ORDINANCE NO. 160

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF UNIVERSITY PLACE, WASHINGTON, CREATING AN OFFENSE OF DISORDERLY CONDUCT DURING LAWFUL ASSEMBLIES OR MEETINGS OF THE CITY AND SETTING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF THIS ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, RCW 9A.48.030 (1) declares that a person is guilty of disorderly conduct if the person intentionally disrupts any lawful assembly or meetings of persons without lawful authority; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to encourage public participation in the business of the City; and

WHEREAS the City Council wishes to encourage discussion of issues by those holding diverse viewpoints by creating public forums where speakers can openly and honestly express their points of view without fear of disruptions caused by those who may hold opposing views; and

WHEREAS, the Council wishes to define both what are the lawful assembly or meetings of the City and what conduct intentionally disrupts such meetings; NOW, THEREFORE,

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF UNIVERSITY PLACE, WASHINGTON, DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. <u>Definitions</u>. The following terms shall have the following meanings as used in this ordinance:

"duly appointed commission, committee or board of the City" means the Planning Commission, the Park and Recreation Commission, the Community Oriented Police Services Committee and any other official commission, committee or board which is established by the City Council by either Resolution or Ordinance;

"intentionally disrupt" means: (1) to intentionally, unreasonably and without lawful authority disrupt any lawful assembly or meeting; or (2) to refuse or intentionally fail to cease such activity when ordered to do so by the Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem, Chair, Hearing Examiner or presiding officer in charge of the lawful assembly or meeting so long as the order to cease such activity has not been overruled by the members of such body;

"lawful assembly or meeting" means any official meeting held by the City Council, the City's Hearing Examiner, or any duly appointed Commission, Committee or Board of the City for which prior advance public notice has been given either by posting, mailing or by publication as required by State law or by City ordinance or resolution.

Section 2. <u>Creating an Offense of Disorderly Conduct During Lawful Assemblies and Meetings of the City</u>. A person is guilty of disorderly conduct if the person intentionally disrupts any lawful assembly or meetings of the City without lawful authority.

Section 3. <u>Penalties.</u> Disorderly conduct shall be a misdemeanor punishable as provided in RCW 9A.20.021(3).

Section 3. <u>Severability</u>. If any provision of this Ordinance or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the Ordinance or the application of the provisions of this Ordinance to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected.

Section 4. <u>Publication and Effective Date</u>. A summary of this Ordinance, consisting of its title, shall be published in the official newspaper of the City. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect five (5) days after publication.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON JUNE 16, 1997.

Linda Bird, Mayor

ATTEST:

Susan Matthew, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Timothy X. Sulliyan, City Attorney

Published:

6/18/97

Effective Date:

6/23/97