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## MEMORANDUM

To: Ald. Scott Spiker  
From: Ned Littlefield, Legislative Fiscal Analyst - Lead  
Date: June 5, 2024  
Subject: Prohibited Items During Recent Presidential Nominating Conventions

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You requested information on June 1, 2024 to compare Milwaukee's lists of prohibited items during the 2020 Democratic National Convention (DNC) and 2024 Republican National Convention (RNC) with other host cities' lists. Common Council File Number (CCFN) 200176, passed July 28, 2020, and CCFN 240174, currently before the Public Safety and Health Committee, prohibit similar items for the DNC and RNC, respectively.

For this comparison, the LRB categorized prohibited items according to four main functions based on a review of regulations from the 2012 Charlotte DNC, 2020 Milwaukee DNC, 2024 Chicago DNC, 2012 Tampa RNC, 2016 Cleveland RNC, and 2024 Milwaukee RNC. The LRB can update this review if necessary, pending receipt of 2016 Philadelphia DNC and 2020 Charlotte RNC regulations. The functions are:

- *Defense*: Monitoring and resisting law enforcement (e.g., gas masks, irritant sprays, ladders, police scanners, non-personal audio/video equipment, shields);
- *Obstruction*: Hindering removal from sites (e.g., means of locking protesters);
- *Offense*: Inflicting physical harm (e.g., actual and potential weapons, as well as means of transporting, storing, and operating said weapons); and
- *Shelter*: Sustaining presence at sites (e.g., canned goods, coolers, tents).

Milwaukee's 2020 DNC and 2024 RNC regulations are similar to those of the other host cities in prohibiting at least one item across all four functions, with two exceptions: 2024 Chicago DNC regulations do not appear to prohibit obstruction items; and 2012 Tampa RNC regulations seem unique in segmenting prohibited items by security zone (i.e., "city wide", "event zone", "public viewing area"). Please find attached copies of the other host cities' regulations, with prohibited item lists highlighted in yellow as necessary.

LRB 179950  
Attachments