

CITY OF ABSECON

ORDINANCE 07-2025

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ABSECON AMENDING ORDINANCE #12-2023 – AMENDING CHAPTER 216 OF THE CITY OF ABSECON CODE, GOVERNING HOTEL AND MOTEL REGISTRATION

WHEREAS, City of Absecon, operating under the City form of government, is governed by statutes, that allow the City Council to pass, adopt, amend and repeal any ordinance or, where permitted, any resolution for any purpose required for the government of the municipality or for the accomplishment of any public purpose for which the municipality is authorized to act under general law; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 216-1 of the Revised General Ordinances of the City of Absecon currently outlines the requirements for Hotel and Motel Registration within the confines the City of Absecon; and

WHEREAS, the City Council believes it desirable, and in the best interest of the City and its citizens to limit the length of stay for “transient occupancy” within its borders and to increase the fine for violations of this Code section; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the City Council of the City of Absecon, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 216-1 of the City of Absecon Municipal Code is hereby amended, replaced and superseded as follows:

Chapter 216. HOTEL AND MOTEL REGISTRATION

216-1. Registry required; information and identification, occupancy limits.

A. Every hotel and motel in the City of Absecon shall be required to maintain at all times a registry, on a form supplied by the City which shall include information related to the check-in and required check-out date, which shall identify the name of each registrant and adult occupant of each rooming unit, together with the principle residence address of such registrant and adult occupant of each rooming unit. The registrant shall sign the registry form, acknowledge in writing that by checking in they agree to the terms and conditions contained thereof, and must produce a valid driver's license or other acceptable form of identification. A copy of a valid driver's license or other acceptable form of identification must be kept on file and is subject to review by the Code Enforcement Officer of the City of Absecon upon periodic inspection, which shall be completed in the sole discretion at the Code Enforcement Officer of the City of Absecon.

B. Vehicle identification. Each registrant who parks a motor vehicle in the hotel or motel lot shall provide the make, model and license plate number of that vehicle at the time of check-in.

C. "Transient occupancy" means occupancy in hotels and motels for a period of occupancy which does not exceed fourteen (14) consecutive days. Except as otherwise set forth in this article, no hotel or motel guest may occupy a hotel or motel unit in such facility for more than fourteen (14) consecutive days or twenty-eight (28)

days within any forty-five (45) day period and may not extend such permitted period of occupancy by moving into another unit within the same facility.

D. Any owner, manager, authorized agent or designee of an owner and/or manager or registrant and/or occupant of any hotel or motel found to be in violation of this article will be subject to the issuance of violations, fines and court appearances, when necessary, as set forth below. Any owner, manager, authorized agent or designee of an owner and/or manage, or registrant and/or occupant of any hotel or motel found to be in violation of this article will be subject to the following fines: For the first violation, a fine of not less than \$750 and not exceeding \$1,250 shall be imposed. A second violation within one year of the date of a previous violation shall result in an additional fine as a repeat offender. The additional fine imposed by the court for a repeat violation shall be not less than the minimum of \$1,000 or exceed the maximum fine of \$2,500 but shall be calculated separately from the original fine. A third violation shall result in a minimum find of \$1,250 and shall further result in the revocation of the hotel or motel's mercantile license, as issued by the City of Absecon. In the event of default of the payment of any fine imposed pursuant to this Chapter, the defaulting party shall be subject to imprisonment in the Atlantic County Jail for a term not exceeding 90 days or shall be required to perform community service for a period not exceeding 90 days. No fine or penalty will be assessed under this Chapter if said owner notifies the City of Absecon Police Department that a transient occupant has remained as a defiant trespasser in violation of Section C, above, so long as such notification is made within twenty-four (24) hours of said violation.

Section 2. All other ordinances in conflict or inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict or inconsistency.

Section 3. Should any section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance be declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, the remaining portions of this Ordinance shall not be affected thereby and shall remain in full force and effect, and to this end the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

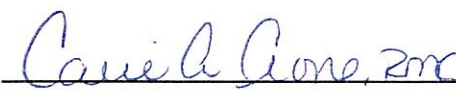
Section 4. This Ordinance shall take effect within twenty (20) days of final passage and publication, as provided by law.

DATED: August 7th, 2025

SIGNED:


Thomas Marrone, Mayor

ATTEST:


Carie A. Crone, RMC, Municipal Clerk

Passed on first reading at a regular meeting of the Municipal Council held on July 17th, 2025. Laid over and advertised for public hearing and final adoption on August 7th, 2025. Notice is hereby given that the foregoing Ordinance was approved for final adoption by the Municipal Council of the City of Absecon at a regular meeting held on August 7th, 2025.