

- A. An amount equal to or exceeding ten grams or twenty-five unit doses of a compound, mixture, preparation or substance that is or contains any amount of a Schedule I opiate or opium derivative;
  - B. An amount equal to or exceeding ten grams of a compound, mixture, preparation or substance that is or contains any amount of raw or gum opium;
  - C. An amount equal to or exceeding thirty grams or ten unit doses of a compound, mixture, preparation or substance that is or contains any amount of a Schedule I hallucinogen other than tetrahydrocannabinol or lysergic acid amide, or a Schedule I stimulant or depressant;
  - D. An amount equal to or exceeding twenty grams or five times the maximum daily dose in the usual dose range specified in a standard pharmaceutical reference manual of a compound, mixture, preparation or substance that is or contains any amount of a Schedule II opiate or opium derivative;
  - E. An amount equal to or exceeding five grams or ten unit doses of a compound, mixture, preparation or substance that is or contains any amount of phencyclidine;
  - F. An amount equal to or exceeding 120 grams or thirty times the maximum daily dose in the usual dose range specified in a standard pharmaceutical reference manual of a compound, mixture, preparation or substance that is or contains any amount of a Schedule II stimulant that is in a final dosage form manufactured by a person authorized by the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 301 et seq., as amended) and the federal drug abuse control laws, as defined in this section, that is or contains any amount of a Schedule II depressant substance or a Schedule II hallucinogenic substance;
  - G. An amount equal to or exceeding three grams of a compound, mixture, preparation, or substance that is or contains any amount of a Schedule II stimulant, or any of its salts or isomers, that is not in a final dosage form manufactured by a person authorized by the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 301 et seq., as amended) and the federal drug abuse control laws;
- (2) An amount equal to or exceeding 120 grams or thirty times the maximum daily dose in the usual dose range specified in a standard pharmaceutical reference manual of a compound, mixture, preparation or substance that is or contains any amount of a Schedule III or IV substance other than an anabolic steroid or a Schedule III opiate or opium derivative;
  - (3) An amount equal to or exceeding twenty grams or five times the maximum daily dose in the usual dose range specified in a standard pharmaceutical reference manual of a compound, mixture, preparation or substance that is or contains any amount of a Schedule III opiate or opium derivative;
  - (4) An amount equal to or exceeding 250 milliliters or 250 grams of a compound, mixture, preparation or substance that is or contains any amount of a Schedule V substance;

another state or the United States arising out of the same set of circumstances as the violation, the court shall suspend the offender's driver's or commercial driver's license or permit for not more than five years. If the offender is a professionally licensed person, in addition to any other sanction imposed for a violation of this section, the court immediately shall comply with Ohio R.C. 2925.38. (ORC 2925.14)

#### **913.121 MARIHUANA DRUG PARAPHERNALIA.**

(a) As used in this section, "drug paraphernalia" has the same meaning as in Section 913.12.

(b) In determining if any equipment, product, or material is drug paraphernalia, a court or law enforcement officer shall consider, in addition to other relevant factors, all factors identified in subsection (b) of Section 913.12.

(c) No person shall knowingly use, or possess with purpose to use, any drug paraphernalia that is equipment, a product, or material of any kind that is used by the person, intended by the person for use, or designed for use in storing, containing, concealing, injecting, ingesting, inhaling or otherwise introducing into the human body marihuana.

(d) This section does not apply to any person identified in subsection (d)(1) of Section 913.12 and it shall not be construed to prohibit the possession or use of a hypodermic as authorized by Section 913.10.

(e) Subsection (e) of Section 913.12 applies with respect to any drug paraphernalia that was used or possessed in violation of this section.

(f) Whoever violates subsection (c) of this section is guilty of illegal use or possession of marihuana drug paraphernalia, a minor misdemeanor.

(g) In addition to any other sanction imposed upon an offender for a violation of this section, the court may suspend for not more than five years the offender's driver's or commercial driver's license or permit. However, if the offender pleaded guilty to or was convicted of a violation of Ohio R.C. 4511.19 or a substantially similar municipal ordinance or the law of another state or the United States arising out of the same set of circumstances as the violation, the court shall suspend the offender's driver's or commercial driver's license or permit for not more than five years. If the offender is a professionally licensed person, in addition to any other sanction imposed for a violation of this section, the court immediately shall comply with Ohio R.C. 2925.38. (ORC 2925.141)

#### **913.13 COUNTERFEIT CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.**

(a) No person shall knowingly possess any counterfeit controlled substance.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of possession of counterfeit controlled substances, a misdemeanor of the first degree. (ORC 2925.37)

(c) The court may suspend for not more than five years the offender's driver's or commercial driver's license or permit. However, if the offender pleaded guilty to or was convicted of a violation of Ohio R.C. 4511.19 or a substantially similar municipal ordinance or the law of another state or the United States arising out of the same set of circumstances as the violation, the court shall suspend the offender's driver's or commercial driver's license or permit for not more than five years. (ORC 2925.37)

**913.14 OFFENDER MAY BE REQUIRED TO PAY FOR CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE TESTS.**

In addition to the financial sanctions authorized or required under Ohio R.C. 2929.18 and 2929.28 and to any costs otherwise authorized or required under any provision of law, the court imposing sentence upon an offender who is convicted of or pleads guilty to a drug abuse offense may order the offender to pay to the state, municipal, or county law enforcement agencies that handled the investigation and prosecution all of the costs that the state, municipal corporation, or county reasonably incurred in having tests performed under Ohio R.C. 2925.51, or in any other manner on any substance that was the basis of, or involved in, the offense to determine whether the substance contained any amount of a controlled substance if the results of the tests indicate that the substance tested contained any controlled substance. No court shall order an offender under this section to pay the costs of tests performed on a substance if the results of the tests do not indicate that the substance tested contained any controlled substance.

The court shall hold a hearing to determine the amount of costs to be imposed under this section. The court may hold the hearing as part of the sentencing hearing for the offender. (ORC 2925.511)

**913.15 SALE OF DEXTROMETHORPHAN.**

(a) As used in this section:

- (1) "Dextromethorphan" means the dextrorotatory isomer of 3-methoxy-N-methylmorphinan, including its salts, but not including its racemic or levorotatory forms.
- (2) "Evidence of majority and identity" means a document issued by the federal government or a state, county, or municipal government, or a subdivision or agency of any of the foregoing, including a driver's or commercial driver's license, an identification card issued under Ohio R.C. 4507.50 to 4507.52, a military identification card, or any other form of identification that bears the name, date of birth, description and picture of the person identified.
- (3) "Retailer" means a place of business that offers consumer products for sale to the general public, including a terminal distributor of dangerous drugs that is licensed under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4729 and operated as a pharmacy.

(b) No retailer or employee of a retailer shall knowingly supply, deliver, give or otherwise provide a drug, material, compound, mixture, preparation or substance containing any quantity of dextromethorphan through the sale of any product to a person under eighteen years of age, unless the person has been issued a prescription for the product being purchased.

(c) For purposes of subsection (b) of this section, the person making the sale of a product containing dextromethorphan shall require and obtain evidence of majority and identity from the purchaser, unless from the purchaser's outward appearance the person making the sale would reasonably presume the purchaser to be twenty-five years of age or older. Proof that the person making the sale demanded, was shown, and acted in reasonable reliance on the purchaser's evidence of majority and identity is a defense to any charge of a violation of subsection (b) of this section.

(d) A retailer or employee of a retailer is not liable for damages in a civil action for injury, death or loss to person or property that allegedly arises from an act or omission associated with a failure to prevent the sale of a product containing dextromethorphan to a person under eighteen years of age, unless the act or omission constitutes willful or wanton misconduct.

(e) Whoever violates subsection (b) of this section is guilty of illegally selling dextromethorphan, a minor misdemeanor.  
(ORC 2925.62)

**913.99 PENALTY.**

(EDITOR'S NOTE: See Section 901.99 for penalties applicable to any misdemeanor classification.)



## CHAPTER 917 Gambling

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| <p>917.01 Definitions.</p> <p>917.02 Gambling.</p> <p>917.03 Operating a gambling house.</p> <p>917.04 Public gaming.</p> <p>917.05 Cheating.</p> <p>917.06 Methods of conducting a bingo game; prohibitions.</p> <p>917.07 Instant bingo conduct.</p> <p>917.08 Raffles.</p> <p>917.09 Charitable instant bingo organizations.</p> <p>917.10 Location of instant bingo.</p> | <p>917.11 Bingo or game of chance records.</p> <p>917.12 Bingo operator prohibitions.</p> <p>917.13 Bingo exceptions.</p> <p>917.14 Instant bingo conduct by a veteran's or fraternal organization.</p> <p>917.15 Seizure and destruction of gambling devices.</p> <p>917.16 Skill-based amusement machines.</p> <p>917.17 Electronic instant bingo; prohibited conduct.</p> <p>917.99 Penalty.</p> |
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### CROSS REFERENCES

See sectional histories for similar State law

Lotteries prohibited; exception - see Ohio Const., Art. XV, Sec. 6

Contributing to delinquency of minors - see Ohio R.C. 2151.41

Search warrants - see Ohio R.C. 2933.21(E)

Licensing charitable bingo games - see Ohio R.C. 2915.08

#### **917.01 DEFINITIONS.**

For the purpose of this chapter, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

- (a) "Bet" means the hazarding of anything of value upon the result of an event, undertaking, or contingency, but does not include a bona fide business risk.
- (b) "Bingo" means either of the following:
  - (1) A game with all of the following characteristics:
    - A. The participants use bingo cards or sheets, including paper formats and electronic representation or image formats, that are divided into twenty-five (25) spaces arranged in five (5) horizontal and five (5) vertical rows of spaces, with each space, except the central space, being designated by a combination of a letter and a number and with the central space being designated as a free space;
    - B. The participants cover the spaces on the bingo cards or sheets that correspond to combinations of letters and numbers that are announced by a bingo game operator;

- C. A bingo game operator announces combinations of letters and numbers that appear on objects that a bingo game operator selects by chance, either manually or mechanically, from a receptacle that contains seventy-five (75) objects at the beginning of each game, each object marked by a different combination of a letter and a number that corresponds to one of the seventy-five (75) possible combinations of a letter and a number that can appear on the bingo cards or sheets;
  - D. The winner of the bingo game includes any participant who properly announces during the interval between the announcements of letters and numbers, as described in subsection (b)(1)C. hereof, that a predetermined and pre-announced pattern of spaces has been covered on a bingo card or sheet being used by the participant.
- (2) Instant bingo, electronic instant bingo, and raffles.
- (c) "Bingo game operator" means any person, except security personnel, who performs work or labor at the site of bingo including but not limited to collecting money from participants, handing out bingo cards or sheets or objects to cover spaces on bingo cards or sheets, selecting from a receptacle the objects that contain the combination of letters and numbers that appear on bingo cards or sheets, calling out the combinations of letters and numbers, distributing prizes, selling or redeeming instant bingo tickets or cards, selling or redeeming electronic instant bingo tickets, credits, or vouchers, accessing an electronic instant bingo system other than as a participant, supervising the operation of a punch board, selling raffle tickets, selecting raffle tickets from a receptacle and announcing the winning numbers in a raffle, and preparing, selling, and serving food or beverages. "Bingo game operator" does not include a person who is installing, maintaining, updating, or repairing an electronic instant bingo system.
  - (d) "Bingo session" means a period that includes both of the following:
    - (1) Not to exceed five (5) continuous hours for the conduct of one or more games described in subsection (d)(1) hereof the definition of "bingo" in this section, instant bingo, and electronic instant bingo;
    - (2) A period for the conduct of instant bingo and electronic instant bingo for not more than two (2) hours before and not more than two (2) hours after the period described in subsection (d)(1) hereof.
  - (e) "Bingo supplies" means bingo cards or sheets; instant bingo tickets or cards; electronic bingo aids; raffle tickets; punch boards; seal cards; instant bingo ticket dispensers; electronic instant bingo systems; and devices for selecting or displaying the combination of bingo letters and numbers or raffle tickets. Items that are "bingo supplies" are not gambling devices if sold or otherwise provided, and used, in accordance with this chapter or Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915. For purposes of this chapter, "bingo supplies" are not to be considered equipment used to conduct a bingo game.
  - (f) "Bookmaking" means the business of receiving or paying off bets.
  - (g) "Chamber of Commerce" means any organization of individuals, professionals, and businesses that has the purpose to advance the commercial, financial, industrial, and civic interests of the community and that is, and has received from the Internal Revenue Service a determination letter that currently is in effect stating that the organization is, exempt from federal income taxation under IRC 501(a) and described in IRC 501(c)(6).

