



M U N I C I P A L

Code Bulletin

GENERAL
CODE

This codification bulletin is a free service provided by General Code for our municipal clients. The following statutory changes enacted by your State Legislature may affect your municipal code. For more detailed information, visit www.generalcode.com/bulletin or call 1-800-836-8834.

- SPECIAL BULLETIN -

New Jersey

February 2006

Maximum Fine for Violations of Municipal Ordinances: As you may have already heard, Chapter 269 of the Laws of 2005 recently amended Title 40 to authorize municipalities to increase the maximum fine for violations of municipal ordinances to \$2,000. [See N.J.S.A. 40:49-5 and N.J.S.A.40:69A-29 (for Faulkner Act municipalities).]

In order to implement the higher limit, it is necessary to pass an ordinance amending your Code. If your Code contains a general penalty applicable to the entire Code, only that section may need to be amended.

If you do not have a general penalty, you may either amend each section to provide for the new amount or, alternatively, establish a general penalty and amend each section to refer to it. Of course, there are certain subjects for which different statutory penalties apply, and they should not be changed.

A review of your Code's penalty provisions also offers an opportunity to review each section to see if it conforms to the statutory language regarding options for a period of community service and/or terms of imprisonment, or if it would be advisable to establish a minimum fine in certain instances.

How can General Code help?

We can provide sample language to establish a general penalty, or we can review your Code and draft an amendatory ordinance. Please use any of the addresses below to contact us to discuss options.

800-836-8834

www.generalcode.com

info@generalcode.com

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