

**HOLMES COUNTY**

**ORDINANCE NO: 08-02**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE HOLMES COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS Addressing theft or damage to street signs and traffic controls signs; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, street name signs are critical for emergency response personnel’s ability to rapidly locate the location of a call for assistance; and

**WHEREAS**, theft of such signs has caused extended response times and undue financial burden upon the County; and

**WHEREAS**, Holmes County wishes to deter theft of critical public property and recoup costs incurred for replacing such property;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF HOLMES COUNTY, FLORIDA, that:**

**SECTION 1. Intent.**

It is the intent of Holmes County to deter the theft and damage of public property, particularly street name signs and traffic control signs, through the implementation of specific penalties for the theft, possession, or damage of such signs.

**SECTION 2. Stealing, damaging, etc., street and traffic control signs.**

1. Every person within the County who shall steal, take and carry away, deface or damage any signboard or signpost or any part thereof bearing the name of any street within the County, or such sign found in their possession, shall be deemed guilty of a second degree misdemeanor with punishments as allowed under Florida Statutes 775.083.
2. Every person within the County who shall steal, take and carry away, deface or damage any signboard or signpost or any part thereof regarding traffic control, or such sign found in their possession, shall be deemed guilty of a second degree misdemeanor with punishments as allowed under Florida Statutes 775.083.

**SECTION 3. Severability.**

The provisions of this Ordinance are declared to be severable and if any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance shall, for any reason, be held to be invalid or unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining sections, sentences,

clauses, and phrases of this Ordinance but shall remain in effect, it being the legislative intent that this Ordinance shall stand notwithstanding the invalidity of any part.

SECTION 4. Effective Date.

This Ordinance shall take effect upon its passage by a majority vote of the Board of County Commissioners in and for Holmes County, after due notice and publication, in regular meeting, and upon being filed with the Florida Department of State.

ENACTED this 11th day of March, 2008.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF HOLMES COUNTY, FLORIDA

ATTEST:

  
Clerk

(SEAL) BY:

  
Chairman