- (h) “Charitable bingo game” means any bingo game described in subsections (b)(1) or (2) hereof that is conducted by a charitable organization that has obtained a license pursuant to Ohio R.C. 2915.08 and the proceeds of which are used for a charitable purpose.
- (i) “Charitable instant bingo organization” means an organization that is exempt from federal income taxation under IRC 501(a) and described in IRC 501(c)(3) and is a charitable organization as defined in this section. The term does not include a charitable organization that is exempt from federal income taxation under IRC 501(a) and described in IRC 501(c)(3) and that is created by a veteran’s organization, a fraternal organization, or a sporting organization in regards to bingo conducted or assisted by a veteran’s organization, a fraternal organization, or a sporting organization pursuant to Section 917.14.
- (j) “Charitable organization” means:
  - (1) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, “charitable organization” means either of the following:
    - A. An organization that is exempt from federal income taxation under IRC 501(a) and described in IRC 501(c)(3);
    - B. A volunteer rescue service organization, volunteer firefighter’s organization, veteran’s organization, fraternal organization, or sporting organization that is exempt from federal income taxation under IRC 501(c)(4), 501(c)(7), 501(c)(8), 501(c)(10) or 501(c)(19).
  - (2) To qualify as a charitable organization, an organization shall have been in continuous existence as such in this state for a period of two (2) years immediately preceding either the making of an application for a bingo license under Ohio R.C. 2915.08 or the conducting of any game of chance as provided Section 917.02(d).
- (k) “Charitable purpose” means that the net profit of bingo, other than instant bingo or electronic instant bingo, is used by, or is given, donated, or otherwise transferred to, any of the following:
  - (1) Any organization that is described in IRC 509(a)(1), 509(a)(2), or 509(a)(3) and is either a governmental unit or an organization that is tax exempt under IRC 501(a) and described in IRC 501(c)(3);
  - (2) A veteran’s organization that is a post, chapter, or organization of veterans, or an auxiliary unit or society of, or a trust or foundation for, any such post, chapter, or organization organized in the United States or any of its possessions, at least seventy-five percent (75%) of the members of which are veterans and substantially all of the other members of which are individuals who are spouses, widows, or widowers of veterans, or such individuals, provided that no part of the net earnings of such post, chapter, or organization inures to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual, and further provided that the net profit is used by the post, chapter, or organization for the charitable purposes set forth in Ohio R.C. 5739.02(B)(12), is used for awarding scholarships to or for attendance at an institution mentioned in that division of the Ohio Revised Code, is donated to a governmental agency, or is used for nonprofit youth activities, the purchase of United States or Ohio flags that are donated to schools, youth groups, or other bona fide nonprofit organizations, promotion of patriotism, or disaster relief;

- (3) A fraternal organization that has been in continuous existence in this state for fifteen (15) years and that uses the net profit exclusively for religious, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes, or for the prevention of cruelty to children or animals, if contributions for such use would qualify as a deductible charitable contribution under IRC 170;
- (4) A volunteer firefighter's organization that uses the net profit for the purposes set forth in the definition of "volunteer firefighter's organization" in this section.
- (l) "Community action agency" has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 122.66.
- (m) "Conduct" means to back, promote, organize, manage, carry on, sponsor, or prepare for the operation of bingo or a game of chance, a scheme of chance, or a sweepstakes.
- (n) "Deal" means a single game of instant bingo tickets, or a single game of electronic instant bingo tickets, all with the same serial number.
- (o) "Distributor" means any person who purchases or obtains bingo supplies and who does either of the following:
  - (1) Sells, offers for sale, or otherwise provides or offers to provide the bingo supplies to another person for use in this state;
  - (2) Modifies, converts, adds to, or removes parts from the bingo supplies to further their promotion or sale for use in this state.
- (p) "Electronic bingo aid" means:
  - (1) An electronic device used by a participant to monitor bingo cards or sheets purchased at the time and place of a bingo session and that does all of the following:
    - A. It provides a means for a participant to input numbers and letters announced by a bingo caller.
    - B. It compares the numbers and letters entered by the participant to the bingo faces previously stored in the memory of the device.
    - C. It identifies a winning bingo pattern.
  - (2) The term does not include any device into which a coin, currency, token, or an equivalent is inserted to activate play.
- (q) "Electronic instant bingo" means:
  - (1) A form of bingo that consists of an electronic or digital representation of instant bingo in which a participant wins a prize if the participant's electronic instant bingo ticket contains a combination of numbers or symbols that was designated in advance as a winning combination, and to which all of the following apply:
    - A. Each deal has a predetermined, finite number of winning and losing tickets and a predetermined prize amount and deal structure, provided that there may be multiple winning combinations in each deal and multiple winning tickets.
    - B. Each electronic instant bingo ticket within a deal has a unique serial number that is not regenerated.
    - C. Each electronic instant bingo ticket within a deal is sold for the same price.
    - D. After a participant purchases an electronic instant bingo ticket, the combination of numbers or symbols on the ticket is revealed to the participant.

- E. The reveal of numbers or symbols on the ticket may incorporate an entertainment or bonus theme, provided that the reveal does not include spinning reels that resemble a slot machine.
  - F. The reveal theme, if any, does not require additional consideration or award any prize other than any predetermined prize associated with the electronic instant bingo ticket.
- (2) The term shall not include any of the following:
  - A. Any game, entertainment, or bonus theme that replicates or simulates any of the following:
    - 1. The gambling games of keno, blackjack, roulette, poker, craps, other casino-style table games;
    - 2. Horse racing;
    - 3. Gambling games offered in this state on slot machines or video lottery terminals. As used in this division, "video lottery terminal" has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 3770.21.
  - B. Any device operated by dropping one or more coins or tokens into a slot and pulling a handle or pushing a button or touchpoint on a touchscreen to activate one to three or more rotating reels marked into horizontal segments by varying symbols, where the predetermined prize amount depends on how and how many of the symbols line up when the rotating reels come to a rest;
  - C. Any device that includes a coin or token slot, tray, or hopper and the ability to dispense coins, cash, tokens, or anything of value other than a credit ticket voucher.
- (r) "Electronic instant bingo system" means both of the following:
  - (1) A mechanical, electronic, digital, or video device and associated software to which all of the following apply:
    - A. It is used by not more than one player at a time to play electronic instant bingo on a single screen that is physically connected to the device;
    - B. It is located on the premises of the principal place of business of a veteran's or fraternal organization that holds a type II or type III bingo license to conduct electronic instant bingo at that location issued under Ohio R.C. 2915.08.
  - (2) Any associated equipment or software used to manage, monitor, or document any aspect of electronic instant bingo.
- (s) "Expenses" means the reasonable amount of gross profit actually expended for all of the following:
  - (1) The purchase or lease of bingo supplies;
  - (2) The annual license fee required under Ohio R.C. 2915.08;
  - (3) Bank fees and service charges for a bingo session or game account described in Ohio R.C. 2915.10;
  - (4) Audits and accounting services;
  - (5) Safes;
  - (6) Cash registers;
  - (7) Hiring security personnel;
  - (8) Advertising bingo;
  - (9) Renting premises in which to conduct a bingo session;

- (10) Tables and chairs;
- (11) Expenses for maintaining and operating a charitable organization's facilities, including but not limited to a post home, club house, lounge, tavern, or canteen and any grounds attached to the post home, club house, lounge, tavern, or canteen;
- (12) Payment of real property taxes and assessments that are levied on a premises on which bingo is conducted;
- (13) Any other product or service directly related to the conduct of bingo that is authorized in rules adopted by the Attorney General under Ohio R.C. 2915.08(F)(1).
- (t) "Fraternal organization" means any society, order, state headquarters, or association within this state, except a college or high school fraternity, that is not organized for profit, that is a branch, lodge, or chapter of a national or state organization, that exists exclusively for the common business or sodality of its members.
- (u) "Gambling device" means any of the following:
  - (1) A book, totalizer, or other equipment used for recording bets;
  - (2) A ticket, token, or other device representing a chance, share, or interest in a scheme of chance or evidencing a bet;
  - (3) A deck of cards, dice, gaming table, roulette wheel, slot machine, or other apparatus designed for use in connection with a game of chance;
  - (4) Any equipment, device, apparatus, or paraphernalia specially designed for gambling purposes;
  - (5) Bingo supplies sold or otherwise provided, or used, in violation of this chapter or Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915.
- (v) "Gambling offense" means any of the following:
  - (1) A violation of Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915;
  - (2) A violation of an existing or former municipal ordinance or law of this or any other state or of the United States substantially equivalent to any provision of this chapter or Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915 or a violation of Ohio R.C. 2915.06 as it existed prior to July 1, 1996;
  - (3) An offense under an existing or former municipal ordinance or law of this or any other state or of the United States, of which gambling is an element;
  - (4) A conspiracy or attempt to commit, or complicity in committing, any offense under subsections (v)(1), (2), or (3) hereof.
- (w) "Game flare" means the board or placard, or electronic representation of a board or placard, that accompanies each deal of instant bingo or electronic instant bingo tickets and that includes the following information for the game:
  - (1) The name of the game;
  - (2) The manufacture's name or distinctive logo;
  - (3) The form number;
  - (4) The ticket count;
  - (5) The prize structure, including the number of winning tickets by denomination and the respective winning symbol or number combinations for the winning tickets;
  - (6) The cost per play;
  - (7) The serial number of the game.
- (x) "Game of chance" means poker, craps, roulette, or other game in which a player gives anything of value in the hope of gain, the outcome of which is determined largely by chance, but does not include bingo.

- (y) "Game of chance conducted for profit" means any game of chance designed to produce income for the person who conducts or operates the game of chance, but does not include bingo.
- (z) "Gross annual revenues" means the annual gross receipts derived from the conduct of bingo described in subsection (b)(1) hereof plus the annual net profit derived from the conduct of bingo described subsection (b)(2) hereof.
- (aa) "Gross profit" means gross receipts minus the amount actually expended for the payment of prize awards.
- (bb) "Gross receipts" means all money or assets, including admission fees, that a person receives from bingo without the deduction of any amounts for prizes paid out or for the expenses of conducting bingo. The term does not include any money directly taken in from the sale of food or beverages by a charitable organization conducting bingo, or by a bona fide auxiliary unit or society of a charitable organization conducting bingo, provided all of the following apply:
  - (1) The auxiliary unit or society has been in existence as a bona fide auxiliary unit or society of the charitable organization for at least two (2) years prior to conducting bingo.
  - (2) The person who purchases the food or beverage receives nothing of value except the food or beverage and items customarily received with the purchase of that food or beverage.
  - (3) The food and beverages are sold at customary and reasonable prices.
- (cc) "Instant bingo" means a form of bingo that shall use folded or banded tickets or paper cards with perforated break-open tabs, a face of which is covered or otherwise hidden from view to conceal a number, letter, or symbol, or set of numbers, letters, or symbols, some of which have been designated in advance as prize winners, and may also include games in which some winners are determined by the random selection of one or more bingo numbers by the use of a seal card or bingo blower. "Instant bingo" also includes a punch board game. In all "instant bingo" the prize amount and structure shall be predetermined. The term does not include electronic instant bingo or any device that is activated by the insertion of a coin, currency, token, or an equivalent, and that contains as one of its components a video display monitor that is capable of displaying numbers, letters, symbols, or characters in winning or losing combinations.
- (dd) "Instant bingo ticket dispenser" means a mechanical device that dispenses an instant bingo ticket or card as the sole item of value dispensed and that has the following characteristics:
  - (1) It is activated upon the insertion of United States currency.
  - (2) It performs no gaming functions.
  - (3) It does not contain a video display monitor or generate noise.
  - (4) It is not capable of displaying any numbers, letters, symbols, or characters in winning or losing combinations.
  - (5) It does not simulate or display rolling or spinning reels.
  - (6) It is incapable of determining whether a dispensed bingo ticket or card is a winning or non-winning ticket or card and requires a winning ticket or card to be paid by a bingo game operator.

- (7) It may provide accounting and security features to aid in accounting for the instant bingo tickets or cards it dispenses.
- (8) It is not part of an electronic network and is not interactive.
- (ee) "Internal Revenue Code (IRC)" means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 100 Stat. 2085, 26 U.S.C. 1 et seq., as now or hereafter amended.
- (ff) "Manufacturer" means any person who assembles completed bingo supplies from raw materials, other items, or subparts or who modifies, converts, adds to, or removes parts from bingo supplies to further their promotion or sale.
- (gg) "Merchandise prize" means any item of value, but shall not include any of the following:
  - (1) Cash, gift cards, or any equivalent thereof;
  - (2) Plays on games of chance, state lottery tickets, or bingo;
  - (3) Firearms, tobacco, or alcoholic beverages; or
  - (4) A redeemable voucher that is redeemable for any of the items listed in subsections (hh)(1), (2) or (3) hereof.
- (hh) "Net profit" means gross profit minus expenses.
- (ii) "Net profit from the proceeds of the sale of instant bingo or electronic instant bingo" means gross profit minus the ordinary, necessary, and reasonable expense expended for the purchase of bingo supplies for the purpose of conducting instant bingo or electronic instant bingo, and, in the case of instant bingo or electronic instant bingo conducted by a veteran's, fraternal, or sporting organization, minus the payment by that organization of real property taxes and assessments levied on a premises on which instant bingo or electronic instant bingo is conducted.
- (jj) "Participant" means any person who plays bingo.
- (kk) "Person" has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 1.59 and includes any firm or any other legal entity, however organized.
- (ll) "Pool not conducted for profit" means a scheme in which a participant gives a valuable consideration for a chance to win a prize and the total amount of consideration wagered is distributed to a participant or participants.
- (mm) "Punch board" means a form of instant bingo that uses a board containing a number of holes or receptacles of uniform size in which are placed, mechanically and randomly, serially numbered slips of paper that may be punched or drawn from the hole or receptacle. A player may punch or draw the numbered slips of paper from the holes or receptacles and obtain the prize established for the game if the number drawn corresponds to a winning number or, if the punch board includes the use of a seal card, a potential winning number.
- (nn) "Raffle" means a form of bingo in which the one or more prizes are won by one or more persons who have purchased a raffle ticket. The one or more winners of the raffle are determined by drawing a ticket stub or other detachable section from a receptacle containing ticket stubs or detachable sections corresponding to all tickets sold for the raffle. The term does not include the drawing of a ticket stub or other detachable section of a ticket purchased to attend a professional sporting event if both of the following apply:
  - (1) The ticket stub or other detachable section is used to select the winner of a free prize given away at the professional sporting event; and
  - (2) The cost of the ticket is the same as the cost of a ticket to the professional sporting event on days when no free prize is given away.
- (oo) "Redeemable voucher" means any ticket, token, coupon, receipt, or other noncash representation of value.

