

ORDINANCE NO. 2024- 04

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY OF FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA, CHAPTER 1.7, TO ADD A NEW SUBSECTION PROVIDING THAT A PERSON WHO VIOLATES ANY SECTION OF THE CITY'S CODE OF ORDINANCES WITH THE INTENT TO INTIMIDATE ANOTHER PERSON OR PERSONS IN WHOLE OR IN PART BECAUSE OF THE ACTION OR PERCEIVED RACE, COLOR, CREED, RELIGION, ANCESTRY, GENDER, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY, PHYSICAL OR MENTAL DISABILITY OR NATIONAL ORIGIN OF THE OTHER PERSON OR PERSONS IS GUILTY OF THE SEPARATE OFFENSE OF HATE INTIMIDATION AND SHALL BE PUNISHED AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 1.7.**

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the City Council of the City of Florence in meeting duly assembled that:

- a. SECTION 1.7 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Florence, South Carolina, is hereby amended in its entirety to read as follows:

**Sec. 1-7. - General penalty; continuing violations; hate intimidation**

(1) Wherever in this Code, or in any ordinance of the city, or rule, regulation or order promulgated by any officer or agency of the city under authority duly vested in such officer or agency, any act is required, or the failure to do any act is declared to be unlawful or an offense or a misdemeanor, and no specific penalty is provided for the violation thereof, the violator of any such provisions of this Code, or any such ordinance, rule, regulation or order shall be punished by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or by imprisonment for not more than thirty (30) days. Each day any violation of this Code, or any such ordinance, rule, regulation or order shall continue shall constitute, except where otherwise provided, a separate offense.

(2) A person who violates another section of this chapter with the intent to intimidate another person or persons in whole or in part because of the action or perceived race, color, creed, religion, ancestry, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental disability or national origin of the other person or persons is guilty of the separate offense of hate intimidation and shall be punished as provided in Section 1.7(1). The sentences shall run consecutive to one another unless the Court specifies on the record the reason why they should run concurrent.

ENACTED this 18<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2024.

Approved as to form:

  
BENJAMIN T. ZEIGLER  
CITY ATTORNEY

  
TERESA MYERS ERVIN  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
CASEY C. MOORE  
MUNICIPAL CLERK