

**Congregating By Law**  
**Annual Town Meeting**  
**May 20, 1985**  
**Article 32**

**Definition:** Congregating: Police Order to Disperse: Arrest:  
Penalty

- (a) Definition: Congregating shall mean remaining with, or near to three or more persons in essentially one location and shall also include the colloquial expression, “hanging around.”
  
- (b) Congregating: No person shall stand, sit, or lie down with, or near to, three or more persons upon or within 1-foot of any sidewalk or public way; the entrance to public halls, buildings and other public property including school grounds and buildings thereon; under such circumstances and in such manner as would:
  - (1) obstruct the use thereof; or
  - (2) hinder, molest or annoy persons in passing along or over same; or
  - (3) induce violence; or
  - (4) cause a nuisance; or
  - (5) result in disorderly or illegal conduct; or
  - (6) threaten a breach of the peace; or
  - (7) lead to congestion along or over same.

- (c) Police Order to Disperse: When any person causes or commits any of the conditions enumerated in Subsection (b) herein, a police officer or any law enforcement officer shall order that person to stop causing or committing such conditions and to move on or disperse. Any person who refuses or fails to obey such orders shall be guilty of a violation of this by law.
- (d) Arrest: Whoever violates the provisions of the by law may be arrested without a warrant by an officer authorized to serve criminal process and kept in custody until he can be taken before a court having jurisdiction over the offense.
- (e) Penalty: Any person who violates any of the provisions of this ordinance shall be subject to a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars (\$100.00)

(Returned as rejected by the Attorney General – August 1, 1985)