

Introduced: 03/11/2025
Publication: 03/19/2025
Public Hearing: 04/08/2025
Adopted: 04/08/2025

**TOWNSHIP OF TEWKSBURY
HUNTERDON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
ORDINANCE NO. 01-2025**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF TEWKSBURY, HUNTERDON
COUNTY, NEW JERSEY CREATING TITLE 9, PUBLIC PEACE, MORALS AND
WELFARE, CHAPTER 9.28, SECURED AREAS IN MUNICIPAL OFFICES, OF
THE TOWNSHIP CODE OF ORDINANCES**

WHEREAS, the Township of Tewksbury (the "Township") recognizes the importance of the rights guaranteed under the First Amendment of the United States Constitution and Article I, Section 6 of the New Jersey Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the Township acknowledges that as a matter of public policy, the rights afforded by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution and Article I, Section 6 of the New Jersey Constitution are not unlimited; and

WHEREAS, Township officials and employees have a responsibility to maintain and safeguard public records that contain confidential information; and

WHEREAS, records, reports, documents and information located in municipal offices may not be available for immediate public view since they may contain personal information, phone numbers, social security numbers, dates of birth and other confidential information; and

WHEREAS, creating secure areas with clear signage inside municipal offices will help deter persons from collecting records that they are not entitled to receive without following the process required by law, including the Open Public Records Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Tewksbury, Hunterdon County, New Jersey, as follows:

SECTION 1. Title 9, Public Peace, Morals and Welfare, Chapter 9.28, Secured Areas in Municipal Offices, of the Township Code of Ordinances is hereby created, as follows:

9.28.010 – Public access restricted, exceptions.

- A. Those sections of municipal offices located beyond the public entrance, vestibule and reception areas located at the Police and Administration Building, 169 Old Turnpike Road, Califon, New Jersey 07830, Police Department, 167 Old Turnpike Road, Califon, New Jersey 07830, Department of Public Works, 165 Old Turnpike Road, Califon, New Jersey 07830, and Construction Office, 108 Fairmount Road West, Califon, New Jersey 07830, have been secured and such areas and offices are not open to the public for the purpose

of protecting documents, digital data and other written, copied or printed materials that contain confidential information and are not immediately available to the public under law.

- B. Nothing in this Chapter shall prohibit any duly authorized Township official or employee from permitting members of the public to enter any secured area in a municipal office, provided that such members of the public are entering the secured area for official Township business or to respond to an emergency, and they are escorted by an authorized Township official or employee at all times while in the secured area.

9.28.020 – Signage

Signs shall be posted outside the secured areas of municipal offices which read, "Stop, Restricted Area, Authorized Employees Only. This Area is Not a Public Space. Recording or Photography is Strictly Prohibited. Violators are Subject to Criminal Prosecution".

9.28.30 – Violations and penalties

Any person who trespasses in, or records or photographs the secured area of any municipal office in violation of this Chapter may be subject to prosecution under N.J.S.A. 2C:18-3 or Title 9 of this Code.

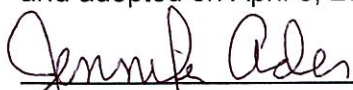
SECTION 2. All actions of the Township taken prior to the date of adoption hereof contemplated by this Ordinance are hereby ratified and approved.

SECTION 3. If any section, paragraph, subsection, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of this Ordinance as a whole or any remaining part thereof.

SECTION 4. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances of the Township of Tewksbury heretofore adopted that are inconsistent with any of the terms and provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SECTION 5. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its final passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

I HEREBY CERTIFY the above to be a true copy of an Ordinance introduced by the Township Committee of the Township of Tewksbury at a duly convened meeting held on March 11, 2025, and adopted on April 8, 2025.



Jennifer Ader
Township Clerk