1	ORDINANCE NO.		
2			
3	AN ORDINANCE TO CREATE AN ARTICLE V TO CHAPTER 18 OF		
4	THE LITTLE ROCK, ARK., REVSED CODE OF ORDINANCES (1988)		
5	TO ESTABLISH AN ENHANCED PENALTY FOR CERTAIN		
6	MISDEMEANORS THAT QUALIFY AS A HATE CRIME, OR AS HATE		
7	INTIMIDATION; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER		
8	PURPOSES.		
9			
10	WHEREAS, criminal offenses occur throughout the United States on a daily basis called "hate crimes"		
11	where persons are victimized because of their immutable characteristics such as race, religion or sexual		
12	orientation; and,		
13	WHEREAS, because hate crime victims are interchangeable and random, these crimes terrorize the entire		
14	victim's community and often lead to similarly terrorizing retaliatory hate crimes against the perpetrator's		
15	community; and,		
16	WHEREAS, laws and ordinances that provide enhanced penalties for criminals who commit hate crimes,		
17	are a way for society to recognize that these crimes strike special fear within victimized groups, fragment		
18	communities, and tear at the very fabric of our democratic way of life; and,		
19	WHEREAS, the State of Arkansas is one of five (5) states that do not have a Hate Crime Law in place,		
20	and does not require any particular record keeping of hate crimes occurring within the State; and,		
21	WHEREAS, the City of Little Rock, Arkansas, wishes to act now so that enhanced penalties can be		
22	imposed, and better record keeping of such events can be maintained.		
23	NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY OF		
24	LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS:		
25	Section 1. This ordinance shall create a new Article V to Chapter 18 of the Little Rock, Ark., Rev. Code		
26	(1988) to read as follows:		
27	Article V - Hate Intimidation		
28	Section 18-117 – Definitions. As used in this article:		
29	"Deadly Weapon" means:		
30	(A) A firearm or anything manifestly designed, made, or adapted for the purpose of inflicting		
31	death or serious physical injury; or,		
32	(B) Anything that in the manner of its use or intended use is capable of causing death or serious		
33	physical injury.		

1	"Motor Vehicle" means a self-propelled, motorized vehicle capable of being operated on a roadway			
2	upon or in which a person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a public or private road			
3	or public or private land.			
4	(A) "Motor vehicle" includes without limitation:			
5	(1) An all-terrain vehicle; or,			
6	(2) A vehicle designed to be used for agricultural purposes, such as a tractor; or,			
7	(3) A motor vehicle designed to assist a person with a physical disability with			
8	walking; or,			
9	(4) A motorized scooter or other vehicle designed to be used as a toy by a child; or,			
10	(5) A bicycle equipped with a small motor designed to assist the bicycle operator			
11	and that is not operated at a speed of greater than twenty (20) miles per hour			
12	(MPH); or,			
13	(6) A riding lawnmower that is not operated on a public roadway; or,			
14	(7) An electric personal assistive mobility device that is designed to not be capable			
15	of a speed of more than twenty (20) MPH.			
16	(B) "Motor vehicle" does not include a device moved by human power or used exclusively			
17	upon stationary rails or tracks.			
18	"Negligent" or an equivalent term such as "negligence" or "with negligence" means:			
19	(A) A person acts negligently with respect to attendant circumstances or a result of his or her			
20	conduct when the person should be aware of a substantial and unjustifiable risk that the			
21	attendant circumstances exist or the result will occur.			
22	(B) The risk must be of such a nature and degree that the actor's failure to perceive the risk			
23	involves a gross deviation from the standard of care that a reasonable person would observe			
24	in the actor's situation considering the nature and purpose of the actor's conduct and the			
25	circumstances known to the actor.			
26	"Occupiable Structure" means a vehicle, building, or other structure:			
27	(A) In which any person, including one (1) or more individuals under eighteen (18) years old,			
28	lives or carries on a business or other calling; or,			
29	(B) In which people assemble for a purpose of business, government, education, religion,			
30	entertainment, or public transportation; or,			
31	(C) That is customarily used for overnight accommodation of any person, including one (1) or			
32	more individuals under eighteen (18) years old, whether or not a person is actually present.			
33	"Occupiable structure" includes each unit of an occupiable structure divided into a separately occupied			
34	unit.			
35	" <i>Person</i> " means an individual eighteen (18) years old or older. [Page 2 of 7]			

