



Communication Services  
5334 South Prince Street  
Littleton, Colorado 80166-0001  
Phone: 303-795-4630  
Fax: 303-738-7894  
[www.co.arapahoe.co.us](http://www.co.arapahoe.co.us)

**For release: June 24, 2008**

Contact:

**GRAYSON ROBINSON**

Arapahoe County Sheriff

Direct: 720-874-4165

Mobile: 303-880-2201

E-mail: [grobinson@co.arapahoe.co.us](mailto:grobinson@co.arapahoe.co.us)

**NICHOLE PARMELLY**

Communication Services Specialist

Direct: 303-636-1945

Mobile: 303-710-7893

E-mail: [nparmelly@co.arapahoe.co.us](mailto:nparmelly@co.arapahoe.co.us)

## **Public safety ordinance approved for unincorporated Arapahoe County**

*Sheriff's Office supported ordinance addressing dangerous objects at picket lines*

LITTLETON, CO --- The Arapahoe County Board of County Commissioners passed an ordinance today regarding the possession and carrying of possible weapons or dangerous objects at picket lines or public assemblies in unincorporated Arapahoe County.

At a public hearing, the Board of County Commissioners heard testimony in support and against the ordinance. It was passed to include a sunset clause allowing the ordinance to be re-evaluated after one year and to include amendments to the fine amounts. A resolution to adjust the dimensions of the wood lath was not approved.

“Free speech is a constitutional right of every American and it’s my job to make sure that practicing that right is done in a safe and peaceful manner that does not cause injury to others,” said Sheriff Grayson Robinson. “The purpose of this ordinance is to keep residents and officers safe during disruptive and disorderly gatherings.”

The ordinance was drafted in order to address potential concerns as a result of the upcoming Democratic National Convention, although the restrictions will apply to any demonstration or similar public assembly that may occur in the next year.

The ordinance generally makes it unlawful for any person in unincorporated Arapahoe County that is involved in a demonstration, rally or picket line, or similar public assembly to: 1) possess any metal, hard plastic or wood object that is sharpened or that exceeds the allowed dimensions set forth in the ordinance, 2) possesses any type of projectile launcher, and 3) to possess a gas mask.

The ordinance contains a graduated fine schedule of up to \$500 for a first offense, up to \$750 for a second offense and up to \$1,000 for any third or subsequent offense.

The ordinance was proposed by the Sheriff’s Office to address public safety and health concerns regarding the possession of possible weapons and dangerous objects at picket lines or public assemblies. For more information, contact Sheriff Grayson Robinson at 720-874-4165.

\* \* \*