



**Bureau of Experts at the Council of Ministers
Official Translation Department**

Regulations of Municipal Violations Penalties

Ministerial Resolution No. 92
September 22, 2020

Translation of Saudi Laws



NOTE:

The translation of Saudi laws takes the following into consideration:

- Words used in the singular form include the plural and vice versa.
- Words used in the masculine form include the feminine.
- Words used in the present tense include the present as well as the future.
- The word “person” or “persons” and their related pronouns (he, his, him, they, their, them) refer to a natural and legal person.



Regulations of Municipal Violations Penalties

Article 1

In these Regulations, the following terms and phrases shall have the meanings assigned thereto, unless the context requires otherwise:

Regulations: The Regulations of Municipal Violations Penalties.

Ministry: The Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and Housing.

Minister: The Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and Housing.

Municipal Violation: A case of non-compliance with these Regulations, the implementing decisions issued pursuant to these Regulations, or the conditions, rules, and instructions the implementation of which is supervised by the municipality or sub-municipality in accordance with the law.

Gross Municipal Violation: A municipal violation which would cause grave harm to human health or safety or to public health.

Violation: A municipal violation or a gross municipal violation.

Violator: A natural or legal person who commits a violation.

Municipal License: A written approval, issued by the municipality or sub-municipality in accordance with the Law of Municipal Licensing Procedures, for constructing a facility, opening a store for any activity on a specific site, or commencing a business at a facility, subject to the Law of Municipalities and Villages and its implementing regulations.

Store: A site, other than a facility, for which a municipal license is issued for the practice of an activity falling under the jurisdiction of the municipality or sub-municipality.

Facility: An entity, with a municipal license, which is licensed to engage in one economic activity, or more, and which engages in production, packaging, or processing activities which involve materials, tools, or components falling under the jurisdiction of the municipality or sub-municipality.

Property Lines: Lines indicating the boundaries of a property and separating it from neighboring property and public property, as identified in the approved plan.

Article 2

Subject to these Regulations and without prejudice to any harsher penalty stipulated in any other law, a violator shall be subject to one or more of the following penalties:

1. Imposing a fine not exceeding five hundred thousand riyals for a municipal violation, or one million riyals for a gross municipal violation. The fine may be doubled if the violation is repeated, and in the case of multiple violators, the fine shall be imposed on each violator. The maximum fine stipulated in this paragraph may be increased pursuant to an order by the Prime Minister



- upon a recommendation by the Minister and the Minister of Finance.
2. Closing the store or facility for a period not exceeding two weeks; such period may be doubled if the violation is repeated.
 3. Revoking the municipal license of the store or facility and barring it from engaging in the licensed activity for a period not exceeding two years in case of a gross municipal violation.

The penalties stipulated in paragraphs (2) and (3) shall be imposed only on the store or facility where the violation occurred. The implementing decisions issued under these Regulations shall determine the procedures following the imposition of such penalties.

Article 3

1. The Minister shall issue a table of violations and their corresponding penalties as stipulated in Article 2, taking into account the type, frequency, and impact of the violation.
2. The table shall indicate the violations which, if repeated, shall be subject to the penalties provided for in Article 2(1) and (2) of these Regulations, provided the increase in the penalties does not exceed their double amounts.
3. The table shall include the violations which must be rectified at the violator's expense within a specified period. The violator shall be deemed to have committed a new violation if he fails to rectify the violation within the specified period.

Article 4

1. The recording of violations shall be made in accordance with the procedures specified by the implementing decisions issued under these Regulations.
2. The recording of violations shall be made by the employees of the municipality or sub-municipality or relevant agencies or others nominated pursuant to a decision by the Minister or his designee.

Article 5

1. The Minister, or his designee from among the officials of municipalities, sub-municipalities, or relevant agencies, shall issue decisions relating to the penalties stipulated in these Regulations, with the exception of the decisions relating to fines stipulated in Article 2(1) of these Regulations if they exceed twenty-five thousand riyals for a municipal violation or fifty thousand riyals for a gross municipal violation. The penalty decision stipulated in Article 2(3) may not be enforced unless issued by the Minister or approved thereby if issued by his designee.
2. The Minister shall form one committee, or more, comprising at least three members, one of whom is a legal advisor, to issue decisions relating to the fines stipulated under Article 2(1), if the amount exceeds twenty-five thousand riyals for a municipal violation, or fifty thousand riyals for a gross municipal violation. The committee's work procedures and the remuneration of its members shall be determined pursuant to a decision by the Minister.



Article 6

Penalty decisions relating to repeated violations may, depending on the type and impact of the violation and subject to the approval of the Minister or his designee, be published at the expense of the violator in one or more newspapers issued in his area of residence, or through any other appropriate medium. The decision may be published only after the period for appeal lapses or the decision becomes final.

Article 7

The fines stipulated under these Regulations shall not prejudice the right of the person aggrieved by the violation to file a claim for compensation. The violator shall have the right to appeal the penalty in accordance with the law.