1	" <i>Physical Injury</i> " means the:		
2	(A) Impairment of physical condition; or,		
3	(B) Infliction of substantial pain; or,		
4	(C) Infliction of bruising, swelling, or a visible mark associated with physical trauma.		
5	"Premises" means an occupiable structure and any real property.		
6	"Property" means real property or tangible or intangible personal property, including money or any		
7	paper or document that represents or embodies anything of value.		
8	"Public Building" means a structure owned, operated, or occupied by any agency of the State o		
9	Arkansas or its political subdivisions or by any agency of the United States Government.		
10	"Purposely" or an equivalent term such as "purpose", "with purpose", "intentional", "intentionally",		
11	"intended", or "with intent to" means that a person acts purposely with respect to his or her conduct or		
12	a result of his or her conduct when it is the person's conscious object to engage in conduct of that nature		
13	or to cause the result.		
14	"Vehicle" means any craft or device designed for the transportation of a person or property across land		
15	or water or through the air.		
16	"Vital Public Facility" means a facility maintained for use for:		
17	(A) Public communication, transportation, or supply of water, gas, or power;		
18	(B) Law enforcement;		
19	(C) Fire protection;		
20	(D) Civil or national defence; or,		
21	(E) Other public service.		
22	Section 18-118 – Hate Offense.		
23	A person eighteen (18) or older violates this Article by reason of the actual or perceived race,		
24	color, creed, religion, ancestry, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, physical or mental		
25	disability, or national origin of another individual or group of individuals, regardless of the		
26	existence of any other motivating factor or factors, the person commits any of the following		
27	misdemeanors under State Law within the City Limits of Little Rock;		
28	(A) With the purpose of causing physical injury to a person, the person causes physical injury		
29	to any person;		
30	(B) The person recklessly causes physical injury to another person;		
31	(C) The person causes physical injury to another person by means of a deadly weapon;		
32	(D) The person purposely causes stupor, unconsciousness, or physical or mental impairment		
33	or injury to another person by administering to the other person, without the other person's		
34	consent, any drug or other substance;		

1	(E) The person, with the purpose of terrorizing another person, threatens to cause physical		
2	injury or property damage to another person;		
3	(F) The person recklessly destroys or damages property and the actual damage or destruction		
4	is One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), or more, but less than Five Thousand Dollars		
5	(\$5,000.00);		
6	(G) The person:		
7	(1) Starts a fire or causes an explosion with the purpose of destroying or otherwise		
8	damaging:		
9	(a) An occupiable structure or motor vehicle that is the property of another		
10	person and causes damage of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) or less; or,		
11	(b) Any property, whether it belongs to the person, or is property of another		
12	person, for the purpose of collecting insurance of Five Hundred Dollars		
13	(\$500.00) or less for the destroyed or damaged property; or,		
14	(c) Any property, whether it belongs to the person, or is the property of		
15	another person, and negligently creates a risk of death or serious physical		
16	injury to any person; or,		
17	(d) A vital public facility and causes damage of Five Hundred Dollars		
18	(\$500.00) or less; or,		
19	(e) Dedicated church property used as a place of worship exempt from taxes		
20	pursuant to Arkansas State Law and causes damage of Five Hundred		
21	Dollars (\$500.00) or less; or,		
22	(f) Any public building or occupiable structure that is either owned or leased		
23	by the State or any political subdivision of the State and causes damage of		
24	Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) or less; or,		
25	(g) An area of real property being used for commercial growth of timber or		
26	other agricultural product, if:		
27	(i.) Timber or other agricultural product is destroyed or made		
28	commercially nonviable and, has a value that is less than Five		
29	Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00).		
30	(H) The person purposely:		
31	(1) Defaces, mars, desecrates, or otherwise damages:		
32	(a) A public monument; or,		
33	(b) A work of art on display in any public place; or,		
34	(c) A place of worship, cemetery or burial monument; or,		