- (pp) "Religious organization" means any church, body of communicants, or group that is not organized or operated for profit and that gathers in common membership for regular worship and religious observances.
- (qq) "Revoke" means to void permanently all rights and privileges of the holder of a license issued under Ohio R.C. 2915.08, 2915.081, or 2915.082 or a charitable gaming license issued by another jurisdiction.
- (rr) "Scheme of chance" means:
- (1) A slot machine unless authorized under Ohio R.C. Chapter 3772, lottery unless authorized under Ohio R.C. Chapter 3770, numbers game, pool conducted for profit, or other scheme in which a participant gives a valuable consideration for a chance to win a prize, but does not include bingo, a skill-based amusement machine, or a pool not conducted for profit. "Scheme of chance" includes the use of an electronic device to reveal the results of a game entry if valuable consideration is paid, directly or indirectly, for a chance to win a prize. Valuable consideration is deemed to be paid for a chance to win a prize in the following instances:
    - A. Less than fifty percent (50%) of the goods or services sold by a scheme of chance operator in exchange for game entries are used or redeemed by participants at any one location;
    - B. Less than fifty percent (50%) of participants who purchase goods or services at any one location do not accept, use, or redeem the goods or services sold or purportedly sold;
    - C. More than fifty percent (50%) of prizes at any one location are revealed to participants through an electronic device simulating a game of chance or a "casino game" as defined in Ohio R.C. 3772.01;
    - D. The good or service sold by a scheme of chance operator in exchange for a game entry cannot be used or redeemed in the manner advertised;
    - E. A participant pays more than fair market value for goods or services offered by a scheme of chance operator in order to receive one or more game entries;
    - F. A participant may use the electronic device to purchase additional game entries;
    - G. A participant may purchase additional game entries by using points or credits won as prizes while using the electronic device;
    - H. A scheme of chance operator pays out in prize money more than twenty percent (20%) of the gross revenue received at one location; or
    - I. A participant makes a purchase or exchange in order to obtain any good or service that may be used to facilitate play on the electronic device.
  - (2) As used in this subsection, "electronic device" means a mechanical, video, digital, or electronic machine or device that is capable of displaying information on a screen or other mechanism and that is owned, leased, or otherwise possessed by any person conducting a scheme of chance, or by that person's partners, affiliates, subsidiaries, or contractors. "Electronic device" does not include an electronic instant bingo system.

- (ss) "Seal card" means a form of instant bingo that uses instant bingo tickets in conjunction with a board or placard that contains one or more seals that, when removed or opened, reveal predesignated winning numbers, letters, or symbols.
- (tt) "Security personnel" includes any person who either is a Sheriff, deputy sheriff, Marshal, deputy marshal, township constable, or member of an organized police department of a municipal corporation or has successfully completed a peace officer's training course pursuant to Ohio R.C. 109.71 through 109.79 and who is hired to provide security for the premises on which bingo is conducted.
- (uu) "Skill-based amusement machine" means:
  - (1) A. A mechanical, video, digital, or electronic device that rewards the player or players, if at all, only with merchandise prizes or with redeemable vouchers redeemable only for merchandise prizes, provided that with respect to rewards for playing the game all of the following apply:
    - 1. The wholesale value of a merchandise prize awarded as a result of the single play of a machine does not exceed ten dollars (\$10.00);
    - 2. Redeemable vouchers awarded for any single play of a machine are not redeemable for a merchandise prize with a wholesale value of more than ten dollars (\$10.00);
    - 3. Redeemable vouchers are not redeemable for a merchandise prize that has a wholesale value of more than ten dollars (\$10.00) times the fewest number of single plays necessary to accrue the redeemable vouchers required to obtain that prize; and
    - 4. Any redeemable vouchers or merchandise prizes are distributed at the site of the skill-based amusement machine at the time of play.
  - B. A card for the purchase of gasoline is a redeemable voucher for purposes of subsection (vv)(1) hereof even if the skill-based amusement machine for the play of which the card is awarded is located at a place where gasoline may not be legally distributed to the public or the card is not redeemable at the location of, or at the time of playing, the skill-based amusement machine.
- (2) A device shall not be considered a skill-based amusement machine and shall be considered a slot machine if it pays cash or one or more of the following apply:
  - A. The ability of a player to succeed at the game is impacted by the number or ratio of prior wins to prior losses of players playing the game;
  - B. Any reward of redeemable vouchers is not based solely on the player achieving the object of the game or the player's score;
  - C. The outcome of the game, or the value of the redeemable voucher or merchandise prize awarded for winning the game, can be controlled by a source other than any player playing the game;
  - D. The success of any player is or may be determined by a chance event that cannot be altered by player actions;
  - E. The ability of any player to succeed at the game is determined by game features not visible or known to the player;

- F. The ability of the player to succeed at the game is impacted by the exercise of a skill that no reasonable player could exercise.
- (3) All of the following apply to any machine that is operated as described in subsection (vv)(1) hereof:
  - A. As used in this definition of "skill-based amusement machine", "game" and "play" mean one event from the initial activation of the machine until the results of play are determined without payment of additional consideration. An individual utilizing a machine that involves a single game, play, contest, competition, or tournament may be awarded redeemable vouchers or merchandise prizes based on the results of play.
  - B. Advance play for a single game, play, contest, competition, or tournament participation may be purchased. The cost of the contest, competition, or tournament participation may be greater than a single non-contest, competition, or tournament play.
  - C. To the extent that the machine is used in a contest, competition, or tournament, that contest, competition, or tournament has a defined starting and ending date and is open to participants in competition for scoring and ranking results toward the awarding of redeemable vouchers or merchandise prizes that are stated prior to the start of the contest, competition, or tournament.
- (4) For purposes of subsection (vv)(1) hereof, the mere presence of a device, such as a pinsetting, ball-releasing, or scoring mechanism, that does not contribute to or affect the outcome of the play of the game does not make the device a skill-based amusement machine.
- (vv) "Slot machine" means:
  - (1) Either of the following:
    - A. Any mechanical, electronic, video, or digital device that is capable of accepting anything of value, directly or indirectly, from or on behalf of a player who gives the thing of value in the hope of gain;
    - B. Any mechanical, electronic, video, or digital device that is capable of accepting anything of value, directly or indirectly, from or on behalf of a player to conduct bingo or a scheme or game of chance.
  - (2) The term does not include a skill-based amusement machine, an instant bingo ticket dispenser, or an electronic instant bingo system.
- (ww) "Sporting organization" means a hunting, fishing, or trapping organization, other than a college or high school fraternity or sorority, that is not organized for profit, that is affiliated with a state or national sporting organization, including but not limited to the League of Ohio Sportsmen, and that has been in continuous existence in this state for a period of three (3) years.
- (xx) "Suspend" means to interrupt temporarily all rights and privileges of the holder of a license issued under Ohio R.C. 2915.08, 2915.081, or 2915.082 or a charitable gaming license issued by another jurisdiction.
- (yy) "Sweepstakes" means any game, contest, advertising scheme or plan, or other promotion where consideration is not required for a person to enter to win or become eligible to receive any prize, the determination of which is based upon chance. "Sweepstakes" does not include bingo as authorized under Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915, pari-mutuel wagering as authorized by Ohio R.C. Chapter 3769, lotteries conducted by the State Lottery Commission as authorized by Ohio R.C. Chapter 3770, and casino gaming as authorized by Ohio R.C. Chapter 3772.

- (zz) "Sweepstakes terminal device" means:
- (1) A mechanical, video, digital, or electronic machine or device that is owned, leased, or otherwise possessed by any person conducting a sweepstakes, or by that person's partners, affiliates, subsidiaries, or contractors, that is intended to be used by a sweepstakes participant, and that is capable of displaying information on a screen or other mechanism. A device is a sweepstakes terminal device if any of the following apply:
    - A. The device uses a simulated game terminal as a representation of the prizes associated with the results of the sweepstakes entries.
    - B. The device utilizes software such that the simulated game influences or determines the winning of or value of the prize.
    - C. The device selects prizes from a predetermined finite pool of entries.
    - D. The device utilizes a mechanism that reveals the content of a predetermined sweepstakes entry.
    - E. The device predetermines the prize results and stores those results for delivery at the time the sweepstakes entry results are revealed.
    - F. The device utilizes software to create a game result.
    - G. The device reveals the prize incrementally, even though the device does not influence the awarding of the prize or the value of any prize awarded.
    - H. The device determines and associates the prize with an entry or entries at the time the sweepstakes is entered.
  - (2) As used in this definition and in Section 917.02:
    - A. "Enter" means the act by which a person becomes eligible to receive any prize offered in a sweepstakes.
    - B. "Entry" means one event from the initial activation of the sweepstakes terminal device until all the sweepstakes prize results from that activation are revealed.
    - C. "Prize" means any gift, award, gratuity, good, service, credit, reward, or any other thing of value that may be transferred to a person, whether possession of the prize is actually transferred, or placed on an account or other record as evidence of the intent to transfer the prize.
- (aaa) "Sweepstakes terminal device facility" means any location in this state where a sweepstakes terminal device is provided to a sweepstakes participant, except as provided in Ohio R.C. 2915.02(G).
- (bbb) "Veteran's organization" means any individual post or state headquarters of a national veteran's association or an auxiliary unit of any individual post of a national veteran's association, which post, state headquarters, or auxiliary unit is incorporated as a nonprofit corporation and either has received a letter from the state headquarters of the national veteran's association indicating that the individual post or auxiliary unit is in good standing with the national veteran's association or has received a letter from the national veteran's association indicating that the state headquarters is in good standing with the national veteran's association. As used in this definition, "National Veterans' Association" means any veteran's association that has been in continuous existence as such for a period of at least five (5) years and either is incorporated by an act of the United States Congress or has a national dues-paying membership of at least 5,000 persons.

- (ccc) "Volunteer firefighter's organization" means any organization of volunteer firefighters, as defined in Ohio R.C. 146.01, that is organized and operated exclusively to provide financial support for a volunteer fire department or a volunteer fire company and that is recognized or ratified by a county, municipal corporation, or township.
- (ddd) "Volunteer rescue service organization" means any organization of volunteers organized to function as an emergency medical service organization, as defined in Ohio R.C. 4765.01.
- (eee) "Youth athletic organization" means any organization, not organized for profit, that is organized and operated exclusively to provide financial support to, or to operate, athletic activities for persons who are twenty-one (21) years of age or younger by means of sponsoring, organizing, operating, or contributing to the support of an athletic team, club, league, or association.
- (fff) "Youth athletic park organization" means any organization, not organized for profit, that satisfies both of the following:
  - (1) It owns, operates, and maintains playing fields that satisfy both of the following:
    - A. The playing fields are used for athletic activities by one or more organizations, not organized for profit, each of which is organized and operated exclusively to provide financial support to, or to operate, athletic activities for persons who are eighteen (18) years of age or younger by means of sponsoring, organizing, operating, or contributing to the support of an athletic team, club, league, or association.
    - B. The playing fields are not used for any profit-making activity at any time during the year.
  - (2) It uses the proceeds of bingo it conducts exclusively for the operation, maintenance, and improvement of its playing fields of the type described in subsection (ggg)(1) hereof.  
(ORC 2915.01)

#### **917.02 GAMBLING.**

- (a) No person shall do any of the following:
  - (1) Engage in bookmaking, or knowingly engage in conduct that facilitates bookmaking;
  - (2) Establish, promote, or operate or knowingly engage in conduct that facilitates any game of chance conducted for profit or any scheme of chance;
  - (3) Knowingly procure, transmit, exchange, or engage in conduct that facilitates the procurement, transmission, or exchange of information for use in establishing odds or determining winners in connection with bookmaking or with any game of chance conducted for profit or any scheme of chance;
  - (4) Engage in betting or in playing any scheme or game of chance as a substantial source of income or livelihood;
  - (5) Conduct, or participate in the conduct of, a sweepstakes with the use of a sweepstakes terminal device at a sweepstakes terminal device facility and either:
    - A. Give to another person any item described in subsection (hh)(1), (2), (3) or (4) of Section 917.01 as a prize for playing or participating in a sweepstakes; or

- B. Give to another person any merchandise prize, or a redeemable voucher for a merchandise prize, the wholesale value of which is in excess of ten dollars (\$10.00) and which is awarded as a single entry for playing or participating in a sweepstakes. Redeemable vouchers shall not be redeemable for a merchandise prize that has a wholesale value of more than ten dollars (\$10.00).
- (6) Conduct, or participate in the conduct of, a sweepstakes with the use of a sweepstakes terminal device at a sweepstakes terminal device facility without first obtaining a current annual "certificate of registration" from the Attorney General as required by division (F) of Ohio R.C. 2915.02.
- (7) With purpose to violate subsection (a)(1), (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of this section, acquire, possess, control, or operate any gambling device.

