

## **Chapter 150**

### **TELEPHONES**

**[HISTORY: Adopted by the Town Council of the Town of Grottoes 2-3-1970 as Title 28 of the 1970 Ordinances of the Town of Grottoes. Amendments noted where applicable.]**

#### **§ 150-1. Definitions.**

As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

**EMERGENCY CALL** — A call to report a fire or summon police or for medical aid or ambulance service, in a situation where human life or property are in jeopardy and the prompt summoning of aid is essential.

**TELEPHONE PARTY LINE** — A subscriber's lines circuit consisting of two or more main telephone stations connected therewith, each station with a distinctive ring or telephone number.

#### **§ 150-2. Attachment to poles and trees.**

Telephones attached to poles, trees or the outside of buildings are hereby declared to be a public nuisance and shall be unlawful; provided, however, that this section shall not be construed to apply to telephones installed or maintained by the Town for the police or other municipal purposes, nor shall it be construed to apply to outside telephone booths installed and maintained by the telephone company franchised to do business in the Town.

#### **§ 150-3. Use of profane language.** [Amended 7-8-1996]

If any person shall curse or abuse anyone or use vulgar, profane, threatening or indecent language over any telephone, he or she shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. It shall be the duty of the telephone company to furnish immediately in response to a subpoena issued by a court of record such information as it, its officers and employees may possess which, in the opinion of the court, may aid in the apprehension of persons suspected of violating the provisions of this section. Any telephone company or any officer or employee thereof who shall fail or refuse to furnish such information when so requested may be fined as provided in § 150-7.

#### **§ 150-4. Giving false information.**

If any person maliciously advises or informs another over any telephone in this Town of the death of, accident to, injury to, illness of or disappearance of some third party knowing the same to be false, he or she shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

#### **§ 150-5. Prank calls.**

Any person who without intent to converse but with intent to annoy any other person causes any telephone not of his or her own to ring shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. Any person who permits or condones the use of any telephone under his or her control for such purpose also shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

**§ 150-6. Relinquishing telephone in emergencies.** [Amended 7-8-1996]

Any person who fails to relinquish a telephone party line after he or she has been requested to do so to permit another to place an emergency call shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and punished as provided in § 150-7, provided that this section shall not apply to any person who is himself or herself using the telephone party line for such emergency call.

**§ 150-7. Requesting relinquishment on pretext.**

Any person who requests another to relinquish a telephone party line on the pretext that he must place an emergency call knowing such pretext to be false shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and punished as provided in § 150-7.

**§ 150-8. Violations and penalties.** [Added 7-8-1996]

Any person who violates any provision of this chapter shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor, with penalties as provided in § 1-7, General penalty, of Chapter 1, General Provisions.