

ORDINANCE

SUBJECT: POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA AND DRUG PARAPHERNALIA – PENALTY

COMMITTEE: JUDICIARY & LAW

FIRST CONSIDERATION: September 18, 2025

FINAL CONSIDERATION: October 16, 2025

ORDINANCE # 223 – 10/25 **PUBLICATION DATE** October 23, 2025

The County Board of Supervisors of La Crosse County does ordain as follows:

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND s. 9.20 and s. 25.04(2)(c) OF THE GENERAL CODE OF
LA CROSSE COUNTY, WISCONSIN RELATED TO THE
PENALTY FOR THE POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA AND DRUG PARAPHERNALIA**

ANALYSIS

Currently the penalty for possession of 25 grams or less of marijuana (s. 9.16) and for possession of drug paraphernalia (s. 9.17) is \$100 plus statutory costs. These are both forfeiture offenses and the County can set the amount of the forfeiture. This amendment would change the amount from \$100 plus statutory costs to \$1 plus statutory costs.

INFORMATION:

County Board Rules: Governing Body s. 2.12 states, in part: Ordinances are drafted by the Corporation Counsel. After the ordinance has been reviewed by a standing committee, each Supervisor will be given a copy of the ordinance showing the deleted language (grayed) and the new language (underlined) and an analysis of the intent of the ordinance. After introduction to the County Board, the ordinance shall be referred to the next monthly meeting unless waived by a 2/3 vote of the Supervisors present and a public hearing may be held if requested by a Supervisor. An amendment may be introduced and debated at either the original or the referred meeting. Copies of the ordinances of the County of La Crosse in their entirety are available with Corporation Counsel, County Clerk, or www.lacrossecounty.org.

(rev. 3/03)

ORDINANCE # 223 – 10/25

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND s. 9.20 AND s. 25.04(2)(C) OF
THE GENERAL CODE OF LA CROSSE COUNTY, WISCONSIN**

The County Board of supervisors of the County of La Crosse does hereby ordain as follows:

Section 1

9.20 PENALTY

- (1) Any person who shall violate any provision of this chapter shall be subject to a penalty as provided in s. 25.04 of this Code, unless a specific penalty is provided in this chapter for a violation of any of its provisions. In addition to any penalty imposed for violation of s. 9.943.01(1), any person who shall damage or destroy any public property shall be liable for the costs of replacing or repairing such damaged or destroyed property. The parent or parents of any unemancipated minor child who violates s. 9.943.01(1) may also be held liable for the cost of repairing such damaged or destroyed property in accordance with s. 895.035, Wis. Stats.
- (2) Any person who shall violate any provision of ss. 9.08, 9.09 and 9.10 shall be subject to a penalty as provided in s. 25.04 of this Code, except as otherwise provided in ss. 125.07, 125.085 and 125.09, Wis. Stats.
- (3) Any person who shall violate any provision of ss. 9.16 or 9.17 shall be subject to a penalty of \$1.00.

Section 2.

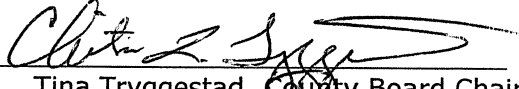
25.04(2)(c) Schedule of Deposits. The following schedule of cash deposits is established for use with citations issued under this section:

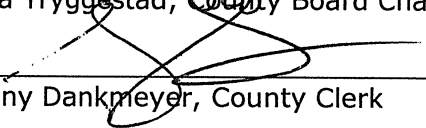
Ordinance	Offense Deposits (Does not Include statutory costs)
Dog Control Ordinance	\$50 minimum; \$100 maximum
Environmental Health or Public Health/Welfare	\$50 minimum; \$500 maximum
Erosion Control/Land Disturbance	\$100 minimum; \$500 maximum
Floodplain Zoning	\$50
Mobile Tower	\$100 minimum; \$500 maximum
Outdoor Advertising	\$100 minimum; \$500 maximum(1st Offense)
Park Regulations	\$50 minimum; \$200 maximum
Possession of Marijuana s. 9.16	\$1
Possession of Drug Paraphernalia s. 9.17	\$1
Public Works	\$50 minimum; \$200 maximum
Solid Waste Management	\$50 minimum; \$200 maximum
Sanitation Code	\$50 minimum; \$500 maximum
Shoreland Zoning	\$100 minimum; \$200 maximum
Subdivision Code	\$100
Zoning Code	\$100 minimum; \$500 maximum

Deposit shall be made in cash, money order or certified check to the La Crosse County Clerk of Court who shall provide a receipt therefore.

Section 3. This Ordinance shall take effect the day after passage and publication as required by law.

LA CROSSE COUNTY

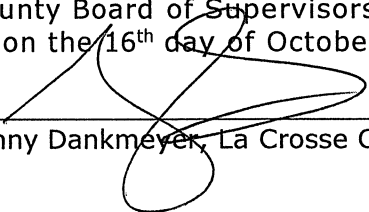
By: 
Tina Tryggstad, County Board Chair

By: 
Ginny Dankmeyer, County Clerk

PASSED: October 16, 2025
PUBLISHED: October 23, 2025

STATE OF WISCONSIN
COUNTY OF LA CROSSE

I, Ginny Dankmeyer, County Clerk of La Crosse County do hereby certify that this document is a true and correct copy of the original ordinance required by law to be in my custody and which the County Board of Supervisors of La Crosse County adopted at a meeting held on the 16th day of October 2025.


Ginny Dankmeyer, La Crosse County Clerk