

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
INTERDEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM  
POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**TO:** Mayor and City Council

**FROM:** Albert A. Ortiz, Chief of Police

**THROUGH:** Terry M. Brechtel, City Manager

**COPIES:** Christopher J. Brady, Assistant City Manager; File

**SUBJECT:** Ordinance Request to Amend Section 15-83 of the San Antonio City Code.

**DATE:** July 29, 2004

**SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

This ordinance amends Section 15-83 of the San Antonio City Code to require persons registering in any hotel/motel to present a valid official photo identification sufficient to establish the person's identity; or, in the alternative, documentation that the person guaranteed payment using a valid credit card issued in the name of the registrant; prohibits a person from registering in a hotel/motel or attempt to do so under any false name or identity or by providing false identification; require the owner or operator of the establishment to document the type of identification provided and maintain this information for a period of two years; and provides for a criminal fine not to exceed \$500 for violation of this ordinance.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

On November 14, 2003, Councilman Ron Segovia, on a six signature memo requested Council support to direct City staff to bring before the City Council for consideration an amendment to the City Code Section 15-83 to include an identification requirement. Staff presented the proposed amendment to the Governance Committee on December 14, 2003 and the Quality of Life Committee on March 4, 2004. The Quality of Life Committee directed staff to bring the issue to the full Council for consideration.

Currently, Section 15-83 of the San Antonio City Code requires that guest names (no ID required), address, and the duration of their stay be recorded in the hotel/motel register. This amendment will require persons registering in any hotel/motel to present a valid official photo identification sufficient to establish the person's identity; or, in the alternative, documentation that the person guaranteed payment using a valid credit card issued in the name of the registrant; prohibit a person from registering in a hotel/motel or attempt to do so under any false name or identity or by providing false identification; require the owner or operator of the establishment to document the type of identification provided and maintain this information for a period of two

years; provides for a criminal fine not to exceed \$500 for violation of this ordinance; and will provide the registration records to be made available at all times for inspection by any officer of the San Antonio Police Department. This ordinance amendment is intended to serve as a deterrent to illegal activity.

Amending Section 15-83 of the San Antonio City Code will also provide emergency responders in a medical emergency a method for ascertaining the identity of the victim and facilitate identification and notification of next of kin. It will also clarify existing hotel/motel registration law.

### **POLICY ANALYSIS**

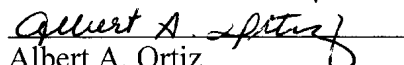
This Ordinance continues City Council's policy of clarifying existing City Codes.

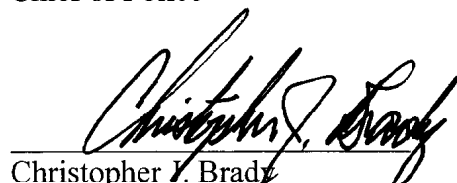
### **FISCAL IMPACT**

There will be no impact to the City.


### **COORDINATION**

This ordinance request has been coordinated with the City Attorney's Office, and the City Manager's Office

  
Albert A. Ortiz  
Chief of Police

  
Christopher J. Brady  
Assistant City Manager

Approved:

  
Terry M. Brechtel  
City Manager

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO**  
**OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL**  
*INTERDEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE SHEET*

**TO:** Mayor and Council Members

**FROM:** Ron H. Segovia, Councilman, District 3

**COPIES TO:** Terry M. Brechtel, City Manager; City Attorney; City Clerk; Police

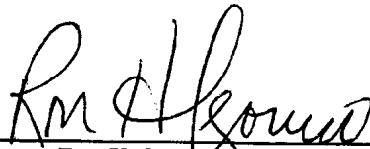
**SUBJECT:** Amendment to Section 15.83 of the City Code to include an Identification Requirement

**DATE:** November 14, 2003

I am requesting Council support to direct City staff to bring before the City Council for consideration an amendment to the City Code Section 15.83 to include an identification requirement. This section states, *it is the duty of the owner or operator of any hotel as defined in this chapter to keep a register of all persons accommodated in such establishment. Such register shall include the name of all such persons, their home addresses, and the duration of their stay in such establishment.*

Recently I have spent time with the Police in District 3 concerning prostitution. In order to clean up our neighborhoods I believe an amendment to the City Code Section 15.83 to require a state issued form of identification will provide documentation for records available at all times for inspection by any officer of the police department of the city and in turn serve as a deterrent to illegal activity.

I respectfully request your support to direct City staff to prepare an appropriate amendment for action and adoption by the City Council.



Ron H. Segovia, Councilman District 3

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Ed Garza, Mayor

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Roger O. Flores, District 1

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Joel Williams, District 2

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Richard Perez, District 4

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Patti Radle, District 5

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Enrique Barrera, District 6

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Julian Castro, District 7

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Art A. Hall, District 8

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Carroll Schubert, District 9

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Chip Haass, District 10