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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## LEHI CITY COUNCIL PASSES UPDATED SOLICITATION ORDINANCE

Ordinance Seeks to Balance Privacy and 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment Concerns

Lehi, Utah | March 28, 2013 – As the result of an internal review of the Lehi City Code, Lehi City Council passed a new, updated solicitor’s license ordinance at its council meeting on March 26, 2013. The new ordinance features clear guidelines to solicitors and residents about what is acceptable in the City. The key provisions of the new ordinance include:

- Solicitors must obtain a current criminal background check (BCI) from the Utah Department of Public Safety’s Bureau of Criminal Identification prior to obtaining a solicitor’s license.
- Solicitors must wear a city-provided identification badge.
- Soliciting will only be allowed between 9:00 AM and 8:00 PM.
- Solicitors must respect no solicitation signs.



The new ordinance does provide exemptions for religious, political, and charitable organizations, although those organizations are still subject to the time restrictions. Violation of the new ordinance could result in misdemeanor charges.

The City believes that the new ordinance will help protect Lehi residents from aggressive solicitation, while preserving 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment rights. Ryan Wood, the Lehi City Attorney who drafted the ordinance, said, “Our ordinance is based on a model ordinance drafted by the Utah League of Cities and Towns and effectively balances the safety and privacy interests of our residents with the 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment rights of those engaged in door-to-door sales to sell their products and services.” Residents and solicitors who would like more information concerning the new ordinance can contact Lehi City at (801) 768-7100.

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*Lehi City is committed to transparency and keeping the community informed. For more information about this topic, or to schedule an interview with Ryan Wood, please call Robert Ranc at (801) 768-7100 ext. 2271, or email Robert at rranc@lehi-ut.gov.*