

ORDINANCE NO. 1410

An ordinance amending Chapter 21 of the Code of the City of Jamestown, North Dakota, by amending Section 21-04-17 which sets forth regulations and penalties concerning driving without liability insurance in the City of Jamestown.

WHEREAS, the North Dakota Legislative Assembly has enacted new regulations and penalties to the offense of driving without liability insurance.

WHEREAS, to allow implementation of the new provisions the City Code of the City of Jamestown requires updating.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordered by the City Council of the City of Jamestown, North Dakota, that Chapter 21, Section 21-04-17, be amended and re-enacted as follows:

Sec. 21-04-17. Driving without liability insurance prohibited; penalty.

(a) A person may not drive, or the owner may not cause or knowingly permit to be driven, a motor vehicle in this state without a valid policy of liability insurance in effect in order to respond in damages for liability arising out of the ownership, maintenance, or use of that motor vehicle in the amount required by Chapter 39-16.1 of the North Dakota Century Code.

(b) Upon being stopped by a law enforcement officer for the purpose of enforcing or investigating the possible violation of an ordinance or state law, the person driving the motor vehicle shall provide to the officer upon request satisfactory evidence, including written or electronic proof of insurance, of the policy required under this section. If unable to comply with the request, that person may be charged with a violation of this section. If that person produces satisfactory evidence, including written or electronic proof of insurance, of a valid policy of liability insurance in effect at the time of the alleged violation of this section to the office of the court under which the matter will be heard, that person may not be convicted or assessed any administration fee for violation of subsection (a).

(c) Notwithstanding Section 26.1-30-18, North Dakota Century Code, a person may be convicted for failure to have a valid policy of liability insurance in effect under this section if the time of acquisition of the policy was after the time of the alleged incidence of driving without liability insurance. If the time of acquisition of the policy comes into question, the driver or owner has the burden of establishing the time of acquisition. If the driver is not an owner of the motor vehicle, the driver does not violate this section if the driver provides the court with evidence identifying the owner of the motor vehicle and describing circumstances under which the owner caused or permitted the driver to drive the motor vehicle.

(d) Violation of subsection (a) is an infraction and the sentence imposed must include a fine of at least one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) which may not be suspended. A person convicted for a second or subsequent violation of driving without liability insurance within a three-year period must be fined at least three hundred dollars (\$300.00) which may not be suspended. For a second or subsequent conviction for a violation of subsection (a) or equivalent ordinance, the court shall order the motor vehicle number plates of the motor vehicle owned and operated by the person at the time of the violation to be impounded until that person provides proof of insurance and a twenty-dollar (\$20.00) fee to the court. The person shall deliver the number plates to

the court without delay at a time certain as ordered by the court following the conviction. The court shall deliver the number plates to the office of the police officer that made the arrest and notify the department of the order. A person who does not provide the number plates to the court at the appropriate time is guilty of a class B misdemeanor.

(e) Upon conviction for a violation of subsection (a) or equivalent ordinance, the person who has been convicted shall provide proof of motor vehicle liability insurance to the department in the form of a written or electronically transmitted certificate from an insurance carrier authorized to do business in this state. This proof must be provided for a period of three (3) years and kept on file with the department. If the person fails to provide this information, the department shall suspend that person's driving privileges and may not issue or renew that person's operator's license unless that person provides proof of insurance.

(f) A person who has been convicted for violation of subsection (a) or equivalent ordinance shall surrender that person's operator's license and purchase a duplicate operator's license with a notation requiring that person to keep proof of liability insurance on file with the department. The fee for this license is fifty dollars (\$50.00) and the fee to remove this notation is fifty dollars (\$50.00).

(g) When an insurance carrier has certified a motor vehicle liability policy, the insurance carrier shall notify the director no later than ten (10) days after cancellation or termination of the certified insurance policy by filing a notice of cancellation or termination of the certified insurance policy; except that a policy subsequently procured and certified shall, on the effective date of its certification, terminate the insurance previously certified with respect to any motor vehicle designated in both certificates.

ATTEST:


Jeff Fuchs, City Administrator

APPROVED:


Katie Andersen, Mayor

Introduced by Council Member Brubakken
Seconded by Council Member Kourajian
First Reading: July 1, 2013
Second Reading: July 26, 2013
Final Passage: July 26, 2013

Consent Roll Call No. 1, Item 10, showed: 3 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent.