

**CITY OF BALTIMORE**  
**COUNCIL BILL 22-0247**  
**(First Reader)**

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Introduced by: Councilmember Schleifer, Porter, Costello, Torrence, Glover, Stokes, Middleton,  
Conway, Cohen

Introduced and read first time: June 13, 2022

Assigned to: Rules and Legislative Oversight Committee

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REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Department of Finance, Department of  
Transportation, Baltimore City Parking Authority, Baltimore City Fire Department, Baltimore  
City Police

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning

2 **Obstructing Street – Racing or Stunt Driving**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting the obstruction of public streets under certain circumstances;  
4 establishing certain penalties; defining certain terms; and generally relating to obstructing a  
5 City street.

6 BY repealing and reordaining, with amendments  
7 Article 1 - Mayor, City Council, and Municipal Agencies  
8 Sections 40-14(e)(3) and 41-14(2)  
9 Baltimore City Code  
10 (Edition 2000)

11 BY adding  
12 Article 19 - Police Ordinances  
13 Section 50-1  
14 Baltimore City Code  
15 (Edition 2000)

16 **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the  
17 Laws of Baltimore City read as follows:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.  
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

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**Baltimore City Code**

**Article 1. Mayor, City Council, and Municipal Agencies**

**Subtitle 40. Environmental Control Board**

**§40-14. Violations to which subtitle applies.**

(e) *Provisions and penalties enumerated.*

...

**(3) Article 19. Police Ordinances**

...

§ 50-1. OBSTRUCTING STREET: RACING OR STUNT DRIVING \$1,000

...

**Subtitle 41. Civil Citations**

**§ 41-14. Offenses to which subtitle applies – Listing.**

...

**(2) Article 19. Police Ordinances**

...

§ 50-1. OBSTRUCTING STREET: RACING OR STUNT DRIVING \$1,000

...

**Article 19. Police Ordinances**

**Subtitle 50. Street Regulations**

**§ 50-1. OBSTRUCTING STREET: RACING OR STUNT DRIVING.**

(A) *DEFINITIONS.*

(1) *IN GENERAL.*

IN THIS SECTION, THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

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1 (2) *DOING DOUGHNUTS.*

2 “DOING DOUGHNUTS” MEANS PURPOSEFULLY DRIVING A MOTOR VEHICLE IN A TIGHT,  
3 CURVED OR CIRCULAR DIRECTION IN A CONTINUOUS MOTION, OFTEN LEAVING TIRE  
4 MARKS ON THE SURFACE WHERE THE MANEUVER WAS PERFORMED.

5 (3) *NON-DRIVER PARTICIPANT.*

6 (I) *IN GENERAL.*

7 “NON-DRIVER PARTICIPANT” MEANS ANY INDIVIDUAL NOT DRIVING A MOTOR  
8 VEHICLE WHO IS KNOWINGLY PRESENT AT AN ILLEGAL VEHICLE RACE OR STUNT  
9 DRIVING EVENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACTIVELY TAKING PART IN THE EVENT.

10 (II) *INCLUSIONS.*

11 “NON-DRIVER PARTICIPANT” INCLUDES AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS:

12 (A) RIDING IN A RACE VEHICLE AS A PASSENGER;

13 (B) ASSISTING THE ORGANIZERS OR DRIVERS IN CARRYING OUT OR PROMOTING  
14 THE EVENT; OR

15 (C) EXCHANGING MONEY OR ANYTHING OF VALUE WITH ANY DRIVER, CAR  
16 OWNER, OR OTHER PARTICIPANT IN CONNECTION WITH THE EVENT.

17 (III) *EXCLUSION.*

18 “NON-DRIVER PARTICIPANT” DOES NOT INCLUDE AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS A  
19 BYSTANDER, PASSERBY, OR PASSIVE OBSERVER.  
20

21 (4) *RACING.*

22 “RACING” MEANS DRIVING A MOTOR VEHICLE AT A HIGH SPEED TO COMPETE AGAINST  
23 THE DRIVER OF ANOTHER MOTOR VEHICLE.

24 (5) *STUNT DRIVING.*

25 (I) *IN GENERAL.*

26 “STUNT DRIVING” MEANS ANY INTENTIONAL AND UNNECESSARY ACTION TAKEN  
27 WHILE DRIVING THAT COULD ENDANGER THE LIFE OR SAFETY OF ANOTHER PERSON  
28 OR CAUSE PROPERTY DAMAGE.