1	(d) Removes a broken or unbroken, commercial or rock, grave marker for any		
2	reason except for cleaning or repair by a family member, care taker, or		
3	preservation organization; and,		
4	(2) The value of repairing or replacing the damaged object does not exceed Five		
5	Hundred Dollars (\$500.00).		
6	(I) The person recklessly destroys or damages property and the actual damage or destruction		
7	is less than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00); or		
8	(J) The person purposely apprehension of imminent physical injury in another person.		
9	Section 18-119 Penalties		
10	(A) A person convicted of, or who pleads guilty or nolo contendere to, a violation of Section		
11	18-118 (a), (b),(c),(d),(e),(f),(g), or (h), shall be subject to:		
12	(1) A fine up to:		
13	(a) One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) for a first such offense; or,		
14	(b) Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) for a second such offense; or,		
15	(c) Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000.00) for a third offense or any offense after		
16	a third offense; and; or,		
17	(2) A sentence of up to one (1)-year of imprisonment in the County Jail; or,		
18	(3) A combination of a fine and imprisonment; and,		
19	(4) Mandatory supervised release for a period of up to one (1)-year, regardless of how		
20	many days have been served in the County Jail, which may include the payment		
21	of a Probation Fee, and participation in counselling or other Court-Ordered		
22	Programs;		
23	(B) A person convicted of, or who pleads guilty or nolo contendere to, a violation Section 18-		
24	118 (i) shall be subject to:		
25	(1) A fine up to:		
26	(a) Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$750.00) for a first such offense; or,		
27	(b) One Thousand, Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) for a second such of-		
28	fense; or,		
29	(c) Two Thousand, Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00) for a third offense or		
30	any offense after a third offense; or,		
31	(2) A sentence of up to ninety (90) days in the County Jail; or,		
32	(3) A combination of a fine and imprisonment; and,		
33	(4) Mandatory supervised release for a period of up to one (1)-year, regardless of how		
34	many days have been served in the County Jail, which may include the payment		

1	of a Probation Fee, and participation in counselling or other Court-Ordered		
2	Programs;		
3	(C) A person convicted of, or who pleads guilty or nolo contendere to, a violation Section 18-		
4	118 (j), shall be subject to:		
5	(1) A fine up to:		
6	(a) Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) for a first such offense; or,		
7	(b) One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) for a second such offense; or,		
8	(c) Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) for a third offense or any offense after		
9	a third offense; or,		
10	(2) A sentence of up to thirty (30) days in the County Jail; or,		
11	(3) A combination of a fine and imprisonment.		
12	(D) Notwithstanding Paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of this Section, a Court may deviate from the		
13	3 minimum penalties specified within this Section under the following conditions:		
14	(1) The Court determines that there are mitigating circumstances and states them on		
15	5 the record; and,		
16	6 (2) The Court concludes that the punishment for the ordinance violation, in addition to		
17	the penalty for the State Misdemeanor Violation would be excessive under the		
18	circumstances, and state why on the record.		
19	(E) If any part of a sentence of imprisonment pursuant to Subsections (a), (b), or (c), of this		
20	Section are suspended, the Court may also require a mandatory supervised release for a		
21	period of up to one (1)-year, regardless of how many days have been served in the County		
22	Jail, which may include the payment of a Probation Fee, and participation in counselling		
23	or other Court-Ordered Programs		
24	Section 18-120 - Data Collection. The Little Rock Police Department, to the maximum extent		
25	possible, shall provide the Federal Bureau of Investigation, or any other division of the U.S.		
26	Department of Justice that collects crime statistics, and the Arkansas State Police, the Office of the		
27	Attorney General, or the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney for the Sixth Judicial District, upon		
28	request, data concerning the commission of a crime motivated by hate, in part, to assure compliance		
29	with the guidelines established pursuant to the Federal Hate Crime Statistics Act.		
30	Section 2. General Interpretative Provisions. This ordinance is intended to be interpreted and utilized		
31	as follows:		
32	(A) The decision to seek a penalty for violation of this ordinance within the corporate limits of		
33	Little Rock, Arkansas, belongs exclusively to the Office of the City Attorney after		
34	consultation with law enforcement;		

1	(B) If, at any time, the underlying state c	riminal offense that is the source for the offenses listed	
2	in Section 18-118 is amended, and an offense occurs before the City has made a		
3	corresponding amendment to the provisions of this ordinance, the appropriate provision for		
4	enhancement is the one noted by the description in Section 18-118.		
5	Section 3. Severability. In the event any title, section, paragraph, item, sentence, clause, phrase, or word		
6	of this ordinance is declared or adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional, such declaration or adjudication shall		
7	not affect the remaining portions of the ordinance which shall remain in full force and effect as if the portion		
8	so declared or adjudged invalid or unconstitutional was not originally a part of the ordinance.		
9	Section 4. Repealer. All laws, ordinances, resolutions, or parts of the same, that are inconsistent with the		
10	provisions of this ordinance, are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.		
11	Section 5. Emergency Clause. The ability to protect individuals from criminal offenses because of the		
12	mere fact of that individuals race color, creed, religion, ancestry, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation,		
13	physical or mental disability, or national orig	in, is essential to the public health, safety and welfare; an	
14	emergency is; therefore, declared to exist and this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after the		
15	date of its passage.		
16	PASSED: July 7, 2020		
17	ATTEST:	APPROVED:	
18			
19			
20	Susan Langley, City Clerk	Frank Scott, Jr., Mayor	
21	APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:		
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23 24	Thomas M. Carpenter, City Attorney		
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