ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE UNLAWFUL USE OF ENGINE AND COMPRESSION BRAKES (“JAKE BRAKE ORDINANCE”)

SECTION 1. The purpose of this ordinance is to prohibit the excessive, loud, unusual or explosive use of engine and compressed air-braking devices within designated areas in Clay County.

SECTION 2. For the purposes of this ordinance the following words and phrases are defined as follows:
1. “Engine retarding brake” means a “Dynamic Brake,” “Jake Brake,” “Jacobs Brake,” “C-Brake,” “Paccar Brake,” transmission brake or any other engine retarding brake system that alters the normal compression of the engine and subsequently releases that compression.

SECTION 3. It shall be unlawful for the driver of any vehicle to use or operate or cause to be used or operated within designated areas in the unincorporated areas of the County of Clay State of Iowa, any engine brake, Compression brake or mechanical exhaust device designed to aid in the braking or deceleration of any vehicle that results in excessive, loud, unusual or explosive noise from such vehicle, unless such use is necessary to avoid imminent danger. Such prohibition shall be applicable only to those public highways or portions specifically identified in this Chapter.

SECTION 4. The prohibition set forth herein shall apply to all public highways in Clay County, Iowa or portions thereof.

SECTION 5. Signs stating “VEHICLE NOISE LAWS ENFORCED” or “ENGINE BRAKE ORDINANCE ENFORCED” may be installed at locations deemed appropriate by the Board of Supervisors to advise motorists of the prohibitions contained in this ordinance, except that no sign stating “VEHICLE NOISE LAWS ENFORCED” or “ENGINE BRAKE ORDINANCE ENFORCED” shall be installed on a state highway without a permit from the Iowa Department of Transportation. The provisions of this ordinance shall be in full force and effect even if no signs are installed.

SECTION 6. Emergency vehicles shall be exempt from the application of this ordinance.

SECTION 7. This ordinance is deemed to be a county infraction. It shall be enforced pursuant to Chapter 1 of Clay County’s Code of Ordinances.

SECTION 8. Should any part of this ordinance be held invalid, the remaining part shall be severable and shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 9. If any section, part or provision of this Ordinance shall be adjudged invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the Ordinance as a whole, or any section, provision or part thereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.
SECTION 10. This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force and effect after its passage and publication as required by law.