(b) For purposes of subsection (a)(1) of this section, a person facilitates bookmaking if the person in any way knowingly aids an illegal bookmaking operation, including, without limitation, placing a bet with a person engaged in or facilitating illegal bookmaking. For purposes of subsection (a)(2) of this section, a person facilitates a game of chance conducted for profit or a scheme of chance if the person in any way knowingly aids in the conduct or operation of any such game or scheme, including, without limitation, playing any such game or scheme.

(c) This section does not prohibit conduct in connection with gambling expressly permitted by law.

(d) This section does not apply to any of the following:

(1) Games of chance, if all of the following apply:

- A. The games of chance are not craps for money or roulette for money.
- B. The games of chance are conducted by a charitable organization that is, and has received from the Internal Revenue Service a determination letter that is currently in effect, stating that the organization is, exempt from Federal income taxation under subsection 501(a) and described in subsection 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- C. The games of chance are conducted at festivals of the charitable organization that are conducted not more than a total of five days a calendar year, and are conducted on premises owned by the charitable organization for a period of no less than one year immediately preceding the conducting of the games of chance, on premises leased from a governmental unit, or on premises that are leased from a veteran's or fraternal organization and that have been owned by the lessor veteran's or fraternal organization for a period of no less than one year immediately preceding the conducting of the games of chance.

A charitable organization shall not lease premises from a veteran's or fraternal organization to conduct a festival described in subsection (d)(1)C. hereof if the veteran's or fraternal organization has already leased the premises twelve times during the preceding year to charitable organizations for that purpose. If a charitable organization leases premises from a veteran's or fraternal organization to conduct a festival described in subsection (d)(1)C. hereof, the charitable organization shall not pay a rental rate for the premises per day of the festival that exceeds the rental rate per bingo session that a charitable organization may pay under Section 917.06(b)(1) when it leases premises from another charitable organization to conduct bingo games.

- D. All of the money or assets received from the games of chance after deduction only of prizes paid out during the conduct of the games of chance are used by, or given, donated or otherwise transferred to, any organization that is described in subsection 509(a)(1), (2) or (3) of the Internal Revenue Code and is either a governmental unit or an organization that is tax exempt under subsection 501(a) and described in subsection 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code;
- E. The games of chance are not conducted during, or within ten hours of, a bingo game conducted for amusement purposes only pursuant to Section 917.13.

No person shall receive any commission, wage, salary, reward, tip, donations, gratuity or other form of compensation, directly or indirectly, for operating or assisting in the operation of any game of chance.

- (2) Any tag fishing tournament operated under a permit issued under Ohio R.C. 1533.92, as "tag fishing tournament" is defined in Ohio R.C. 1531.01.
- (3) Bingo conducted by a charitable organization that holds a license issued under Ohio R.C. 2915.08.

(e) Subsection (d) hereof shall not be construed to authorize the sale, lease or other temporary or permanent transfer of the right to conduct games of chance, as granted by subsection (d) hereof, by any charitable organization that is granted that right.

(f) Whoever violates this section is guilty of gambling, a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the offender previously has been convicted of a gambling offense, gambling is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law. (ORC 2915.02)

### **917.03 OPERATING A GAMBLING HOUSE.**

(a) No person, being the owner or lessee, or having custody, control or supervision of premises, shall:

- (1) Use or occupy such premises for gambling in violation of Section 917.02;
- (2) Recklessly permit such premises to be used or occupied for gambling in violation of Section 917.02.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of operating a gambling house, a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the offender previously has been convicted of a gambling offense, operating a gambling house is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law.

(c) Premises used or occupied in violation of this section constitute a nuisance subject to abatement pursuant to Ohio R.C. Chapter 3767. (ORC 2915.03)

#### **917.04 PUBLIC GAMING.**

(a) No person, while at a hotel, restaurant, tavern, store, arena, hall, or other place of public accommodation, business, amusement, or resort shall make a bet or play any game of chance or scheme of chance.

(b) No person, being the owner or lessee, or having custody, control, or supervision, of a hotel, restaurant, tavern, store, arena, hall, or other place of public accommodation, business, amusement, or resort shall recklessly permit those premises to be used or occupied in violation of subsection (a) of this section.

(c) Subsections (a) and (b) of this section do not prohibit conduct in connection with gambling expressly permitted by law.

(d) Whoever violates this section is guilty of public gaming. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, public gaming is a minor misdemeanor. If the offender previously has been convicted of any gambling offense, public gaming is a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.

(e) Premises used or occupied in violation of subsection (b) of this section constitute a nuisance subject to abatement under Ohio R.C. Chapter 3767. (ORC 2915.04)

#### **917.05 CHEATING.**

(a) No person, with purpose to defraud or knowing that the person is facilitating a fraud, shall engage in conduct designed to corrupt the outcome of any of the following:

- (1) The subject of a bet;
- (2) A contest of knowledge, skill, or endurance that is not an athletic or sporting event;
- (3) A scheme or game of chance;
- (4) Bingo.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of cheating. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection cheating is a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the potential gain from the cheating is one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more, or if the offender previously has been convicted of any gambling offense or of any theft offense as defined in Ohio R.C. 2913.01, cheating is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law. (ORC 2915.05)

#### **917.06 METHODS OF CONDUCTING A BINGO GAME; PROHIBITIONS.**

(a) No charitable organization that conducts bingo shall fail to do any of the following:

- (1) Own all of the equipment used to conduct bingo or lease that equipment from a charitable organization that is licensed to conduct bingo, or from the landlord of a premises where bingo is conducted, for a rental rate that is not more than is customary and reasonable for that equipment;

- (2) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (a)(3) of this section, use all of the gross receipts from bingo for paying prizes, for reimbursement of expenses for or for renting premises in which to conduct bingo, for reimbursement of expenses for or for purchasing or leasing bingo supplies used in conducting bingo, for reimbursement of expenses for or for hiring security personnel, for reimbursement of expenses for or for advertising bingo, or for reimbursement of other expenses or for other expenses listed in the definition for "expenses" in Section 917.01(s), provided that the amount of the receipts so spent is not more than is customary and reasonable for a similar purchase, lease, hiring, advertising, or expense. If the building in which bingo is conducted is owned by the charitable organization conducting bingo and the bingo conducted includes a form of bingo described in the definition of "bingo" in Section 917.01(b)(1), the charitable organization may deduct from the total amount of the gross receipts from each session a sum equal to the lesser of six hundred dollars (\$600.00) or forty-five percent (45%) of the gross receipts from the bingo described in that division as consideration for the use of the premises;
- (3) Use, or give, donate, or otherwise transfer, all of the net profit derived from bingo described in Section 917.01(b)(1), for a charitable purpose listed in its license application and described in Section 917.02(k), or distribute all of the net profit from the proceeds of the sale of instant bingo or electronic instant bingo as stated in its license application and in accordance with Ohio R.C. 2915.101, as applicable.

(b) No charitable organization that conducts a bingo game described in Section 917.01(b)(1) shall fail to do any of the following:

- (1) Conduct the bingo game on premises that are owned by the charitable organization, on premises that are owned by another charitable organization and leased from that charitable organization for a rental rate not in excess of the lesser of six hundred dollars (\$600.00) per bingo session or forty-five percent (45%) of the gross receipts of the bingo session, on premises that are leased from a person other than a charitable organization for a rental rate that is not more than is customary and reasonable for premises that are similar in location, size, and quality but not in excess of four hundred fifty dollars (\$450.00) per bingo session, or on premises that are owned by a person other than a charitable organization, that are leased from that person by another charitable organization, and that are subleased from that other charitable organization by the charitable organization for a rental rate not in excess of four hundred fifty dollars (\$450.00) per bingo session. No charitable organization is required to pay property taxes or assessments on premises that the charitable organization leases from another person to conduct bingo sessions. If the charitable organization leases from a person other than a charitable organization the premises on which it conducts bingo sessions, the lessor of the premises shall provide the premises to the organization and shall not provide the organization with bingo game operators, security personnel, concessions or concession operators, bingo supplies, or any other type of service. A charitable organization shall not lease or sublease premises that it owns or leases to more than three (3) other charitable organizations per calendar week for

conducting bingo sessions on the premises. A person that is not a charitable organization shall not lease premises that it owns, leases, or otherwise is empowered to lease to more than three (3) charitable organizations per calendar week for conducting bingo sessions on the premises. In no case shall more than nine (9) bingo sessions be conducted on any premises in any calendar week.

- (2) Display its license conspicuously at the premises where the bingo session is conducted;
- (3) Conduct the bingo session in accordance with the definition of bingo set forth in Section 917.01(b)(1).

(c) No charitable organization that conducts a bingo game described in Section 917.01(b)(1) shall do any of the following:

- (1) Pay any compensation to a bingo game operator for operating a bingo session that is conducted by the charitable organization or for preparing, selling, or serving food or beverages at the site of the bingo session, permit any auxiliary unit or society of the charitable organization to pay compensation to any bingo game operator who prepares, sells, or serves food or beverages at a bingo session conducted by the charitable organization, or permit any auxiliary unit or society of the charitable organization to prepare, sell, or serve food or beverages at a bingo session conducted by the charitable organization, if the auxiliary unit or society pays any compensation to the bingo game operators who prepare, sell, or serve the food or beverages;
- (2) Pay consulting fees to any person for any services performed in relation to the bingo session;
- (3) Pay concession fees to any person who provides refreshments to the participants in the bingo session;
- (4) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (c)(4) of this section, conduct more than three bingo sessions in any seven-day period. A volunteer firefighter's organization or a volunteer rescue service organization that conducts not more than five (5) bingo sessions in a calendar year may conduct more than three (3) bingo sessions in a seven-day period after notifying the Attorney General when it will conduct the sessions;
- (5) Pay out more than six thousand dollars (\$6,000) in prizes for bingo games described in Section 917.01(b)(1) during any bingo session that is conducted by the charitable organization. "Prizes" does not include awards from the conduct of instant bingo;
- (6) Conduct a bingo session at any time during the eight-hour period between 2:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m., at any time during, or within ten (10) hours of, a bingo game conducted for amusement only pursuant to Ohio R.C. 2915.12, at any premises not specified on its license, or on any day of the week or during any time period not specified on its license. Subsection (c)(6) of this section does not prohibit the sale of instant bingo tickets beginning at 9:00 a.m. for a bingo session that begins at 10:00 a.m. If circumstances make it impractical for the charitable organization to conduct a bingo session at the premises, or on the day of the week or at the time, specified on its license or if a charitable organization wants to conduct bingo sessions on a day of the week or at a time other than the day or time specified on its license, the charitable organization may apply in writing to the Attorney

General for an amended license, pursuant to division (J) of Ohio R.C. 2915.08. A charitable organization may apply twice in each calendar year for an amended license to conduct bingo sessions on a day of the week or at a time other than the day or time specified on its license. If the amended license is granted, the organization may conduct bingo sessions at the premises, on the day of the week, and at the time specified on its amended license;

- (7) Permit any person whom the charitable organization knows, or should have known, is under the age of eighteen (18) to work as a bingo game operator;
- (8) Permit any person whom the charitable organization knows, or should have known, has been convicted of a felony or gambling offense in any jurisdiction to be a bingo game operator;
- (9) Permit the lessor of the premises on which the bingo session is conducted, if the lessor is not a charitable organization, to provide the charitable organization with bingo game operators, security personnel, concessions, bingo supplies, or any other type of service;
- (10) Purchase or lease bingo supplies from any person except a distributor issued a license under Ohio R.C. 2915.081;
- (11) A. Use or permit the use of electronic bingo aids except under the following circumstances:
  - 1. For any single participant, not more than ninety (90) bingo faces can be played using an electronic bingo aid or aids.
  - 2. The charitable organization shall provide a participant using an electronic bingo aid with corresponding paper bingo cards or sheets.
  - 3. The total price of bingo faces played with an electronic bingo aid shall be equal to the total price of the same number of bingo faces played with a paper bingo card or sheet sold at the same bingo session but without an electronic bingo aid.
  - 4. An electronic bingo aid cannot be part of an electronic network other than a network that includes only bingo aids and devices that are located on the premises at which the bingo is being conducted or be interactive with any device not located on the premises at which the bingo is being conducted.
  - 5. An electronic bingo aid cannot be used to participate in bingo that is conducted at a location other than the location at which the bingo session is conducted and at which the electronic bingo aid is used.
  - 6. An electronic bingo aid cannot be used to provide for the input of numbers and letters announced by a bingo caller other than the bingo caller who physically calls the numbers and letters at the location at which the bingo session is conducted and at which the electronic bingo aid is used.
- B. The Attorney General may adopt rules in accordance with Ohio R.C. Chapter 119 that govern the use of electronic bingo aids. The rules may include a requirement that an electronic bingo aid be capable of being audited by the Attorney General to verify the number of bingo cards or sheets played during each bingo session.

