

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*Maine*  
REVISED STATUTES  
1964

*Prepared Under the Supervision  
of the  
Committee on Revision of Statutes*

Being the Tenth Revision of the  
Revised Statutes of the State  
of Maine, 1964

Volume 3  
Titles 14 to 20



**Boston, Mass.**  
Boston Law Book Co.

**Orford, N. H.**  
Equity Publishing Corporation

**St. Paul, Minn.**  
West Publishing Co.

Text of Revised Statutes  
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State of Maine

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## CHAPTER 131

## MISCELLANEOUS CRIMES

Sec.

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**§ 3951. Abandonment of airtight containers**

Any person, firm or corporation abandoning or discarding in any public or private place accessible to children any chest, closet, piece of furniture, refrigerator, icebox or other article having a compartment of a capacity of 1½ cubic feet or more and having a door or lid which when closed cannot be opened easily from the inside, or who being the owner, lessee or manager of such place knowingly permits such abandoned or discarded article to remain in such condition shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$50 or by imprisonment for not more than 30 days, or by both.

1955, c. 138.

**§ 3952. Dangerous knives**

It is unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to manufacture, or cause to be manufactured, possess, display, offer, sell, lend, give away or purchase any knife which has a blade which opens automatically by hand pressure applied to a button, spring or other device in the handle of the knife; or any knife having a blade which opens or falls or is ejected into position by the force of gravity, or by an outward, downward or centrifugal thrust or movement. Violation of this section shall, upon conviction, be a

misdemeanor punishable by a fine of \$500 or by imprisonment not to exceed 90 days, or by both.

1959, c. 43, § 1.

**§ 3953. Disorderly conduct**

Any person who shall by any offensive or disorderly conduct, act or language annoy or interfere with any person in any place or with the passengers of any public conveyance, although such conduct, act or language may not amount to an assault or battery, is guilty of a breach of the peace and shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$100 or by imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or by both.

1957, c. 133.

**§ 3954. Disturbance of public meetings**

Whoever by rude and indecent behavior or in any way willfully and unlawfully disturbs or interrupts any public meeting or any assembly lawfully gathered in a hall or other place of meeting, or creates a disturbance in any hall, walk or corridor adjacent or leading to the room where such meeting or assembly is held, shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$5 nor more than \$10, or by imprisonment for not more than 30 days.

R.S.1954, c. 136, § 15.

**§ 3955. Dumping rubbish on another's land**

Whoever deposits rubbish or garbage on land not his own, without the consent of the owner, shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$25.

R.S.1954, c. 137, § 18.

**§ 3956. Electric fences**

No person or individual shall sell, utilize, install or have installed within this State equipment, devices or methods whereby fence wires may be energized with electricity unless a standard type of controller is used, which has the approval of the Underwriter's Laboratories and carries such label thereon or has the approved listing of the Department of Industrial Cooperation at the University of Maine.

Any violation of this section shall be punishable by a fine of not more than \$100, or by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or by both.

1955, c. 263.

**§ 3957. Failure to report treatment of gunshot wounds**

Any person who professionally treats a human being for a wound apparently caused by the discharge of a firearm shall immediately report the same to the sheriff of the county in which the wound was treated, or any of his deputies, any police officer in the municipality in which the wound was treated or any state police officer, and such sheriff, deputy or officer shall forthwith notify the county attorney or the Attorney General. Whoever fails to so report any such treatment shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$100.

R.S.1954, c. 137, § 20; 1963, c. 170.

**§ 3958. False alarms and reports**

Whoever calls out or makes a false report to any fire department, police department, State Police Department, sheriff's department or any state law enforcement agency or other municipal department or state department, or any portion or persons thereof, by giving a false alarm, call or report, knowing it to be false, to such department, or to any officer, member or employee thereof by any means whatsoever or knowingly and willfully causes to be given by any means whatsoever, any such false alarm, call or report, when such offense is of a high and aggravated nature, shall be deemed guilty of a felony and on conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$500 or by imprisonment for not more than 2 years; but when such offense is not of a high and aggravated nature, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$100 or by imprisonment for not more than 11 months.

R.S.1954, c. 136, § 16; 1963, c. 402, § 217; c. 431.

**§ 3959. Marathons and walkathons**

No person or persons shall permit any person to compete in a marathon dance competition, a walkathon competition or a similar competition for more than 6 hours in any one day, and no person or persons shall permit any person to enter or com-

pete in such a competition who has entered or competed in any similar competition within 24 hours prior to the beginning of said competition. Whoever violates this section shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$500 for each offense. No such marathon dance competition, walkathon competition or similar competition shall be held in any city or town excepting after a vote therefor by the legal voters of said city or town.

R.S.1954, c. 137, § 42.

**§ 3960. Peeking in nighttime**

Whoever enters upon the private property of another in the nighttime without lawful business with the owner or occupant thereof and peeks in the window or door of any inhabited building or structure located thereon shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or by a fine of not more than \$500, or by both.

1963, c. 107.

**§ 3961. Placing obstructions on traveled road**

Whoever places rocks, stones, snow, ice or other obstructions in such a manner as to obstruct traffic on a traveled road and leaves them there shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$10 for each offense, to be recovered on complaint, to the use of the town where the offense is committed.

R.S.1954, c. 137, § 29.

**§ 3962. Regulation of radio waves; disturbing reception**

It shall be unlawful to use any radio receiving set which radiates radio waves between 200 meters wave length and 550 meters wave length which causes interference with the reception of any other radio receiving set. Whoever knowingly, maliciously or wantonly by any means unreasonably disturbs the reception of radio waves used for radiotelephony, between 200 meters wave length and 550 meters wave length, shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$10 nor more than \$50, to be recovered by complaint in the District Court.

R.S.1954, c. 137, § 49; 1963, c. 402, § 222.



**§ 3963. Riding with naked scythe**

Whoever rides on the highways or in any lanes, streets or alleys with a naked scythe, sharpened and hung in a snath, forfeits \$2 for each offense.

R.S.1954, c. 137, § 28.

**§ 3964. Settlements or releases from injured persons**

Except as provided in this section, no settlement or general release or statement in writing signed by any person confined in a hospital or sanitarium as a patient with reference to any personal injuries for which said person is confined in said hospital or sanitarium shall be admissible in evidence, used or referred to in any manner at the trial of any action to recover damages for personal injuries or consequential damages, so called, resulting therefrom, which statement, settlement or general release was obtained within 10 days after the injuries were sustained and such settlement or release shall be null and void. This section shall not apply to statements or releases obtained by police officers or inspectors of motor vehicles in the performance of their duty, members of the family of such person or by or on behalf of his attorney. This section shall not apply to Title 39.

1959, c. 284.