

ORDINANCE NO.: 2015-069

*Repealing Emergency Ordinance 2015-066 for the Temporary Ban of Weapons
within a two hundred fifty (250') foot area surrounding the South Carolina State House Grounds*

WHEREAS, on July 9, 2015, the City of Columbia passed temporary Emergency Ordinance No.: 2015-066 which extended the existing restrictions against weapons on the Capitol Grounds contained in *Code of Laws Section 10-11-320 (1976)* outward from the Capitol Complex in an area within the City of Columbia two hundred and fifty feet (250') from the borders of the Capitol Complex for a period of thirty (30) days; and,

WHEREAS, the need for such ordinance was based upon information and intelligence shared with various law enforcement agencies, working in cooperation with the City of Columbia Police Department, and such data indicated a credible threat of gun violence; and,

WHEREAS, on July 10, 2015 more than 10,000 people attended a ceremony arranged for the removal of the Confederate Infantry Battle Flag (the Flag), necessitating the temporary closure of Gervais Street in front of the Capitol; and,

WHEREAS, on July 18, 2015 approximately 2,000 people attended a protest against the removal of the flag resulting in angry, physical and volatile conflicts between demonstrators; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Columbia publicized the provisions of Emergency Ordinance 2015-066 sufficiently that, despite the crowds and the real threat of violence, no persons were injured by weapons nor arrested for weapons violations or violations of 2015-066; and,

WHEREAS, the most recent information by law enforcement is the specific threats and dangers to the public have been reduced and the extraordinary circumstances which required the passage of 2015-066 have passed; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council desire to repeal Emergency Ordinance No.: 2015-066; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Columbia, South Carolina this 4th day of August, 2015 that Emergency Ordinance No.: 2015-066 enacted on July 9, 2015 is hereby repealed and no longer in force or effect.

Requested by:

City Manager _____



Mayor

Approved by:



City Manager

Approved as to form:



City Attorney

ATTEST:


City Clerk

Introduced: 7/21/2015
Final Reading: 8/4/2015

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