- (12) Permit any person the charitable organization knows, or should have known, to be under eighteen (18) years of age to play bingo described in Section 917.01(b)(1).
- (d) (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (d)(3) hereof, no charitable organization shall provide to a bingo game operator, and no bingo game operator shall receive or accept, any commission, wage, salary, reward, tip, donation, gratuity, or other form of compensation, directly or indirectly, regardless of the source, for conducting bingo or providing other work or labor at the site of bingo during a bingo session.
- (2) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (d)(3) of this section, no charitable organization shall provide to a bingo game operator any commission, wage, salary, reward, tip, donation, gratuity, or other form of compensation, directly or indirectly regardless of the source, for conducting instant bingo, electronic instant bingo, or both other than at a bingo session at the site of instant bingo, electronic instant bingo, or both other than at a bingo session.
- (3) Nothing in subsection (d) hereof prohibits an employee of a fraternal organization, veteran's organization, or sporting organization from selling instant bingo tickets or cards to the organization's members or invited guests, as long as no portion of the employee's compensation is paid from any receipts of bingo.
- (e) Notwithstanding subsection (b)(1) of this section, a charitable organization that, prior to December 6, 1977, has entered into written agreements for the lease of premises it owns to another charitable organization or other charitable organizations for the conducting of bingo sessions so that more than two (2) bingo sessions are conducted per calendar week on the premises, and a person that is not a charitable organization and that, prior to December 6, 1977, has entered into written agreements for the lease of premises it owns to charitable organizations for the conducting of more than two (2) bingo sessions per calendar week on the premises, may continue to lease the premises to those charitable organizations, provided that no more than four sessions are conducted per calendar week, that the lessor organization or person has notified the Attorney General in writing of the organizations that will conduct the sessions and the days of the week and the times of the day on which the sessions will be conducted, that the initial lease entered into with each organization that will conduct the sessions was filed with the Attorney General prior to December 6, 1977, and that each organization that will conduct the sessions was issued a license to conduct bingo games by the Attorney General prior to December 6, 1977.
- (f) This section does not prohibit a bingo licensed charitable organization or a game operator from giving any person an instant bingo ticket as a prize.
- (g) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, whoever violates subsection (a)(1) or (2), (b)(1), (2), or (3), (c)(1) to (11) or (d) of this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If the offender previously has been convicted of a violation of subsection (a)(1) or (2), (b)(1), (2) or (3), (c)(1) to (11), or (d) of this section, a violation of subsection (a)(1) or (2), (b)(1), (2) or (3) or (c)(1) to (11) or (d) of this section is a misdemeanor of the first degree. Whoever violates subsection (c)(12) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the offender previously has been convicted of a violation of subsection (c)(12) of this section, a violation of subsection (c)(12) is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law.  
(ORC 2915.09)

**917.07 INSTANT BINGO CONDUCT.**

- (a) No charitable organization that conducts instant bingo shall do any of the following:
- (1) Fail to comply with the requirements of divisions (A)(1), (2), and (3) of Ohio R.C. 2915.09;
  - (2) Conduct instant bingo unless either of the following applies:
    - A. That organization is, and has received from the Internal Revenue Service a determination letter that is currently in effect stating that the organization is, exempt from federal income taxation under subsection 501(a), is described in subsection 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, is a charitable organization as defined in Section 917.01, is in good standing in the State pursuant to Ohio R.C. 2915.08, and is in compliance with Ohio R.C. Chapter 1716;
    - B. That organization is, and has received from the Internal Revenue Service a determination letter that is currently in effect stating that the organization is, exempt from federal income taxation under subsection 501(a), is described in subsection 501(c)(8), 501(c)(10), or 501(c)(19) or is a veteran's organization described in subsection 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code, and conducts instant bingo under Section 917.14.
  - (3) Conduct instant bingo on any day, at any time, or at any premises not specified on the organization's license issued pursuant to Ohio R.C. 2915.08;
  - (4) Permit any person whom the organization knows or should have known has been convicted of a felony or gambling offense in any jurisdiction to be a bingo game operator in the conduct of instant bingo;
  - (5) Purchase or lease supplies used to conduct instant bingo or punch board games from any person except a distributor licensed under Ohio R.C. 2915.081;
  - (6) Sell or provide any instant bingo ticket or card for a price different from the price printed on it by the manufacturer on either the instant bingo ticket or card or on the game flare;
  - (7) Sell an instant bingo ticket or card to a person under eighteen (18) years of age;
  - (8) Fail to keep unsold instant bingo tickets or cards for less than three (3) years;
  - (9) Pay any compensation to a bingo game operator for conducting instant bingo that is conducted by the organization or for preparing, selling, or serving food or beverages at the site of the instant bingo game, permit any auxiliary unit or society of the organization to pay compensation to any bingo game operator who prepares, sells, or serves food or beverages at an instant bingo game conducted by the organization, or permit any auxiliary unit or society of the organization to prepare, sell, or serve food or beverages at an instant bingo game conducted by the organization, if the auxiliary unit or society pays any compensation to the bingo game operators who prepare, sell, or serve the food or beverages;
  - (10) Pay fees to any person for any services performed in relation to an instant bingo game, except as provided in Section 917.09(d);
  - (11) Pay fees to any person who provides refreshments to the participants in an instant bingo game;
  - (12) A. Allow instant bingo tickets or cards to be sold to bingo game operators at a premises at which the organization sells instant bingo tickets or cards or to be sold to employees of a D permit holder who are working at a premises at which instant bingo tickets or cards are sold;

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- B. Subsection (a)(12)A. of this section does not prohibit a licensed charitable organization or a bingo game operator from giving any person an instant bingo ticket as a prize in place of a cash prize won by a participant in an instant bingo game. In no case shall an instant bingo ticket or card be sold or provided for a price different from the price printed on it by the manufacturer on either the instant bingo ticket or card or on the game flare.
- (13) Fail to display its bingo license, and the serial numbers of the deal of instant bingo tickets or cards to be sold, conspicuously at each premises at which it sells instant bingo tickets or cards;
  - (14) Possess a deal of instant bingo tickets or cards that was not purchased from a distributor licensed under Ohio R.C. 2915.081 as reflected on an invoice issued by the distributor that contains all of the information required by Section 917.11(f);
  - (15) Fail, once it opens a deal of instant bingo tickets or cards, to continue to sell the tickets or cards in that deal until the tickets or cards with the top two (2) highest tiers of prizes in that deal are sold;
  - (16) Possess bingo supplies that were not obtained in accordance with Ohio R.C. 2915.01 to 2915.13.

(b) A charitable organization may purchase, lease, or use instant bingo ticket dispensers to sell instant bingo tickets or cards.

(c) Whoever violates subsection (a) of this section or a rule adopted under Ohio R.C. 2915.091(C) is guilty of illegal instant bingo conduct. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, illegal instant bingo conduct is a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the offender previously has been convicted of a violation of subsection (a) of this section or of such a rule, illegal instant bingo conduct is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law. (ORC 2915.091)

**917.08 RAFFLES.**

- (a) (1) Subject to subsection (a)(2) of this section, a person or entity that is exempt from federal income taxation under IRC 501(a) and is described in IRC 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), 501(c)(6), 501(c)(7), 501(c)(8), 501(c)(10), or 501(c)(19) may conduct a raffle to raise money for the person or entity and does not need a license to conduct bingo in order to conduct a raffle drawing that is not for profit.
- (2) If a person or entity that is described in subsection (a)(1) of this section, but that is not also described in IRC 501(c)(3), conducts a raffle, the person or entity shall distribute at least fifty percent (50%) of the net profit from the raffle to a charitable purpose described in Section 917.01(k) or to a department or agency of the federal government, the state, or any political subdivision.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (a) of this section, no person shall conduct a raffle drawing that is for profit or a raffle drawing that is not for profit.

(c) Whoever violates subsection (b) of this section is guilty of illegal conduct of a raffle. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, illegal conduct of a raffle is a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the offender previously has been convicted of a violation of subsection (b) of this section, illegal conduct of a raffle is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law. (ORC 2915.092)

**917.09 CHARITABLE INSTANT BINGO ORGANIZATIONS.**

(a) As used in this section, "retail income from all commercial activity" means the income that a person receives from the provision of goods, services, or activities that are provided at the location where instant bingo other than at a bingo session is conducted, including the sale of instant bingo tickets. A religious organization that is exempt from federal income taxation under subsection 501(a) and described in subsection 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, at not more than one location at which it conducts its charitable programs, may include donations from its members and guests as retail income.

- (b) (1) If a charitable instant bingo organization conducts instant bingo other than at a bingo session under a type III license issued under Ohio R.C. 2915.08, the charitable instant bingo organization shall enter into a written contract with the owner or lessor of the location at which the instant bingo is conducted to allow the owner or lessor to assist in the conduct of instant bingo other than at a bingo session, identify each location where the instant bingo other than at a bingo session is being conducted, and identify the owner or lessor of each location.
- (2) A charitable instant bingo organization that conducts instant bingo other than at a bingo session under a type III license issued under Ohio R.C. 2915.08 is not required to enter into a written contract with the owner or lessor of the location at which the instant bingo is conducted provided that the owner or lessor is not assisting in the conduct of the instant bingo other than at a bingo session and provided that the conduct of the instant bingo other than at a bingo session at that location is not more than five (5) days per calendar year and not more than ten (10) hours per day.

(c) Except as provided in subsection (f) of this section, no charitable instant bingo organization shall conduct instant bingo other than at a bingo session at a location where the primary source of retail income from all commercial activity at that location is the sale of instant bingo tickets.

(d) The owner or lessor of a location that enters into a contract pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall pay the full gross profit to the charitable instant bingo organization, in return for the deal of instant bingo tickets. The owner or lessor may retain the money that the owner or lessor receives for selling the instant bingo tickets, provided, however, that after the deal has been sold, the owner or lessor shall pay to the charitable instant bingo organization the value of any unredeemed instant bingo prizes remaining in the deal of instant bingo tickets.

The charitable instant bingo organization shall pay six per cent of the total gross receipts of any deal of instant bingo tickets for the purpose of reimbursing the owner or lessor for expenses described in this subsection.

As used in this subsection, "expenses" means those items provided for in subsections (s)(4), (5), (6), (7), (8), (12) and (13) of Section 917.01 and that percentage of the owner's or lessor's rent for the location where instant bingo is conducted. "Expenses" in the aggregate, shall not exceed six percent (6%) of the total gross receipts of any deal of instant bingo tickets.

As used in this subsection, "full gross profit" means the amount by which the total receipts of all instant bingo tickets, if the deal had been sold in full, exceeds the amount that would be paid out if all prizes were redeemed.

(e) A charitable instant bingo organization shall provide the Attorney General with all of the following information:

- (1) That the charitable instant bingo organization has terminated a contract entered into pursuant to subsection (b) of this section with an owner or lessor of a location;
- (2) That the charitable instant bingo organization has entered into a written contract pursuant to subsection (b) of this section with a new owner or lessor of a location;
- (3) That the charitable instant bingo organization is aware of conduct by the owner or lessor of a location at which instant bingo is conducted that is in violation of this chapter or Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915.

(f) Subsection (c) of this section does not apply to a volunteer firefighter's organization that is exempt from federal income taxation under subsection 501(a) and described in subsection 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, that conducts instant bingo other than at a bingo session on the premises where the organization conducts firefighter training, that has conducted instant bingo continuously for at least five years prior to July 1, 2003, and that, during each of those five years, had gross receipts of at least one million five hundred thousand dollars.  
(ORC 2915.093)

#### **917.10 LOCATION OF INSTANT BINGO.**

(a) No owner or lessor of a location shall assist a charitable instant bingo organization in the conduct of instant bingo other than at a bingo session at that location unless the owner or lessor has entered into a written contract, as described in Section 917.09, with the charitable instant bingo organization to assist in the conduct of instant bingo other than at a bingo session.

(b) The location of the lessor or owner shall be designated as a location where the charitable instant bingo organization conducts instant bingo other than at a bingo session.

(c) No owner or lessor of a location that enters into a written contract as prescribed in subsection (a) of this section shall violate any provision of Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915, or permit, aid, or abet any other person in violating any provision of Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915.

(d) No owner or lessor of a location that enters into a written contract as prescribed in subsection (a) of this section shall violate the terms of the contract.

- (e) (1) Whoever violates subsection (c) or (d) of this section is guilty of illegal instant bingo conduct. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, illegal instant bingo conduct is a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the offender previously has been convicted of a violation of subsection (c) or (d) of this section, illegal instant bingo conduct is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law.
- (2) If an owner or lessor of a location knowingly, intentionally, or recklessly violates subsection (c) or (d) of this section, any license that the owner or lessor holds for the retail sale of any goods on the owner's or lessor's premises that is issued by the State or a political subdivision is subject to suspension, revocation, or payment of a monetary penalty at the request of the Attorney General. (ORC 2915.094)

**917.11 BINGO OR GAME OF CHANCE RECORDS.**

(a) No charitable organization that conducts bingo or a game of chance pursuant to Section 917.02(d), shall fail to maintain the following records for at least three years from the date on which the bingo or game of chance is conducted:

- (1) An itemized list of the gross receipts of each bingo session, each game of instant bingo by serial number, each electronic instant bingo game by serial number, each raffle, each punch board game, and each game of chance, and an itemized list of the gross profits of each game of instant bingo by serial number and each electronic instant bingo game by serial number;
- (2) An itemized list of all expenses, other than prizes, that are incurred in conducting bingo, the name of each person to whom the expenses are paid, and a receipt for all of the expenses;
- (3) A list of all prizes awarded during each bingo session, each raffle, each punch board game, and each game of chance conducted by the charitable organization, the total prizes awarded from each game of instant bingo by serial number and each electronic instant bingo game by serial number, and the name, address, and social security number of all persons who are winners of prizes of six hundred dollars (\$600.00) or more in value;
- (4) An itemized list of the recipients of the net profit of the bingo or game of chance, including the name and address of each recipient to whom the money is distributed, and if the organization uses the net profit of bingo, or the money or assets received from a game of chance, for any charitable or other purpose set forth in Section 917.01(k), Section 917.02(d), or Ohio R.C. 2915.101, a list of each purpose and an itemized list of each expenditure for each purpose;
- (5) The number of persons who participate in any bingo session or game of chance that is conducted by the charitable organization;
- (6) A list of receipts from the sale of food and beverages by the charitable organization or one of its auxiliary units or societies, if the receipts were excluded from "gross receipts" Section 917.01(bb);
- (7) An itemized list of all expenses incurred at each bingo session, each raffle, each punch board game, or each game of instant bingo or electronic instant bingo conducted by the charitable organization in the sale of food and beverages by the charitable organization or by an auxiliary unit or society of the charitable organization, the name of each person to whom the expenses are paid, and a receipt for all of the expenses.

