

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE III, OFFENSES, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GLADSTONE, MISSOURI TO AMEND CHAPTER 105 OFFENSES AGAINST GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION.

WHEREAS, The Code of Ordinances of the City of Gladstone, Missouri (the “City Code”) includes provisions in Title III addressing offenses against government administration within the City of Gladstone, Missouri (the “City”); and

WHEREAS, the City staff have prepared revisions to add to Title III of the City Code a new section to Chapter 105, Offenses Against Government Administration, addressing interference with First Responders engaged in the performance of their duties.

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to approve the proposed addition to Title III of the City Code as set forth in this Ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GLADSTONE, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: That Title III, Offenses, Chapter 105 Offenses Against Government Administration, of the City Code is hereby amended by enacting a new Section 3.105.135, entitled “Interference with a First Responder”, which shall read as follows:

Section 3.105.135 – Interference With a First Responder.

- A. A person commits the offense of interference with a First Responder if:
1. The person has received a verbal warning not to approach from a person that he or she knows, or reasonably should know, to be a First Responder;
 2. The First Responder is engaged in the lawful performance of a legal duty; and
 3. The person knowingly and willfully violates the verbal warning and approaches within twenty (20) feet of the First Responder with the intent to:
 - (a) Impede or interfere with the First Responder’s ability to perform his or her legal duty;
 - (b) Threaten the First Responder with physical harm; or
 - (c) Engage in a course of conduct directed at the First Responder which serves no legitimate purpose.
- B. For Purposes of this Section, the Following terms shall have the meanings set forth below:
1. Advanced Emergency Medical Technician Shall have the same meaning as defined in Section 190.100, RSMo.

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- 2. Emergency Medical Technician shall have the same meaning as defined in Section 190.100, RSMo.
 - 3. Firefighter means any officer or employee of a fire department or fire protection district employed for the purpose of fighting fires, but shall not include any person employed in a clerical or other capacity not involving firefighting duties.
 - 4. First Responder means any law enforcement officer, firefighter, paramedic, emergency medical technician, or advanced emergency medical technician.
 - 5. Paramedic shall have the same meaning as defined in Section 190.100, RSMo.
- C. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to restrict an individual’s rights under the First Amendment to the United States Constitution, including the right to observe or record First Responders engaged in the performance of their duties.
- D. Any person found guilty of violating this Section shall be punished as provided in Section 1.100.140 of this Code.


SECTION 2: This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval as provided by law.

INTRODUCED, READ, PASSED, AND ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GLADSTONE, MISSOURI, THIS 11TH DAY OF MAY 2026.



 Jean B. Moore, Mayor

ATTEST:



 Kris Keller, City Clerk

First Reading: May 11, 2026

Second Reading: May 11, 2026



Request for Council Action

RES # City Clerk Only

BILL # 26-14

ORD # 4.731

Date: 4/20/2026

Department: Police

Meeting Date Requested: 5/11/2026

Public Hearing: Yes Date: Click here to enter a date.

Subject: A City Ordinance prohibiting interference with First Responders in the performance of their official duties.

Background: In 2025, the State of Missouri passed the "Interference with a First Responder" law, which took effect on August 28, 2025. This law, sometimes referred to as a "Halo Law," makes it illegal to knowingly approach within 20 feet of a First Responder after a verbal warning, if the intent is to impede, threaten, or harass them. The proposed City of Gladstone Ordinance would prohibit the same interference with police officers, firefighters and emergency medical personnel in the performance of their official duties, punishable by not more than \$500.00 or 90 days in jail or both.

Budget Discussion: N/A

Public/Board/Staff Input: Staff recommends passing the Ordinance as written.

Provide Original Contracts, Leases, Agreements, etc. to: City Clerk and Vendor.

Fred J. Farris
Chief of Police

JA
City Attorney

BB
City Manager