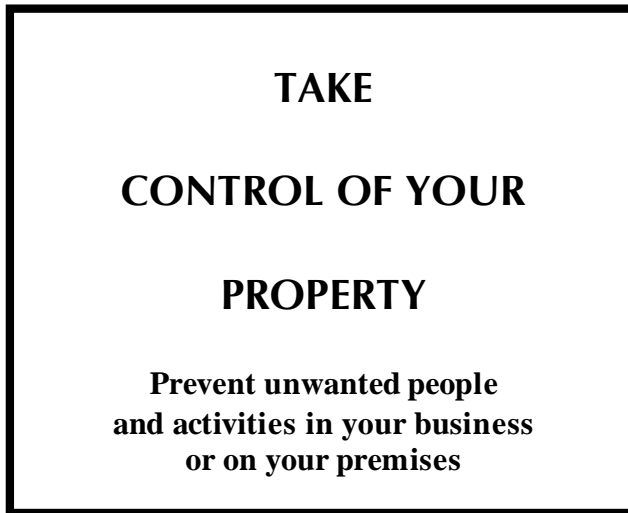


Seattle Neighborhood Group
1810 East Yesler Way
Seattle, WA 98122
(206) 323-9666



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www.sngi.org

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Criminal Trespass:

Prevent Unwanted People In Your Business or On Your Apartment Premises

Under Seattle's criminal trespass ordinance a citizen owning or occupying a premises has the authority to exclude people.

Provisions of the Law

It is permissible to:

- Prohibit non-customers from entering a retail business, or entering or loitering in the parking lot or adjoining grounds owned by the business.
- Allow only a specified number of juveniles to enter or remain in a retail business at one time.
- Ask an individual to leave a retail business or adjoining parking lot because he/she is not a customer, or is disruptive, or is suspected of shoplifting or for similar non-discriminatory reasons relating to that individual.
- Prohibit non-residents from parking lots and common areas in apartment buildings.

It is not permissible to:

Discriminate against certain classes of people.

Enforcement:

Notification: The trespasser must be notified that he/she is not privileged to enter or remain either verbally, by clearly posted sign or both.

Police Enforcement: If the trespasser(s) remains or returns, dial 911 and report the incident. The police will respond. The police can cite the trespasser(s) for violation of the trespass law which carries a penalty of up to one year in jail and a fine up to \$5,000, and remove the trespasser(s) from the premises.

12A.08.040 Criminal Trespass

A. A person is guilty of criminal trespass if he or she knowingly enters or remains in or upon the premises or another when he or she is not licensed, invited, or otherwise privileged to so enter or remain.

B. A license or privilege to enter or remain in a building which in only partly open to the public is not a license or privileged to enter or remain in that part of the building which is not open to the public. A person who enters or remains upon unimproved and apparently unused land, which is neither fenced nor otherwise enclosed in a manner designed to exclude intruders, does so with license and privilege unless notice against trespass is personally communicated to him or her by the owner of the land or some other authorized person, or unless notice is given by posting in a conspicuous manner.

C. In any prosecution under subsection A it is an affirmative defense that:

1. A building involved was abandoned; or

2. The actor reasonably believed that the owner of the premises or other person empowered to license access thereto; would have licensed him or her to enter or remain; or

3. The actor was attempting to serve legal process, which includes any document required or allowed to be served upon persons or property by any statute, ordinance, government rule or regulation, or court order, excluding delivery by the mails of the United States. This defense is available only if the actor did not enter into a private residence or other building not open to the public and the entry onto the premises was reasonable and necessary for service of the legal process.

Sign Order Form

In order to help you enforce the Criminal Trespass Ordinance, the Seattle Neighborhood Group has signs in stock:

**No Trespassing
No Loitering
Violators Will Be Prosecuted
RCW 9A.52.070 – SMC 12A.08.040**

These signs are 12" by 18" and are made of styrene to withstand weather. Signs are available from the Seattle Neighborhood Group for \$5.00 each, plus postage and handling. Please use the order form below to order you sign(s). Send this form, with your check or money order, to:

Company _____
Contact _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____

I would like to order the following:

12" x 18"- No Trespassing/No Loitering
_____ Signs @ \$5.00 each \$ _____

Prices include all applicable state and local taxes.

Postage and Handling

1-4 signs: \$3.00

5-15 signs: \$6.00

Total \$ _____

**YOU MUST HAVE A SIGNED
TRESPASS AGREEMENT ON FILE**

**WITH YOU LOCAL POLICE
PRECINCT**

**SOUTH PRECINCT CPT 386-9180
WEST PRECINCT CPT 684-8996
EAST PRECINCT CPT 684-4370
NORTH PRECINCT CPT 684-0799
SW PRECINCT CPT 386-1086**

SAMPLE FORM

Seattle Police Department
TRESPASS ENFORCEMENT AUTHORIZATION

PLEASE PRINT

I, (We) _____ SS:

(check all that apply) owner tenant lessee manager agent

thereof, of the following property located at: _____ (single family dwelling? YES NO)

(business / apartment name, address, city, state)

I do hereby request and authorize officers of the Seattle Police Department, in their official police capacity, to go upon or within those common areas generally open to the public and/or tenants, including hallways, entrances, laundry facilities, lawn and yard areas. I further request and authorize officers to go upon or within those areas not open to tenants (as tenants) including furnace rooms, storage areas, etc. This authority does not permit entry to the premises reserved exclusively for tenants.

The purpose of this authority is to deter and detect common criminal activity including trespassing / loitering, vandalism, thefts, illegal drug trafficking and prostitution which may be occurring on or within the above described premises.

I have posted the public areas with visible signs stating, "Criminal Trespass Prohibited / No Loitering."

Officers are further authorized to act on my behalf in requesting unauthorized persons found upon the property without legitimate / lawful purpose to leave the premises.

I agree to fully cooperate in any subsequent prosecution of trespass and other criminal offenses and agree to appear in court to testify if requested to do so.

This authority shall remain in effect until rescinded by written notice to the Commander of the precinct in which the property is located.

PLEASE PRINT

NAME OF REQUESTOR #1	ADDRESS / PHONE / FAX#
NAME OF REQUESTOR #2	ADDRESS / PHONE / FAX#
BUSINESS NAME	
STORE NUMBER	
BUSINESS ADDRESS	BUSINESS PHONE

X _____ DATE: ____/____/____
SIGNATURE OF REQUESTOR

X _____ DATE: ____/____/____
SIGNATURE OF MEDIATOR