29 (II) *INCLUSIONS.*

30 “STUNT DRIVING” INCLUDES PURPOSEFULLY:

31 (A) DRIVING WITH A PERSON IN THE TRUNK OF THE MOTOR VEHICLE;

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- 1 (B) DRIVING WHILE THE DRIVER IS NOT SITTING IN THE DRIVER’S SEAT OF THE  
2 MOTOR VEHICLE;
- 3 (C) DRIVING TO PREVENT ANOTHER VEHICLE FROM PASSING;
- 4 (D) SPINNING A VEHICLE OR CAUSING IT TO CIRCLE, WITHOUT MAINTAINING  
5 CONTROL OVER THE VEHICLE;
- 6 (E) DOING DOUGHNUTS;
- 7 (F) WHILE TURNING, CAUSING 1 OR MORE OF A MOTOR VEHICLE’S TIRES TO  
8 LOSE TRACTION WITH THE SURFACE THE VEHICLE IS DRIVING ON;
- 9 (G) WITHOUT JUSTIFICATION, DRIVING AS CLOSE AS POSSIBLE TO ANOTHER  
10 VEHICLE, PEDESTRIAN, OR FIXED OBJECT;
- 11 (H) LIFTING 1 OR MORE OF A VEHICLE’S TIRES FROM THE SURFACE THE  
12 VEHICLE IS DRIVING ON, INCLUDING DRIVING A MOTORCYCLE WITH ONLY  
13 1 WHEEL IN CONTACT WITH THE GROUND;
- 14 (I) DRIVING A MOTOR VEHICLES SIDE BY SIDE OR IN PROXIMITY TO ANOTHER  
15 MOTOR VEHICLE, WHILE 1 OF THE MOTOR VEHICLES OCCUPIES A LANE OF  
16 TRAFFIC OR OTHER PORTION OF THE ROAD INTENDED FOR USE BY  
17 ONCOMING TRAFFIC FOR A PERIOD OF TIME THAT IS LONGER THAN IS  
18 REASONABLY REQUIRED TO PASS ANOTHER MOTOR VEHICLE; AND
- 19 (J) STOPPING OR SLOWING DOWN IN A MANNER THAT INTERFERES WITH THE  
20 MOVEMENT OF ANOTHER VEHICLE BY CUTTING OFF ITS PASSAGE ON THE  
21 ROAD OR CAUSES ANOTHER VEHICLE TO STOP OR SLOW DOWN IN  
22 CIRCUMSTANCES WHERE THE OTHER VEHICLE WOULD NOT ORDINARILY DO  
23 SO.

24 (B) *PROHIBITED CONDUCT.*

25 NO PERSON, INCLUDING A NON-DRIVER PARTICIPANT, MAY IN ANY MANNER OBSTRUCT  
26 ANY STREET, LANE, SIDEWALK, FOOTWAY, OR ALLEY IN THE CITY OR ANY OF THEIR  
27 GUTTERS FOR THE PURPOSE OF:

- 28 (1) STUNT DRIVING; OR
- 29 (2) RACING A MOTOR VEHICLE.

30 (C) *ENFORCEMENT BY CITATION.*

31 (1) IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER CIVIL OR CRIMINAL REMEDY OR ENFORCEMENT  
32 PROCEDURE, THIS SECTION MAY BE ENFORCED BY ISSUANCE OF:

- 33 (i) AN ENVIRONMENTAL CITATION UNDER CITY CODE ARTICLE 1, SUBTITLE 40  
34 {“ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL BOARD”}; OR

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1 (II) A CIVIL CITATION UNDER CITY CODE ARTICLE 1, SUBTITLE 41 {"CIVIL  
2 CITATIONS"}.

3 (2) THE ISSUANCE OF A CITATION TO ENFORCE THIS SECTION DOES NOT PRECLUDE  
4 PURSUING ANY OTHER CIVIL OR CRIMINAL REMEDY OR ENFORCEMENT ACTION  
5 AUTHORIZED BY LAW.

6 (D) *PENALTIES.*

7 ANY PERSON WHO VIOLATES ANY PROVISION OF THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A  
8 MISDEMEANOR AND, ON CONVICTION, IS SUBJECT TO A FINE OF NOT MORE THAN \$1000 OR  
9 TO IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT LONGER THAN 12 MONTHS, OR BOTH.

10 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That this Ordinance takes effect on the 30<sup>th</sup> day  
11 after the date it is enacted.