

**CITY OF LA GRANGE, KENTUCKY
ORDINANCE NO. 01, SERIES 2026**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES
OF THE OFFICE OF CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER**

WHEREAS, pursuant to KRS 83A.080 and La Grange Ordinance Code §31.35 allowing for the establishment and organization of nonelected city offices, the office of the Ordinance Enforcement Officer (now known as the Code Enforcement Officer) was created in 1998 by code §31.43(A), and an office of Code Compliance Mediator was created in 2007 with similar powers and duties; including business licenses, nuisances, littering, building safety, and other code violations;

WHEREAS, the La Grange Code Enforcement Board was established in 2014 by code §§35.45 to 35.58 pursuant to the enabling provisions of KRS 65.8801 to 65.8839, with powers to issue remedial orders and impose civil fines as a method of enforcing city ordinances, zoning regulations, and property maintenance, but those ordinances were repealed and replaced in 2020 by code §§35A.01 to 35.39 to reflect major changes in state law concerning the administration of local code enforcement boards; and

WHEREAS, over time the city offices of Ordinance Enforcement Officer and Code Compliance Mediator were merged into the position of the Code Enforcement Officer operating under the quasi-judicial arm of the La Grange Code Enforcement Board, no longer reporting to the police department, whose evolving duties and responsibilities now need to be updated to reflect the expanded administrative functions of that office.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF LA GRANGE, KENTUCKY**

The following sections and subsections of Chapter 31 of the La Grange Ordinance Code are hereby revised:

Section I: Code §31.43(B) shall be amended and replaced in its entirety to read as follows:

- (B) The Code Enforcement Officer shall have the following duties and responsibilities:
- (1) Enforce city ordinances which do not constitute criminal offenses;
 - (2) Perform patrol work and inspections for code compliance and violations; investigate complaints regarding properties or occurrences in the city;
 - (3) Issue notices of violations and citations for observed violations of city ordinances involving property maintenance, unsafe housing, zoning regulations, nuisances, littering, signage, parking, and other safety related violations
 - (4) Provide support and enforcement of written orders and requirements of agencies responsible for buildings and inspections, fire and emergency management, stormwater and erosion control, historic preservation, alcohol

beverage control, and other government agencies having concurrent jurisdiction in the City of La Grange;

(5) Issue licenses and permits for business licenses, temporary vendors, special event vendors, street closures, encroachments, golf carts, horse drawn carriages, livestock, fireworks, and other restricted activities.

(6) Maintain registrations of all rental properties, vacant properties, short term rentals properties, businesses, vendors; and other classes of property in the city limits.

(7) Assist in collection of revenue from business license taxes, compensation taxes, transient room taxes, delinquent property taxes, civil fines, fees and costs.

(8) Present cases to the Code Enforcement Board, schedule meetings and hearings, serve notices and subpoenas, publish advertisements, present testimony, witnesses, and evidence of violations at public hearings of the Code Board in accordance with the enforcement proceedings set out in code §§35A.25 and 35A.28 of the La Grange Code Enforcement Board Act of 2020;

(9) Any other administrative duties or responsibility designated by the Mayor.

Section II: Code §31.43(C) shall be amended as follows:

(C) The ~~Ordinance~~ Code Enforcement Officer shall take the oath set forth in §228 of the Kentucky Constitution.

Section III: Code §31.43(D) shall be amended as follows:

(D) The ~~Ordinance~~ Code Enforcement Officer shall be paid an annual salary as passed in the annual budget ordinance for the city.

Section IV: Code §31.44 Code Compliance Mediator is hereby repealed.

This Ordinance shall be effective following enactment and publication as prescribed by KRS 424.

First Reading January 5, 2026

Second Reading February 2, 2026

Vote: For 7 Against 0 Abstain 0

Approved and adopted this 2nd day of February, 2026

ATTEST::

Heather W. Woodcock
City Clerk

John W. Black
JOHN W. BLACK, Mayor