(b) A charitable organization shall keep the records that it is required to maintain pursuant to subsection (a) of this section at its principal place of business in this State or at its headquarters in this State and shall notify the Attorney General of the location at which those records are kept.

(c) The gross profit from each bingo session or game described in Section 917.01(b)(1) or (2) shall be deposited into a checking account devoted exclusively to the bingo session or game. Payments for allowable expenses incurred in conducting the bingo session or game and payments to recipients of some or all of the net profit of the bingo session or game shall be made only by checks or electronic fund transfers drawn on the bingo session or game account.

(d) Each charitable organization shall conduct and record an inventory of all of its bingo supplies as of the first day of November of each year.

(e) The Attorney General may adopt rules in accordance with Ohio R.C. Chapter 119 that establish standards of accounting, record keeping, and reporting to ensure that gross receipts from bingo or games of chance are properly accounted for.

(f) A distributor shall maintain, for a period of three (3) years after the date of its sale or other provision, a record of each instance of its selling or otherwise providing to another person bingo supplies for use in this State. The record shall include all of the following for each instance:

- (1) The name of the manufacturer from which the distributor purchased the bingo supplies and the date of the purchase;
- (2) The name and address of the charitable organization or other distributor to which the bingo supplies were sold or otherwise provided;
- (3) A description that clearly identifies the bingo supplies;
- (4) Invoices that include the nonrepeating serial numbers of all paper bingo cards and sheets and all instant bingo deals sold or otherwise provided to each charitable organization.

(g) A manufacturer shall maintain, for a period of three (3) years after the date of its sale or other provision, a record of each instance of its selling or otherwise providing bingo supplies for use in this State. The record shall include all of the following for each instance:

- (1) The name and address of the distributor to whom the bingo supplies were sold or otherwise provided;
- (2) A description that clearly identifies the bingo supplies, including serial numbers;
- (3) Invoices that include the nonrepeating serial numbers of all paper bingo cards and sheets and all instant bingo deals sold or otherwise provided to each distributor.

(h) (1) The Attorney General, or any law enforcement agency, may do all of the following:

- A. Investigate any charitable organization, distributor, or manufacturer or any officer, agent, trustee, member, or employee of the organization, distributor, or manufacturer;
- B. Examine the accounts and records of the charitable organization, distributor, or manufacturer or of any officer, agent, trustee, member, or employee of the organization, distributor, or manufacturer;
- C. Conduct inspections, audits, and observations of bingo or games of chance;
- D. Conduct inspections of the premises where bingo or games of chance are conducted or where bingo supplies are manufactured or distributed;
- E. Take any other necessary and reasonable action to determine if a violation of any provision of this chapter or Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915 has occurred and to determine whether Section 917.12 has been complied with.

- (2) If any law enforcement agency has reasonable grounds to believe that a charitable organization, distributor, or manufacturer or an officer, agent, trustee, member, or employee of the organization, distributor, or manufacturer has violated any provision of this chapter or Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915, the law enforcement agency may proceed by action in the proper court to enforce this chapter or Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915, provided that the law enforcement agency shall give written notice to the Attorney General when commencing an action as described in this division.

(i) No person shall destroy, alter, conceal, withhold, or deny access to any accounts or records of a charitable organization, distributor, or manufacturer that have been requested for examination, or obstruct, impede, or interfere with any inspection, audit, or observation of bingo or a game of chance, of premises where bingo or a game of chance is conducted, or of premises where bingo supplies are manufactured or distributed, or refuse to comply with any reasonable request of, or obstruct, impede, or interfere with any other reasonable action undertaken by, the Attorney General or a law enforcement agency pursuant to subsection (h) hereof.

(j) Whoever violates subsection (a) or (i) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree. (ORC 2915.10)

#### **917.12 BINGO OPERATOR PROHIBITIONS.**

(a) No person shall be a bingo game operator unless he is eighteen (18) years of age or older.

(b) No person who has been convicted of a felony or a gambling offense in any jurisdiction shall be a bingo game operator.

(c) Whoever violates subsection (a) hereof is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

(d) Whoever violates subsection (b) hereof is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree. (ORC 2915.11)

#### **917.13 BINGO EXCEPTIONS.**

(a) Ohio R.C. 2915.07 to 2915.11 and 2915.14 or Section 917.06 et seq. of this chapter do not apply to bingo games that are conducted for the purpose of amusement only. A bingo game is conducted for the purpose of amusement only if it complies with all of the requirements specified in either subsection (a)(1) or (2) hereof:

- (1) A. The participants do not pay any money or any other thing of value including an admission fee, or any fee for bingo cards, sheets, objects to cover the spaces or other devices used in playing bingo, for the privilege of participating in the bingo game or to defray any costs of the game, or pay tips or make donations during or immediately before or after the bingo game.
- B. All prizes awarded during the course of the game are nonmonetary, and in the form of merchandise, goods or entitlements to goods or services only, and the total value of all prizes awarded during the game is less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00).

- C. No commission, wages, salary, reward, tip, donation, gratuity or other form of compensation, either directly or indirectly, and regardless of the source, is paid to any bingo game operator for work or labor performed at the site of the bingo game.
- D. The bingo game is not conducted either during or within ten (10) hours of any of the following:
  - 1. A bingo session during which a charitable bingo game is conducted pursuant to Ohio R.C. 2915.07 to 2915.11 or Section 917.06 et seq. of this chapter;
  - 2. A scheme or game of chance or bingo described in Section 917.01(b)(2).
- E. The number of players participating in the bingo game does not exceed fifty (50).
- (2) A. The participants do not pay money or any other thing of value as an admission fee, and no participant is charged more than twenty-five cents (25¢) to purchase a bingo card or sheet, objects to cover the spaces or other devices used in playing bingo.
- B. The total amount of money paid by all of the participants for bingo cards or sheets, objects to cover the spaces or other devices used in playing bingo does not exceed one hundred dollars (\$100.00).
- C. All of the money paid for bingo cards or sheets, objects to cover spaces or other devices used in playing bingo is used only to pay winners monetary and nonmonetary prizes and to provide refreshments.
- D. The total value of all prizes awarded during the game does not exceed one hundred dollars (\$100.00).
- E. No commission, wages, salary, reward, tip, donation, gratuity or other form of compensation, either directly or indirectly, and regardless of the source, is paid to any bingo game operator for work or labor performed at the site of the bingo game.
- F. The bingo game is not conducted during or within ten (10) hours of either of the following:
  - 1. A bingo session during which a charitable bingo game is conducted pursuant to Ohio R.C. 2915.07 to 2915.15 or Section 917.06 et seq. of this chapter;
  - 2. A scheme of chance or game of chance or bingo described in Section 917.01(b)(2).
- G. All of the participants reside at the premises where the bingo game is conducted.
- H. The bingo games are conducted on different days of the week and not more than twice in a calendar week.

(b) The Attorney General, or any local law enforcement agency, may investigate the conduct of a bingo game that purportedly is conducted for purposes of amusement only if there is reason to believe that the purported amusement bingo game does not comply with subsection (a) hereof. A local law enforcement agency may proceed by action in the proper court to enforce this section if the local law enforcement agency gives written notice to the Attorney General when commencing the action. (ORC 2915.12)

**917.14 INSTANT BINGO CONDUCT BY A VETERAN'S OR FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION.**

(a) Subject to the requirements of Ohio R.C. 2915.14 and 2915.15 concerning electronic instant bingo, a veteran's organization, a fraternal organization, or a sporting organization authorized to conduct a bingo session pursuant to Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915 may conduct instant bingo, electronic instant bingo, or both other than at a bingo session under a type III license issued under Ohio R.C. 2915.08 if all of the following apply:

- (1) The veteran's organization, fraternal organization, or sporting organization limits the sale of instant bingo or electronic instant bingo to twelve (12) hours during any day, provided that the sale does not begin earlier than 10:00 a.m. and ends not later than 2:00 a.m.
- (2) The veteran's organization, fraternal organization, or sporting organization limits the sale of instant bingo or electronic instant bingo to its own premises and to its own members and invited guests.
- (3) The veteran's organization, fraternal organization, or sporting organization is raising money for an organization that is described in IRC 509(a)(1), (a)(2), or (a)(3) and is either a governmental unit or an organization that maintains its principal place of business in this state, that is exempt from federal income taxation under IRC 501(a) and described in IRC 501(c)(3), and that is in good standing in this state and executes a written contract with that organization as required in subsection (b) hereof.

(b) If a veteran's organization, fraternal organization, or sporting organization authorized to conduct instant bingo or electronic instant bingo pursuant to subsection (a) hereof is raising money for another organization that is described in IRC 509(a)(1), (a)(2), or (a)(3) and is either a governmental unit or an organization that maintains its principal place of business in this state, that is exempt from federal income taxation under IRC 501(a) and described in IRC 501(c), and that is in good standing in this state, the veteran's organization, fraternal organization, or sporting organization shall execute a written contract with the organization that is described in IRC 509(a)(1), (a)(2), or (a)(3) and is either a governmental unit or an organization that maintains its principal place of business in this state, that is exempt from federal income taxation under IRC 501(a) and described in IRC 501(c), and that is in good standing in this state in order to conduct instant bingo or electronic instant bingo. That contract shall include a statement of the percentage of the net proceeds that the veteran's, fraternal, or sporting organization will be distributing to the organization that is described in IRC 509(a)(1), (a)(2), or (a)(3) and is either a governmental unit or an organization that maintains its principal place of business in this state, that is exempt from federal income taxation under IRC 501(a) and described in IRC 501(c)(3), and that is in good standing in this state.

- (c) (1) If a veteran's organization, fraternal organization, or sporting organization authorized to conduct instant bingo or electronic instant bingo pursuant to subsection (b) hereof has been issued a liquor permit under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4303, that permit may be subject to suspension, revocation, or cancellation if the veteran's organization, fraternal organization, or sporting organization violates a provision of this chapter or Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915.

- (2) No veteran's organization, fraternal organization, or sporting organization that enters into a written contract pursuant to subsection (b) hereof shall violate any provision of this chapter or Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915, or permit, aid, or abet any other person in violating any provision of this chapter or Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915.

(d) A veteran's organization, fraternal organization, or sporting organization shall give all required proceeds earned from the conduct of instant bingo or electronic instant bingo to the organization with which the veteran's organization, fraternal organization, or sporting organization has entered into a written contract.

(e) Whoever violates this section is guilty of illegal instant bingo or electronic instant bingo conduct. Except as otherwise provided in this division, illegal instant bingo or electronic instant bingo conduct is a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the offender previously has been convicted of a violation of this section, illegal instant bingo or electronic instant bingo conduct is a felony to be prosecuted under appropriate state law.  
(ORC 2915.13)

#### **917.15 SEIZURE AND DESTRUCTION OF GAMBLING DEVICES.**

Upon adjudication by the courts that any apparatus, books, tickets, tokens, tables, machines, instruments or devices were so kept, used, maintained, or intended for the purpose of gambling in violation of this chapter or of State law, the Police Division shall forthwith order the destruction of all such property.  
(Ord. 1979-105. Passed 6-4-79.)

#### **917.16 SKILL-BASED AMUSEMENT MACHINES.**

- (a) (1) No person shall give to another person any item described in Section 917.01(hh)(1), (2), (3), or (4) in exchange for a noncash prize, toy, or novelty received as a reward for playing or operating a skill-based amusement machine or for a free or reduced-prize game won on a skill-based amusement machine.
- (2) Whoever violates subsection (a)(1) of this section is guilty of skill-based amusement machine prohibited conduct. Except as provided herein, a violation of subsection (a)(1) is a misdemeanor of the first degree for each redemption of a prize that is involved in the violation. If the offender previously has been convicted of a violation of subsection (a)(1), a violation of subsection (a)(1) is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law.  
(ORC 2915.06)

(b) Any regulation of skill-based amusement machines shall be governed by this chapter and Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915 and not by Ohio R.C. Chapter 1345.  
(ORC 2915.061)

#### **917.17 ELECTRONIC INSTANT BINGO; PROHIBITED CONDUCT.**

- (a) No charitable organization shall conduct electronic instant bingo unless all of the following are true:
- (1) The organization is a veteran's organization described in Ohio R.C. 2915.01(J), or is a fraternal organization described in Ohio R.C. 2915.01(L), and the organization qualified as a veteran's organization or fraternal organization, as applicable, on or before June 30, 2021.

