

**BOROUGH OF WEST PATERSON
COUNTY OF PASSAIC, STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

ORDINANCE NO. 08-09

**AN ORDINANCE TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE OF CHILDREN AND PETS
LEFT IN UNATTENDED VEHICLES
WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF WEST PATERSON**

WHEREAS, The Borough of West Paterson seeks to adopt the following Ordinance:

1. Children – No person shall within the confines of the Borough or any private property opened to the public within the Borough, leave a child unattended in any vehicle that is parked on any street, road, thoroughfare, sidewalk or any other property of the Borough. A “child” under this provision shall mean any person under the age of ten (10) years old.
2. Pets – No person shall within the confines of the Borough or any private property opened to the public within the Borough, leave a pet unattended in any vehicle that is parked on any street, road, thoroughfare, sidewalk or any other property of the Borough. A “pet” under this provision shall mean any domesticated animal. An unattended pet shall mean any pet as defined herein that is in obvious distress.
3. Penalty – Any person who violates this provision shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$500.00 for each separate offense and/or confinement in the Passaic County Jail for a period of not more than 90 days.
4. Enforcement – The provisions of this chapter shall be administered and enforced by the West Paterson Police Department and the Department of Health, and said departments are charged with the duty to enforce this chapter and to that end, to make and sign complaints for violations in the municipal court of the Borough.
5. Removal Fees – In the event that the West Paterson Police Department is forced to remove an animal based upon a violation of this ordinance, the violator of this ordinance shall be responsible for all costs incurred in the removal of said animal.
6. Retrieval Process – Upon taking possession of an animal under this ordinance, the West Paterson Department of Health, Division of Animal Control and/or the West Paterson Police Department shall have the right to house the confiscated animal until such time as the animal’s owner claims the animal.

DATE INTRODUCED: June 18, 2008

DATE ADOPTED: July 16, 2008