Article 8

Without prejudice to prescribed procedures and to penalties stipulated under Article 2 of these Regulations, the municipality or sub-municipality may undertake the following actions:

1. Seizing a vehicle or machinery abandoned in a public area, including parking lots and streets, for a period exceeding seven days. If the owner fails to reclaim his vehicle or machinery before the lapse of the period prescribed by the implementing decisions issued under these Regulations, the municipality or sub-municipality shall take the necessary action in accordance with the implementing decisions issued under these Regulations.
2. Seizing loose livestock within the development protection zones, including green areas owned by the municipality, sub-municipality, or by others, for a period not exceeding five days in a special impound. If the owner fails to reclaim his livestock before the lapse of the period prescribed by the implementing decisions issued under these Regulations, the municipality or sub-municipality shall take the necessary action in accordance with the implementing decisions issued under these Regulations.
3. In all cases, the violator shall be liable for any costs arising from the application of paragraphs (1) and (2) of this Article. The implementing decisions issued under these Regulations shall determine the manner for calculating such costs.

Article 9

Without prejudice to the penalties stipulated in Article 2 of these Regulations, the holder of a construction license who violates construction laws by exceeding construction limits or the number of floors permitted under the license or by failing to abide by legal setbacks, or by any other violation, shall rectify the violation at his own expense. If it is structurally infeasible to rectify the violation for fear of compromising the integrity of the building, and it is feasible to remove the resulting damage, the violator must pay half the cost of the construction subject of the violation and remove the resulting damage, provided that he presents a certificate from an architectural office accredited by the Ministry establishing the integrity of the constructed buildings.



Article 10

Without prejudice to the penalties stipulated in Article 2 of these Regulations, if a building is constructed without a license, the following provisions and procedures shall apply:

1. If the building conflicts with property lines, it shall be removed at the expense of the violator.
2. If the building does not cause harm to the neighboring property and does not conflict with property lines nor with construction laws, or if it results in damage which can be rectified, the violator shall pay 25% of the cost of the construction subject of the violation and the license fees, in addition to rectifying the violation by removing the damage, if any, provided that he presents a certificate from an architectural office accredited by the Ministry establishing the integrity of the constructed buildings.
3. If the building violates construction laws and causes damage to the neighboring property which cannot be rectified, the building shall be removed at the expense of the violator.

The implementing decisions issued under these Regulations shall determine the procedures necessary for the implementation of this Article.

Article 11

1. The owner of a store or facility, or his representative, shall, if requested, appear before the municipality or sub-municipality in the cases specified in the implementing decisions issued pursuant to these Regulations.
2. The owner of a store or facility, or his representative, shall follow the instructions of the municipalities or sub-municipalities issued pursuant to the law.
3. Without prejudice to the penalties stipulated under Article 2 of these Regulations, the implementing decisions issued under these Regulations shall determine the measures to be taken if the owner of the store or facility, or his representative, fails to comply with paragraphs (1) and (2) of this Article.

Article 12

1. If the municipality or sub-municipality has reason to believe that a gross municipal violation has been committed, it may confiscate or seize the items or tools related to the suspected violation, or close the store or facility for a period not exceeding three days; the municipality or sub-municipality shall, following any of such measures, take the necessary action in accordance with these Regulations and their implementing decisions.
2. The violator shall incur any damage resulting from seizure or confiscation of items or tools used in a gross municipal violation, in accordance with paragraph (1) of this Article. He shall also incur the cost resulting from confiscation or seizure of said items or tools. If the gross municipal violation is not established, the municipality or sub-municipality shall compensate any damage to the confiscated or seized items or tools as well as any cost resulting from confiscation or seizure thereof.
3. The implementing decisions issued under these Regulations shall determine



the procedures necessary for the implementation of this Article

Article 13

The items and tools related to the violation shall not be destroyed upon confiscation, unless they are established to be unusable. The implementing decisions issued under these Regulations shall determine the procedures necessary for the implementation of this Article.

Article 14

The municipality or sub-municipality may assign the duties of monitoring and of detecting violations to the private sector in accordance with relevant legal procedures.

Article 15

The Minister shall, in accordance with these Regulations, issue the implementing decisions thereof.

Article 16

1. The Minister, or his designee, may grant any person who assists in the detection of violations a reward not exceeding 25% of the amount of the fine, provided that such person does not work for the municipality or sub-municipality or assist in recording violations or in monitoring and inspection. The Minister shall, in coordination with the Minister of Finance, determine the relevant rules and conditions.
2. The Minister, or his designee, may reward persons in charge of recording violations and of monitoring and inspection who have performed their duties with distinction. The Minister shall, in coordination with the Minister of Finance, determine the relevant rules and conditions.

Article 17

These Regulations shall supersede the Regulations for Municipal Violations Fines and Penalties promulgated pursuant to Council of Ministers Resolution No. (218), dated 6/8/1422H, and shall repeal any provisions conflicting therewith.

Article 18

These Regulations shall enter into force 30 days following the date of their publication in the Official Gazette. Such period may, pursuant to a decision by the Minister, be extended for certain provisions for a period not exceeding 180 days following the date of publication.