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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 12, 2012

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**CITY COUNCIL PASSES ORDINANCE AMENDING AND STRENGTHENING CITY'S
DISORDERLY CONDUCT ORDINANCE**

Today, City Council passed an ordinance proposed by Mayor Rahm Emanuel, amending the City's disorderly conduct ordinance to remove outdated language and conform to a recent 7th Circuit ruling, while at the same time introducing a new subsection promoting the public health, safety, and welfare by clarifying the authority of officials to issue binding orders in exigent circumstances.

The amendment to the disorderly conduct ordinance conforms to a 7th Circuit ruling, issued in September, ruling that a clause in subsection (d) of the City's disorderly conduct ordinance dealing with "serious inconvenience, annoyance or alarm" was overly broad and unconstitutionally vague, but could be fixed by repealing that clause.

The amendment also repeals two outdated subsections that were judicially invalidated in 1972 but never repealed. Removing them now avoids the potential for Code enforcement inconsistent with applicable law.

Finally, the ordinance introduces a new provision to prohibit an individual from refusing to obey "an order by a person who has identified himself as, or is otherwise reasonably identifiable as, a peace officer, traffic control aide, fire department official, or other official, issued under circumstances where it is reasonable to believe that the order is necessary to allow public safety officials to address a situation that threatens the public health, safety, or welfare."

"While the City has long prohibited various forms of disorderly conduct, these changes, if approved, will bring the City's Municipal Code into compliance with recent court rulings

and aid public safety officials when dealing with disturbances in crowded public areas,”
said Mayor Emanuel.

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