

Chapter 17A RED HELPING HAND PROGRAM, INCORPORATED*

*Editor's note--Ord. No. 530-78, <sec><sec> 1--4, enacted Dec. 20, 1978 was nonamendatory to the Code and has been included as Ch. 17A, <sec><sec> 17A-1--17A-4, at the editor's discretion.

Sec. 17A-1. Recognition by City.

Within the City of Punta Gorda, Florida, the "Red Helping Hand Program, Inc." is recognized as a humane, charitable organization, the members of which are entitled to the exclusive use of the Red Helping Hand insignia or emblem.

(Ord. No. 530-78, <sec> 1, 12-20-78)

Sec. 17A-2. Membership; application, approval by Chief of Police; condition of membership.

Because of the close relationship of the activities of the "Red Helping Hand Program, Inc." with public health, safety and welfare, the recognition granted above is conditioned upon the contained requirement under the laws, rules and regulations of the organization, that its members be exclusively entitled to display the emblem and the continued inclusion in the laws, rules and regulations of the organization and enforcement of the following requirements for membership.

- (a) Application for membership shall be filed with the organization on a form approved by the organization and referred to the Punta Gorda Police Department for investigation of the applicant.
- (b) The Chief of Police shall deliver to the organization a written approval or disapproval of the applicant as a member and upon receipt thereof, the organization shall immediately notify the prospective member thereof, refusing membership to anyone disapproved by the Chief of Police.
- (c) Upon notification, the organization shall issue to the approved member an emblem bearing a serial number upon personal identification of the member by the production of at least a driver's license and car registration, and upon the delivery of a signed receipt therefor.
- (d) The organization and the Punta Gorda Police Department shall keep records of each member, where each emblem shall appear, and shall require the return of any emblem not used in conformance with the records and each emblem issued to a member no longer eligible for membership because of disapproval by the chief of police or because of removal from the location where the emblem is to appear.

- (e) As a condition of membership, each member shall be required to report to the city police department immediately, the name and address of the member, the emblem number, and the name and address of any person seeking aid and a brief statement of the difficulty involving the person and the aid needed.

(Ord. No. 530-78, <sec> 2, 12-20-78)

Sec. 17A-3. Fraudulent claims to membership.

It shall be unlawful for any person to display the insignia of the "Red Helping Hand Program, Inc.," claim to be a member thereof, either in the identical form or in such a resemblance thereto as to be a colorable imitation thereof, unless such person is entitled to do so hereunder and under the laws, rules and regulations of the "Red Helping Hand Program, Inc."

(Ord. No. 530-78, <sec> 3, 12-20-78)

Sec. 17A-4. Penalty.

Violations of this chapter shall be punishable as provided by the Codes of the City of Punta Gorda.

(Ord. No. 530-78, <sec> 4, 12-20-78)