



ST. HELENA

CHAPTER 161

SUNDAY (OBSERVANCE) ORDINANCE and Subsidiary Legislation

Non-authoritative Consolidated Text

This is not an authoritative 'revised edition' for the purposes of the Revised Edition of the Laws Ordinance; it has been prepared under the supervision of the Attorney General for the purpose of enabling ready access to the current law, and specifically for the purpose of being made accessible via the internet.

Whilst it is intended that this version accurately reflects the current law, users should refer to the authoritative texts in case of doubt. Enquiries may be addressed to the Attorney General at Essex House, Jamestown
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Visit our [LAWS page](#) to understand the St. Helena legal system and the legal status of this version of the Ordinance.

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¹ These contact details may change during 2011 or early in 2012. In case of difficulty, email shgwebsite@sainthelena.gov.sh or telephone (+290) 2470.

CHAPTER 161

SUNDAY (OBSERVANCE) ORDINANCE

(Ordinances 3 of 1849, 1 of 1908, 17 of 1955 and 5 of 2000)

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE OBSERVANCE OF THE SABBATH DAY.

Commencement

[22 February 1849]

Short title

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Sunday (Observance) Ordinance.

Work on Sunday

2.² (1) Except for the provision of emergency services and essential public services, no person shall be compelled to perform any work on a Sunday or any part thereof.

(2) An employer who employs any person on a Sunday shall pay such person, in respect of any work performed on such Sunday, wages at double the rate paid in normal working hours.

(3) The Governor in Council may by order set out various categories of persons to whom the provisions of sub-section (2) shall not apply.

(4) For the purposes of this section, but without limiting the generality of the meaning—

“**emergency services**” means police, fire and ambulance services and any other such service that may be required in an emergency to deal with the preservation of life and property;

“**essential public services**” means services that are essential to ensure the health, safety and welfare of the public.

Shop opening restricted

3.³ (1) Subject to subsection (2), all shops, stores and places of business shall be restricted to specified opening hours on a Sunday.

(2) The Governor in Council may by regulations specify the hours during which shops, stores and places of business may open on a Sunday.

(3) Any person who contravenes the provisions of any regulations made under subsection (2) shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a fine not exceeding £200.

4.⁴ ...

5.⁵ ...

² Section 2 amended by Ord. 5 of 2000

³ Section 3 amended by Ord. 5 of 2000

⁴ Section 4 repealed by Ord. 5 of 2000

⁵ Section 5 repealed by Ord. 5 of 2000

SUNDAY (OBSERVANCE) REGULATIONS – SECTION 3

(Legal Notices 18 of 2000 and 26 of 2009)

Short title

1. These regulations may be cited as the Sunday (Observance) Regulations.

Specified opening hours

2. (1) The hours during which shops, stores and places of business may open on a Sunday shall be between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

(2)⁶ A Council Committee may, on any special occasion and on receiving written application for the extension of the specified hours from the proprietor of any shop, store or place of business, extend the opening hours referred to in subregulation (1) in respect of such shop, store or business.

(3) For the purposes of subregulation (2) “**special occasion**” means a special occasion of local or national celebration or an occasion when there is a vessel carrying passengers or a naval vessel in port.

⁶ Regulation 2(2) amended by L.N. 26 of 2009