

Ordinance No. 749

AN ORDINANCE to amend the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, enacted as a whole July 2, 1940 and made effective August 5, 1940, by adding a new chapter thereto concerning the working of prisoners, imprisoned for violation of City Ordinances or for failure to pay fines imposed for violation of city Ordinances on public streets, parks, or other public works of the city.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. That the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia enacted as a whole July 2, 1940 and made effective August 5, 1940 be, and the same hereby is amended by the addition of a new chapter to be designated Chapter XXXI-A to read as follows:

CHAPTER XXXI-A

The working of Prisoners, imprisoned for Violation of City Ordinances or for Failure to Pay Fines Imposed for Violation of City Ordinances, on Public Streets, Parks, or Other Public Works of the City.

ARTICLE I. Who Shall Work on City Work Gangs.

Sec. 1. Every male person above the age of eighteen (18) years who is convicted for any violation of an ordinance of the City of Alexandria, which by such ordinance is punishable by confinement in jail or fine, and who is imprisoned as a punishment or for failure to pay such fine, shall be liable to work in a City Work Gang on public streets, parks and other public works of the City.

Sec. 2. Nothing in Sec. 1 of this article hereinbefore set out shall abridge the right of the proper authorities to send minors to the reformatories of the State.

ARTICLE II. Provisions for the Health and Welfare of Prisoners on the City Work Gang, and for the Guarding of such Prisoners while at Work.

Sec. 3. Every person so sentenced to work on the City Work Gang shall, before being assigned to such work gang, be examined by the City Jail physician who shall certify whether the physical condition of such person is such that he may work on a work gang without injury to his health. Upon certification by the City Jail physician that such person is physically fit, he shall be assigned to a work gang by the Superintendent of Police.

Sec. 4. Every person so assigned to a city work gang shall be provided with such clothing as is necessary under the existing weather conditions at the time his work is performed.

Sec. 5. Every person sentenced to work on the city work gang shall be furnished with breakfast at the city jail before commencing work, with a suitable lunch which may be provided at the location of the work project and shall be returned to the city jail at the end of the work day and there furnished with supper.

Sec. 6. Any person sentenced to a Work Gang shall, if he become ill or injured while at work, be returned to the City Jail and there be

examined by the City Jail physician who shall determine the extent of such illness or injury and made such recommendations as he finds necessary pertaining to such person's fitness for work.

Sec. 7. Every person sentenced to such work gang shall, at the end of each work day, be returned to the City Jail and be delivered into the custody of the City jailor to be there confined until the start of the next work day.

Sec. 8. The Superintendent of Police shall assign armed guards to each work gang in the number deemed necessary by him for the protection and safety of the public.

Sec. 9. The City jailor upon delivery prisoners to the various work gangs shall take from the guard in charge of such work gang, a receipt for each person so delivered, which shall discharge such jailor from all liability for the escape of such prisoner.

Sec. 10. Upon return of the prisoners to the City jailor at the end of the work day, the City jailor shall give to the guard in charge a receipt for the return of each prisoner which shall discharge such guard from all liability for the escape of such prisoner.

Section 2. That this ordinance shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the City not later than five days following its introduction together with a notice containing the time and place for a public hearing. The clerk of the council shall note the date of introduction and first reading, the date of publication, the date of the public hearing, and the date of the second reading and final passage in the minutes of the meeting. This ordinance shall become effective the date of its final passage.

Marshall J. Beverley
Mayor

Published: September 13, 1952
Final Passage: October 14, 1952