- (2) The organization is a veteran's organization described in IRC 501(c)(4) or is, and has received from the Internal Revenue Service a determination letter that is currently in effect stating that the organization is, exempt from federal income taxation under IRC 501(a), and is described in IRC 501(c)(7), 501(c)(8), 501(c)(10), or 501(c)(19).
- (3) The organization has not conducted a raffle in violation of Ohio R.C. 2915.092(B) using an electronic raffle machine, as described in Ohio Veterans and Fraternal Charitable Coalition v. DeWine, Case No. 13-CV-13610 (C.P. Franklin Co. February 23, 2018), at any time on or after January 1, 2022.

(b) No charitable organization that conducts electronic instant bingo shall do any of the following:

- (1) Possess an electronic instant bingo system that was not obtained in accordance with Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915 or with any rule adopted under Ohio R.C. Chapter 2915;
- (2) Conduct electronic instant bingo on any day, at any time, or on any premises not specified on the organization's type II or type III license issued under Ohio R.C. 2915.08;
- (3) Hold more than one valid license to conduct electronic instant bingo at any one time;
- (4) Conduct electronic instant bingo on more than one premises or on any premises other than the charitable organization's principal place of business;
- (5) Operate more than ten electronic bingo systems at the premises on which the charitable organization conducts electronic instant bingo under its license;
- (6) Fail to display both of the following conspicuously at the premises on which the charitable organization conducts electronic instant bingo:
  - A. The charitable organization's bingo license;
  - B. The serial number of each deal of electronic instant bingo tickets being sold.
- (7) Permit any person the charitable organization knows, or should have known, to be under eighteen (18) years of age to play electronic instant bingo;
- (8) Sell or provide to any person an electronic instant bingo ticket for a price different from the price displayed on the game flare for that deal, except that the charitable organization may give a participant who wins an electronic instant bingo game an electronic instant bingo ticket as a prize in place of a cash prize;
- (9) Fail, once an electronic instant bingo deal is begun, to continue to sell tickets in that deal until all prizes have been awarded;
- (10) Permit any person whom the organization knows, or should have known, has been convicted of a felony or gambling offense in any jurisdiction to be a bingo game operator in the conduct of electronic instant bingo;
- (11) Permit a bingo game operator to play electronic instant bingo;
- (12) A. Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b)(12)B. hereof, pay compensation to a bingo game operator for conducting electronic instant bingo.

- B. Subsection (b)(12)A. hereof does not prohibit an employee of a veteran's organization or fraternal organization from redeeming electronic instant bingo tickets or vouchers for the organization's members or invited guests, so long as no portion of the employee's compensation is paid from any bingo receipts.

(13) Pay consulting fees to any person in relation to electronic instant bingo.

(c) No person shall sell, offer to sell, or otherwise provide or offer to provide an electronic instant bingo system to any person for use in this municipality unless the electronic instant bingo system has been approved under Ohio R.C. 2915.15.

(d) Whoever knowingly violates subsection (a), (b) or (c) hereof or a rule adopted under Ohio R.C. 2915.14(D) is guilty of illegal electronic instant bingo conduct. Illegal electronic instant bingo conduct is a misdemeanor of the first degree, except that if the offender previously has been convicted of a violation of subsection (a) or (b) hereof, or any substantially equivalent municipal ordinance or state law, or of a rule adopted under Ohio R.C. 2915.14(D), illegal instant bingo conduct is a felony to be prosecuted under appropriate state law.  
(ORC 2915.14)

**917.99 PENALTY.**

(EDITOR'S NOTE: See Section 901.99 for penalties applicable to any misdemeanor classification.)

**925.11 SOLICITING OR RECEIVING IMPROPER COMPENSATION.**

(a) No public servant shall knowingly solicit or accept and no person shall knowingly promise or give to a public servant either of the following:

- (1) Any compensation, other than is allowed by Ohio R.C. 102.03(G), (H), and (I) or other provisions of law, to perform the public servant's official duties, to perform any other act or service in the public servant's public capacity, for the general performance of the duties of the public servant's public office or public employment, or as a supplement to the public servant's public compensation;
- (2) Additional or greater fees or costs than are allowed by law to perform the public servant's official duties.

(b) No public servant for the public servant's own personal or business use and no person for the person's own personal or business use or for the personal or business use of a public servant or party official, shall solicit or accept anything of value in consideration of either of the following:

- (1) Appointing or securing, maintaining or renewing the appointment of any person to any public office, employment or agency;
- (2) Preferring, or maintaining the status of, any public employee with respect to compensation, duties, placement, location, promotion or other material aspects of employment.

(c) No person for the benefit of a political party, campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, or political action committee shall coerce any contribution in consideration of either of the following:

- (1) Appointing or securing, maintaining or renewing the appointment of any person to any public office, employment or agency;
- (2) Preferring, or maintaining the status of, any public employee with respect to compensation, duties, placement, location, promotion or other material aspects of employment.

(d) Whoever violates this section is guilty of soliciting improper compensation, a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(e) A public servant who is convicted of a violation of this section is disqualified from holding any public office, employment or position of trust in this Municipality for a period of seven years from the date of conviction.

(f) Subsections (a), (b) and (c) hereof do not prohibit a person from making voluntary contributions to a political party, campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, or political action committee or prohibit a political party, campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, or political action committee from accepting voluntary contributions. (ORC 2921.43)

**925.12 DERELICTION OF DUTY.**

(a) No law enforcement officer shall negligently do any of the following:

- (1) Fail to serve a lawful warrant without delay;
- (2) Fail to prevent or halt the commission of an offense or to apprehend an offender, when it is in the law enforcement officer's power to do so alone or with available assistance.

(b) No law enforcement, ministerial or judicial officer shall negligently fail to perform a lawful duty in a criminal case or proceeding.

(c) No officer, having charge of a detention facility, shall negligently do any of the following:

- (1) Allow the detention facility to become littered or unsanitary;
- (2) Fail to provide persons confined in the detention facility with adequate food, clothing, bedding, shelter and medical attention;
- (3) Fail to control an unruly prisoner, or to prevent intimidation of or physical harm to a prisoner by another;
- (4) Allow a prisoner to escape;
- (5) Fail to observe any lawful and reasonable regulation for the management of the detention facility.

(d) No public official of the Municipality shall recklessly create a deficiency, incur a liability or expend a greater sum than is appropriated by the legislative authority of the Municipality for the use in any one year of the department, agency or institution with which the public official is connected.

(e) No public servant shall recklessly fail to perform a duty expressly imposed by law with respect to the public servant's office, or recklessly do any act expressly forbidden by law with respect to the public servant's office.

(f) Whoever violates this section is guilty of dereliction of duty, a misdemeanor of the second degree.

(g) As used in this section, "public servant" includes an officer or employee of a contractor as defined in Ohio R.C. 9.08.

#### **925.13 INTERFERING WITH CIVIL RIGHTS.**

(a) No public servant, under color of the public servant's office, employment, or authority, shall knowingly deprive, or conspire or attempt to deprive any person of a constitutional or statutory right.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of interfering with civil rights, a misdemeanor of the first degree. (ORC 2921.45)

#### **925.14 UNAUTHORIZED DISPLAY OF LAW ENFORCEMENT EMBLEMS ON MOTOR VEHICLES.**

(a) No person who is not entitled to do so shall knowingly display on a motor vehicle the emblem of a law enforcement agency or an organization of law enforcement officers.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of the unlawful display of the emblem of a law enforcement agency or an organization of law enforcement officers, a minor misdemeanor.  
(ORC 2913.441)

## CHAPTER 929 Liquor Control

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| <p>929.01 Definitions.</p> <p>929.02 Sales to and use by underage persons; securing public accommodations.</p> <p>929.021 Purchase by minor; misrepresentation.</p> <p>929.03 Sales to intoxicated persons.</p> <p>929.04 Liquor consumption in motor vehicle.</p> <p>929.05 Permit required.</p> <p>929.06 Low-alcohol beverages: sale to and purchase by underage persons prohibited.</p> | <p>929.07 Open container prohibited.</p> <p>929.08 Hours of sale or consumption.</p> <p>929.09 Possession or consumption on public property.</p> <p>929.10 Sale or gift to police or firemen while in uniform.</p> <p>929.11 Minors prohibited in liquor establishments.</p> <p>929.99 Penalty.</p> |
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### CROSS REFERENCES

See sectional histories for similar State law  
 Prohibiting sale of intoxicating liquor on Sunday - see  
     Ohio R.C. 4301.22(D)  
 Local option - see Ohio R.C. 4301.32 et seq., 4303.29  
 Disorderly conduct; intoxication - see GEN. OFF. 909.03  
 Using weapons while intoxicated - see GEN. OFF. 949.03

### 929.01 DEFINITIONS.

For the purpose of this chapter, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

- (a) "Alcohol". Ethyl alcohol, whether rectified or diluted with water or not, whatever its origin may be, and includes synthetic ethyl alcohol. The term does not include denatured alcohol and wood alcohol.
- (b) "At Retail". For use or consumption by the purchaser and not for resale.
- (c) "Beer".
  - (1) Includes all beverages brewed or fermented wholly or in part from malt products and containing one-half of one percent (0.5%) or more of alcohol by volume.
  - (2) Beer, regardless of the percent of alcohol by volume, is not intoxicating liquor for purposes of this code, the Ohio Revised Code, or any rules adopted under it.
- (d) "Cider". All liquids that are fit to use for beverage purposes that contain one-half of one percent (0.5%) of alcohol by volume, but not more than six percent (6%) of alcohol by weight that are made through the normal alcoholic fermentation of the juice of sound, ripe apples, including, without limitation, flavored, sparkling, or carbonated cider and cider made from pure condensed apple must.
- (e) "Club". A corporation or association of individuals organized in good faith for social, recreational, benevolent, charitable, fraternal, political, patriotic, or athletic purposes, which is the owner, lessor, or occupant of a permanent building or part of a permanent building operated solely for such purposes, membership in which entails the prepayment of regular dues, and includes the place so operated.

- (f) "Community Facility". Means either of the following:
  - (1) Any convention, sports or entertainment facility or complex, or any combination of these, that is used by or accessible to the general public and that is owned or operated in whole or in part by the state, a state agency, or a political subdivision of the state or that is leased from, or located on property owned by or leased from, the state, a state agency, a political subdivision of the state, or a convention facilities authority created pursuant to Ohio R.C. 351.02;
  - (2) An area designated as a community entertainment district pursuant to Ohio R.C. 4301.80.
- (g) "Controlled Access Alcohol and Beverage Cabinet". A closed container, either refrigerated, in whole or in part, or nonrefrigerated, access to the interior of which is restricted by means of a device that requires the use of a key, magnetic card, or similar device and from which beer, intoxicating liquor, other beverages or food may be sold.
- (h) "Hotel". The same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 3731.01, subject to the exceptions mentioned in Ohio R.C. 3731.03.
- (i) "Intoxicating Liquor" and "Liquor". All liquids and compounds, other than beer, containing one half of one percent (0.5%) or more of alcohol by volume which are fit to use for beverage purposes, from whatever source and by whatever process produced, by whatever name called, and whether they are medicated, proprietary, or patented. The terms include cider and alcohol, and all solids and confections which contain one-half of one percent (0.5%) or more of alcohol by volume.
- (j) "Low-Alcohol Beverage". Any brewed or fermented malt product or any product made from the fermented juices of grapes, fruits, or other agricultural products that contains either no alcohol or less than one-half of one percent (0.5%) of alcohol by volume. The beverages described in this definition do not include a soft drink such as root beer, birch beer, or ginger beer.
- (k) "Manufacture". All processes by which beer or intoxicating liquor is produced, whether by distillation, rectifying, fortifying, blending, fermentation, brewing, or in any other manner.
- (l) "Manufacturer". Any person engaged in the business of manufacturing beer or intoxicating liquor.
- (m) "Mixed Beverages". Include bottled and prepared cordials, cocktails, highballs, and solids and confections that are obtained by mixing any type of whiskey, neutral spirits, brandy, gin or other distilled spirits with, or over, carbonated or plain water, pure juices from flowers and plants, and other flavoring materials. The completed product shall contain not less than one-half of one percent (0.5%) of alcohol by volume and not more than twenty-one percent (21%) of alcohol by volume. The phrase includes the contents of a pod.
- (n) "Nightclub". A place habitually operated for profit, where food is served for consumption on the premises, and one or more forms of amusement are provided or permitted for a consideration that may be in the form of a cover charge or may be included in the price of the food and beverages, or both, purchased by patrons.
- (o) "Person". Includes firms and corporations.
- (p) "Pharmacy". An establishment as defined in Ohio R.C. 4729.01, that is under the management or control of a licensed pharmacist in accordance with Ohio R.C. 4729.27.

