

The purpose and mission of the South River City Citizens (SRCC) neighborhood organization is to protect and preserve the quality of life for its residents and for neighborhoods generally. We write to apprise you of, and to find a suitable resolution to, a problem that repeats in various ways and locations throughout our neighborhood but is particularly acute at this time.

Given the boundaries of our south-central downtown neighborhood, SRCC residents are no strangers to live music and spirited gatherings. Traditionally, these have been accommodated by: a spirit of inclusiveness (pre-warning and inviting the neighbors); neighborly requests (“could you turn that down, please?”); and, as necessary, enforcement of Austin’s Noise Ordinance.

As a reminder, Austin’s Noise Ordinance provides that property zoned as residential may use amplified sound only between 10 a.m. and 10 p.m. and, even during those hours, the amplified sound may not exceed 75 decibels. *No* amplified sound may be audible beyond the residential property line between 10 p.m. and 10 a.m. (“Amplified Sound in Residential Areas” at austintexas.gov).

Unfortunately, these traditional approaches have not been effective for the neighbors of David Brinkley at 1312 Alta Vista Avenue. Yorgos Economos and his family, who share a rear boundary with Mr. Brinkley’s property, are frequently subjected to noise disturbances emanating from an elevated home entertainment venue in the rear of Brinkley’s residence. The sound stage, which features equipment that would not be out of place at a professional venue, is pictured (as seen from the Economos’ residence) [Elevated sound stage from adjacent backyard](#)

Efforts to achieve cooperation from Mr. Brinkley have been unavailing. He is reported to have responded to neighbors’ complaints with a combination of amusement, derisiveness and defiance. He has explained that he is (or believes himself to be) in a protected category *vis a vis* the City and does not expect municipal regulations to be applied to him. If his perception is accurate, municipal noise regulations are obviously rendered meaningless.

Without apology, Mr. Brinkley operates an amplified music venue *at all hours* in the heart of an otherwise-sedate residential neighborhood an area in which peaceful enjoyment of one’s home is—or *should* be—taken for granted. Examples recorded in less than one month’s time from the Economos’ property:

12/11/25 at 10:45pm:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VDi2oPeTUBDMc-KdF0y1SWqOA0PiTPo0/view?usp=drivesdk>

11/29/25 at 4:45am

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/18GYerfaHPdnJCQkMLJx7vp2QsPRcXwMJ/view?usp=drivesdk>

11/22/25 at 10am

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1vhpE2xOT1VernzXAt_n8DRtlR51F_yv6/view?usp=drivesdk

11/21/25 at 5am

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/13zB9NS8fpeXKzqlDL1A4umGn23w-3Sgo/view?usp=drivesdk>

Neighbors have reached out to both 3-1-1 and 9-1-1. Code Enforcement has been slow to address the very problematic issue of operating an amplified entertainment venue in a residential neighborhood. APD has responded sometimes but the response is often hours after the complaint, after neighbors have lost (another) night's sleep and/or the party has broken up. Further, when they do respond and music is playing, their practice seems to be measuring sound levels from the middle of the street in front of the residence. The front of Mr. Brinkley's home appears innocuous (as the sound emanates from an elevated backyard stage). As a reminder, in residential neighborhoods, any amplified music audible beyond the host's property line is prohibited between 10 p.m. and 10 a.m.

[Street view of residence #1](#)

[Street view of residence #2](#)

We ask that you communicate with appropriate City leaders, including Code Enforcement and Austin Police, to ensure that our concerns are addressed and neighbors' complaints are prioritized for rapid response. It is imperative that complaints about noise disturbances are responded to promptly (before residents lose a night's sleep and the party dissipates) and that violations are cited appropriately. We believe that the music venue and sound stage at the rear of Mr. Brinkley's residence is inconsistent with City Code and should be removed (or, at minimum, silenced from 10 to 10 as required by law).

SRCC appreciates your consideration of this ongoing problem and anticipates receiving your proposed solutions as soon as reasonably practicable.

Sincerely,