

*Bathing Suit Regulation, Enforcement and Appointment of a Special
Police Woman, San Diego 1917*

1. "An Ordinance Regulating the Wearing of Bathing Suits Upon Public Streets at La Jolla" dated June 11th and 12th, 1917 by the Common Council of the City of San Diego, California:

Section 1. That it shall be unlawful for any person to appear upon any public street or other public place in that portion of The City of San Diego known as La Jolla, while clad in a bathing suit unless there is worn over such bathing suit a long coat or garment covering the entire person except head, hands and feet.

Section 2. That any violation of this ordinance shall be a misdemeanor, and any person upon conviction thereof shall be fined not more than ten dollars or imprisoned in the City Jail not exceeding five days, or shall be subject to both such fine and imprisonment.

Section 3. That this ordinance shall take effect and be in force on the thirty-first day from and after its passage and approval.

Passed and adopted by the Common Council of the City of San Diego, California, this 11th day of June 1917, by the following vote, to-wit:

AYES—Councilmen Bain, Bard, Bruschi and Moore

NOES— None

ABSENT—Councilman Fay

and signed in open session thereof by the President of said Common Council, this 11th day of June 1917 (signature of L J Wilde)

I Hereby Certify that the foregoing ordinance was by a two-thirds vote of all the members of the said Common Council, present, put on its final passage at its first reading, this 11th day of June 1917.

no seal Signed by Allen H. Wright, City Clerk of the City of San Diego, California, and Ex-officio Clerk of the Common Council of the City of San Diego.

By (Signature of W E Bartlett), Deputy

Crossed out: "I Hereby Certify that the foregoing ordinance was not finally passed until it had been read at two separate meetings of the said

Common Council, viz: On the ___ day of _____ 191____, and on the ___ day of _____ 191____

City Clerk of the City of San Diego, California, and Ex-officio Clerk of the Common Council of the City of San Diego. “

I Hereby veto (Approved is crossed out) the foregoing ordinance this 12th day of June 1917. Attest: (signed L J Wilde), Mayor of the City of San Diego, California.

(no signature of City Clerk of the City of San Diego, California).

By (no signature), Deputy.

Three pages proposed ordinance, including certification page and cover sheet filed on June 8, 1917 by Allen G Wright, City Clerk and E. D. Johnston, Deputy, as Document No. 109908 described as “Ordinance ___ Regulate Wearing of Bathing Suits La Jolla.”; Passed First Reading June 11, 1917; Adopted by Common Council June 11, 1917; Approved by the Mayor (blank); Goes into Effect (blank).

2. Message From Mayor Vetoing Ordinance Regulating The Wearing Of Bathing Suits At La Jolla dated June 12, 1917 to Gentlemen of the Council of the City of San Diego, Calif. from the Mayor of the City of San Diego, L. J. Wilde on Executive Department stationary of Louis J. Wilde:

Honored Sirs:-

With reference to Ordinance which I have this day vetoed and am returning herewith, entitled,

“AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE WEARING OF BATHING SUITS UPON THE PUBLIC STREETS AT LA JOLLA.”

The object of the ordinance is good, but it covers too much territory and not enough “form”.

The influence of bathers on the streets near girls’ school and in stores shopping in too abbreviated bathing suits is bad; the costumes are immodest and have a bad effect on children and young people. On the other hand, one properly clothed in a proper bathing suit, going from his or her home to the beach or along the beach, should not be humiliated by some officer who might exceed his authority in making an arrest.

La Jolla, being a beach resort, should recommend to the Common Council the proper and modest bathing suit, and also recommend that bathers not loiter on the streets or go out shopping in such an outfit. The regulation should not apply to children under ten years of age.

For the above reasons I have vetoed the ordinance.

Yours very truly,

signed L. J. Wilde
Mayor of the City of San Diego, Cal.

Two page Message From Mayor, including cover sheet designating correspondence as Document No. 109990, filed June 13, 1917 by Allen H. Wright, City Clerk, and E. D. Johnston, Deputy, "Sustained" noted; "Veto sustained by Council 6/20/17."

3. Petition dated June 18, 1917, to the Hon. Mayor and Common Council, San Diego, California, regarding the enforcement of the City bathing suit ordinance and the appointment of a Special Police Woman for that purpose in the community of La Jolla:

Dear Sirs:-

We the undersigned citizens of La Jolla and the Civic Department and Board of Directors of the La Jolla Woman's Club, hereby express our appreciation of your prompt action upon the ordinance regulating the wearing of bathing suits upon the streets of La Jolla.

Now we wish to have that ordinance enforced and we believe that to be impossible with the present police service in La Jolla.

This service is most inefficient, which fact taken in connection with the need for enforcing this new ordinance, and the further fact that we have a large cantonment of soldiers at Linda Vista, many of whom come to La Jolla daily for baths, which soldiers we are entertaining in every possible way, inviting them to our homes, to our community dances, and to union song services with our citizens, make us feel that the morals of our community can best be conserved by having an alert, efficient and watchful police-woman. Such a woman we have in our midst in the person of Miss Lucille Jeardeau, a trained nurse of fine character, unusual physical strength and fearlessness. As a citizen Miss Jeardeau has done much to prevent unpleasant and unmoral conditions in La Jolla. As an officer of the police department, we feel that she could do much more.

