcement is not working, dispatch will enter a CAD incident with the call type: WOOD. RP information is required. If the reporting person is able to provide an address for the offender, check the location history in RIMS to determine whether an officer response is necessary (see below). Incidents at locations that are not flagged for response will be closed out Dispo: Referred. Code Enforcement will handle the follow-up and start the nuisance process (verification by an officer is not needed at this point).

3. Code Enforcement will search CAD incidents to follow-up on the documented complaint. Code Enforcement will flag the premise file for locations that require an actual response, which is after formal warnings have been issued and the formal code enforcement process to issue administrative cites commences.
4. If the caller insists on an actual response at the time of a reported violation, an officer or PSS may be dispatched to verify the complaint. Any information related to the call should be logged in the CAD incident. Code Enforcement will search CAD incidents, handle the follow-up and start the nuisance process.

5. If the location is flagged for a response, an officer should be dispatched to verify there is smoke coming from the house. Information regarding the following should be documented in the CAD report.

- Where was the smoke coming from?
- Amount of smoke coming from chimney?
- Amount of smoke in the area/neighborhood?
- What kind of wood burning appliance does the residence have that the smoke is coming from? If unknown, Code Enforcement will do the follow-up.
- Has the smoke caused any damage to property in the area?
- Is it causing an annoyance and/or disturbance in the area?

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Police Chief  
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