Our village community needs more the watchful eye to note and prevent careless or immodest behavior, than its does the rigid arm of the law to punish offenders. We desire quiet, preventive work, with a strict enforcement of all ordinances for law and order. These functions we feel Miss Jeardeau could fulfill in an eminent degree.

In case of the rare occurrences when a man's strength might be needed to reenforce Miss Jeardeau, we would ask that the Life Guard stationed at the Beach be empowered to serve as such officer.

Very sincerely yours,

(signatures) Mary B. Ritter, President, La Jolla Women's Club; E B Scripps, Eleanor B. Parkes, Mrs. F. T. Scripps, Flora W. Atkinson, Florence B. Young, Mary L. Dailey, Jean E. Bell, Harriet B. Haskell, May K. Baer, Wm E. Ritter, J. C. Harper, Frederick L. Brown, May L. Wise, Ellis L. Michael, Margaret R. Knudsen, Chairman, Civics.; Eleanore McG Mills, Laura S Crandall, Mrs. Gertrude C. Long, Mrs. Madeleine Caldwell, Theo S.

McLaughlin, Jessie McLaughlin, J S Claye, John A. Young, C. F. Atkinson, Louise D. Atkinson, John N. Haskell, Tillie Genter, R. W. Tillinghast, Mrs. R. W. Tillinghast, Mary S. Snyder, J. Spencer Voorhees, Mrs. L. F. Burdick, Abraham Rhoads, Mrs. A. B. Rhoads, Wm. E. Ritter (again), W. C. Crandall.

Three pages. Two page petition with cover sheet designating it as Document #110082, filed June 18, 1917 by Allen H. Wright, City Clerk and E. D. Johnston, Deputy; entitled "Petition P/O Etc. Re Wearing of Bathing suits at La Jolla"; marked "Referred to Police Department by Council Jun 18 1917" and "Petition granted by Council Jun 20 1917".

4. Police Department, City of San Diego, California, correspondence dated June 20, 1917, from James Patrick, Acting Chief of Police, San Diego, to the Hon. Mayor and Common Council, City of San Diego:

Gentlemen:

I respectfully recommend that a resolution be adopted by your Hon. Body authorizing the Superintendent of Police, to employ Miss Lucille Jeurdeau (sic) as a special police woman a La Jolla for a term of three months, at a salary of \$75.00 per month, to be paid out Item B-1 of the Budget allowances and estimates for the year 1917, as requested in petition which you will please find hereto attached, such appointment to be subject to the rules and regulations of the Civil Service Commission of the City of San Diego.

Respectfully,
signed James Patrick
Acting Chief of Police.

JP/PC

Two pages, including cover sheet designating the correspondence as Document No. 110185 filed on June 20, 1917 by Allen H. Wright, City Clerk, and E. D. Johnson, Deputy; and describing the communication from department police as "Re appoint Miss L. Jeardeau as police woman at La Jolla", recommendation adopted by Council on June 20, 1917.

5. Official, passed Ordinance 7056:

AN ORDINANCE REGULATING WEARING OF BATHING SUITS IN
CERTAIN PORTIONS OF LA JOLLA PARK

BE IT ORDAINED by the Common Council of the City of San Diego, as follows:

Section 1.. That it shall be unlawful for any person to appear upon any public street or other public place in that portion of The City of San Diego hereinafter described, while clad in a bathing suit or swimming suit, unless there is worn over such bathing suit or

swimming suit a coat, cloak or other garment covering the entire person except the head, hands and feet.

Section 2. That the portion of said City referred to in Section 1 hereof is the portion described as, La Jolla Park, according to the official map thereof numbered 352, filed in the County Recorder's office of San Diego County March 22, 1887; excepting from the operation of this ordinance all that territory lying between the northerly line of Prospect Street and the ocean, and from the westerly line of Jenner Street to the easterly line of Cave Street.

Section 3. That this ordinance shall not apply to children under the age of ten (10) years.

Section 4. That any violation of this ordinance shall be a misdemeanor, and punishable by a fine not exceeding ten dollars (\$10.00), or by imprisonment in the City Jail for a period not exceeding five (5) days, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Section 5. That this ordinance shall take effect and be in force on the thirty-first day from and after its passage and approval.

Passed and adopted by the Common Council of the City of San Diego, California, this 25th day of June, 1917, by the following vote, to-wit:

AYES---COUNCILMEN: Bacon, Bard, Bruschi and Moore

NOES---NONE

ABSENT-COUNCILMAN: F a y

and signed in open session thereof by the President of said Common Council, this 25th day of June, 1917.

L.J. Wilde,

Common Council of the City of San Diego, California.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing ordinance was by a two-thirds vote of all the members of the said Common Council, present, put on its final passage at its first reading, this 25th day of June, 1917.

(SEAL)

(SEAL)

Allen H. Wright,

City Clerk of the City of San Diego, California, and Ex-officio

Clerk of the Common Council of the City of San Diego. By W.E. Bartlett, Deputy.

I HEREBY APPROVE the foregoing ordinance this 25th day of June, 1917. L.J. Wilde, Mayor of the City of San Diego, California.

ATTEST:

Allen H. Wright,

City Clerk of the City of San Diego, California.

By W.E. Bartlett, Deputy.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the above and foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of

Ordinance No.7056 of the Ordinances of the City of San Diego, California, as adopted by the Common Council of said City on the 25th day of June, 1917, and as approved by the Mayor of said City on the 25th day of June, 1917.