- (q) "POD". Means a sealed capsule made from plastic, glass, aluminum, or a combination thereof to which all of the following apply:
- (1) The capsule contains intoxicating liquor of more than twenty-one percent (21%) of alcohol by volume.
  - (2) The capsule also contains a concentrated flavoring mixture.
  - (3) The contents of the capsule are not readily accessible or intended for consumption unless certain manufacturer's processing instructions are followed.
  - (4) The instructions include releasing the contents of the capsule through a machine specifically designed to process the contents.
  - (5) After being properly processed according to the manufacturer's instructions, the final product produced from the capsule contains not less than one-half of one percent (0.5%) of alcohol by volume and not more than twenty-one percent (21%) of alcohol by volume.
- (r) "Restaurant". A place located in a permanent building provided with space and accommodations wherein, in consideration of the payment of money, hot meals are habitually prepared, sold, and served at noon and evening, as the principal business of the place. The term does not include pharmacies, confectionery stores, lunch stands, nightclubs, and filling stations.
- (s) "Sale" and "Sell". The exchange, barter, gift, offer for sale, sale, distribution, and delivery of any kind, and the transfer of title or possession of beer and intoxicating liquor either by constructive or actual delivery by any means or devices whatever, including the sale of beer or intoxicating liquor by means of a controlled access alcohol and beverage cabinet pursuant to Ohio R.C. 4301.21. Such terms do not include the mere solicitation of orders for beer or intoxicating liquor from the holders of permits issued by the Division of Liquor Control authorizing the sale of the beer or intoxicating liquor, but no solicitor shall solicit any orders until the solicitor has been registered with the Division pursuant to Ohio R.C. 4303.25.
- (t) "Sales Area or Territory". An exclusive geographic area or territory that is assigned to a particular A or B permit holder and that either has one or more political subdivisions as its boundaries or consists of an area of land with readily identifiable geographic boundaries. The term does not include, however, any particular retail location in an exclusive geographic area or territory that had been assigned to another A or B permit holder before April 9, 2001.
- (u) "Sealed Container". Any container having a capacity of not more than 128 fluid ounces, the opening of which is closed to prevent the entrance of air.
- (v) "Spirituous Liquor". All intoxicating liquors containing more than twenty-one percent (21%) of alcohol by volume. The phrase does not include the contents of a pod.
- (w) "Vehicle". All means of transportation by land, by water, or by air, and everything made use of in any way for such transportation.
- (x) "Wholesale Distributor" and "Distributor". A person engaged in the business of selling to retail dealers for purposes of resale.
- (y) "Wine". All liquids fit to use for beverage purposes containing not less than one-half of one percent (0.5%) of alcohol by volume and not more than twenty-one percent (21%) of alcohol by volume, that is made from the fermented juices of grapes, fruits, or other agricultural products. The term includes cider, except as used in Ohio R.C. 4301.13, 4301.421, 4301.422, 4301.432, and 4301.44, and, for purposes of determining the rate of the tax that applies, Ohio R.C. 4301.43(B), the term does not include cider.  
(ORC 4301.01, 4301.244)

**929.02 SALES TO AND USE BY UNDERAGE PERSONS; SECURING PUBLIC ACCOMMODATIONS.**

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter or Ohio R.C. Chapter 4301, no person shall sell beer or intoxicating liquor to an underage person, or shall buy beer or intoxicating liquor for an underage person, or shall furnish it to, an underage person, unless given by a physician in the regular line of his practice or given for established religious purposes, or unless the underage person is supervised by a parent, spouse who is not an underage person or legal guardian.

In proceedings before the Liquor Control Commission, no permit holder, or no employee or agent of a permit holder, charged with a violation of this subsection shall be charged, for the same offense, with a violation of Ohio R.C. 4301.22(A)(1).

(b) No person who is the owner or occupant of any public or private place shall knowingly allow any underage person to remain in or on the place while possessing or consuming beer or intoxicating liquor, unless the intoxicating liquor or beer is given to the person possessing or consuming it by that person's parent, spouse who is not an underage person or legal guardian and the parent, spouse who is not an underage person or legal guardian is present at the time of the person's possession or consumption of the beer or intoxicating liquor.

An owner of a public or private place is not liable for acts or omissions in violation of this subsection that are committed by a lessee of that place, unless the owner authorizes or acquiesces in the lessee's acts or omissions.

(c) No person shall engage or use accommodations at a hotel, inn, cabin, campground or restaurant when he knows or has reason to know either of the following:

- (1) That beer or intoxicating liquor will be consumed by an underage person on the premises of the accommodations that the person engages or uses, unless the person engaging or using the accommodations is the spouse of the underage person and is not an underage person, or is the parent or legal guardian of all of the underage persons, who consume beer or intoxicating liquor on the premises and that person is on the premises at all times when beer or intoxicating liquor is being consumed by an underage person;
- (2) That a drug of abuse will be consumed on the premises of the accommodations by any person, except a person who obtained the drug of abuse pursuant to a prescription issued by a practitioner and has the drug of abuse in the original container in which it was dispensed to the person.

(b) No person shall have in the person's possession an opened container of beer or intoxicating liquor in any of the following circumstances:

- (1) In a State liquor store;
- (2) Except as provided in subsection (c) or (i) hereof, on the premises of the holder of any permit issued by the Division of Liquor Control;
- (3) In any other public place;
- (4) Except as provided in subsection (d) or (e) hereof, while operating or being a passenger in or on a motor vehicle on any street, highway or other public or private property open to the public for purposes of vehicular travel or parking;
- (5) Except as provided in subsection (d) or (e) hereof, while being in or on a stationary motor vehicle on any street, highway or other public or private property open to the public for purposes of vehicular travel or parking.

(c) (1) A person may have in the person's possession an opened container of any of the following:

- A. Beer or intoxicating liquor that has been lawfully purchased for consumption on the premises where bought from the holder of an A-1-A, A-2, A-2(f), A-3a, D-1, D-2, D-3, D-3a, D-4, D-4a, D-5, D-5a, D-5b, D-5c, D-5d, D-5e, D-5f, D-5g, D-5h, D-5i, D-5j, D-5k, D-5l, D-5m, D-5n, D-5o, D-7, D-8, E, F, F-2, F-5, F-7 or F-8 permit;
  - B. Beer, wine, or mixed beverages served for consumption on the premises by the holder of an F-3 permit, wine served as a tasting sample by an A-2, S-1, or S-2 permit holder for consumption on the premises of a farmers market for which an F-10 permit has been issued, or wine served for consumption on the premises by the holder of an F-4 or F-6 permit;
  - C. Beer or intoxicating liquor consumed on the premises of a convention facility as provided in Ohio R.C. 4303.201;
  - D. Beer or intoxicating liquor to be consumed during tastings and samplings approved by rule of the Liquor Control Commission.
  - E. Spirituous liquor to be consumed for purposes of a tasting sample, as defined in Ohio R.C. 4301.171.
- (2) A person may have in the person's possession on an F liquor permit premises an opened container of beer or intoxicating liquor that was not purchased from the holder of the F permit if the premises for which the F permit is issued is a music festival and the holder of the F permit grants permission for that possession on the premises during the period for which the F permit is issued. As used in this section, "music festival" means a series of outdoor live musical performances, extending for a period of at least three consecutive days and located on an area of land of at least forty acres.
- (3) A. A person may have in the person's possession on a D-2 liquor permit premises an opened or unopened container of wine that was not purchased from the holder of the D-2 permit if the premises for which the D-2 permit is issued is an outdoor performing arts center, the person is attending an orchestral performance, and the holder of the D-2 permit grants permission for the possession and consumption of wine in certain predesignated areas of the premises during the period for which the D-2 permit is issued.

- B. As used in subsection (c)(3)A. of this section:
1. "Orchestral performance" means a concert comprised of a group of not fewer than forty musicians playing various musical instruments.
  2. "Outdoor performing arts center" means an outdoor performing arts center that is located on not less than one hundred fifty acres of land and that is open for performances from the first day of April to the last day of October of each year.
- (4) A person may have in the person's possession an opened or unopened container of beer or intoxicating liquor at an outdoor location at which the person is attending an orchestral performance as defined in subsection (c)(3)B.1. hereof if the person with supervision and control over the performance grants permission for the possession and consumption of beer or intoxicating liquor in certain predesignated areas of that outdoor location.
- (5) A person may have in the person's possession on an F-9 liquor permit premises an opened or unopened container of beer or intoxicating liquor that was not purchased from the holder of the F-9 permit if the person is attending either of the following:
- A. An orchestral performance and the F-9 permit holder grants permission for the possession and consumption of beer or intoxicating liquor in certain predesignated areas of the premises during the period for which the F-9 permit is issued;
  - B. An outdoor performing arts event or orchestral performance that is free of charge and the F-9 permit holder annually hosts not less than twenty-five other events or performances that are free of charge on the permit premises.
- As used in subsection (c)(5) hereof, "orchestral performance" has the same meaning as in subsection (c)(3)B. of this section.
- (6) A. A person may have in the person's possession on the property of an outdoor motorsports facility an opened or unopened container of beer or intoxicating liquor that was not purchased from the owner of the facility if both of the following apply:
1. The person is attending a racing event at the facility; and
  2. The owner of the facility grants permission for the possession and consumption of beer or intoxicating liquor on the property of the facility;
- B. As used in subsection (c)(6)A. of this section:
1. "Racing event" means a motor vehicle racing event sanctioned by one or more motor racing sanctioning organizations.
  2. "Outdoor motorsports facility" means an outdoor racetrack to which all of the following apply:
    - a. It is two and four-tenths miles or more in length.
    - b. It is located on two hundred acres or more of land.
    - c. The primary business of the owner of the facility is the hosting and promoting of racing events.
    - d. The holder of a D-1, D-2 or D-3 permit is located on the property of the facility.

- (2) An alcoholic beverage in a closed container being transported under Ohio R.C. 4303.185 to its final destination is not an opened container for the purposes of this section if the closed container is securely sealed in such a manner that it is visibly apparent if the closed container has been subsequently opened or tampered with after sealing.  
(ORC 4301.62)

(i) This section does not apply to a person that has in the person's possession an opened container of homemade beer or wine that is served in accordance with Ohio R.C. 4301.201(E). (ORC 4301.62)

(j) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.  
(ORC 4301.99(A))

### **929.08 HOURS OF SALE OR CONSUMPTION.**

(a) This rule shall apply to the retail sale of beer, wine, mixed beverages, or spirituous liquor.

(b) No beer, wine, mixed beverages, or spirituous liquor shall be sold or delivered by an A-1, A-1c, A-2, B-1, B-2, B-4, B-5, C-1, C-2, C-2X, D-1, D-2, D-2X, D-3 when issued without a D-3A, D-3X, D-4, D-5H, D-5K, D-8, F, F-1, F-2, F-3, F-4, F-5, F-6, F-7, F-8, F-9, G or I permit holder:

- (1) From Monday to Saturday between the hours of one a.m. and five thirty a.m.
- (2) On Sunday between the hours of one a.m. and Sunday midnight, unless statutorily authorized otherwise.
- (3) Consumption of beer, wine, mixed beverages, or spirituous liquor is also prohibited during the above hours upon the premises of the above permit holders who are authorized by their permit to sell beer, wine, mixed beverages, or spirituous liquor for on-premises consumption.

(c) No beer, wine, mixed beverages, or spirituous liquid shall be sold or delivered by an A-1A, D-3 when issued with a D-3A, D-4A, D-5, D-5A, D-5B, D-5C, D-5D, D-5E, D-5F, D-5G, D-5I, D-5J, D-5L, D-5m, D-5n, D-5o, or D-7 permit holder:

- (1) From Monday to Saturday between the hours of two thirty a.m. and five thirty a.m.
- (2) On Sunday between the hours of two thirty a.m. and Sunday midnight, unless statutorily authorized otherwise.
- (3) Consumption of beer, wine, mixed beverages, or spirituous liquor is also prohibited during the above hours upon the premises of the above permit holders who are authorized by their permit to sell beer, wine, mixed beverages or spirituous liquor for on-premises consumption.

(d) Permit holders authorized to sell beer, wine, mixed beverages, or spirituous liquor at retail who are not specifically identified in subsection (b) or (c) above shall be subject to the provisions of subsection (b), unless statutorily authorized otherwise.

(e) The hours on Sunday during which sales, delivery, or consumption of alcoholic beverages may take place are established by statute, but in no event shall they begin prior to five thirty a.m. (OAC 4301:1-1-49)

(f) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.

**929.09 POSSESSION OR CONSUMPTION ON PUBLIC PROPERTY.**

(a) No person shall take or possess any beer or intoxicating liquor upon any City property, park, public building, school property or any other place where the public is permitted to assemble in the City.

(b) No person shall sell, give away or drink any beer or intoxicating liquor upon any street, sidewalk or other public grounds within the City. This provision does not prohibit the sale or consumption which is lawfully permitted pursuant to State statute or City authorization. (Ord. 326. Passed 4-2-34.)

(c) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

**929.10 SALE OR GIFT TO POLICE OR FIREMEN WHILE IN UNIFORM.**

(a) No person shall sell, give or deliver any beer or intoxicating liquor to any member of the Police or Fire Divisions of the City while such member is in uniform. (Ord. 326. Passed 4-2-34.)

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

**929.11 MINORS PROHIBITED IN LIQUOR ESTABLISHMENTS.**

(a) No person, being the owner, manager, employee, servant, or person in charge of any premises within the City which serves beer, wine or intoxicating liquor by-the-drink for on-premises consumption shall permit any minor under the age of eighteen years to enter into or onto areas within such premises where the primary function of such areas is the serving and consumption of alcoholic beverages unless accompanied by his or her parent or legal guardian. This section shall not apply where, by reason of the physical layout or structure of any particular premises, the primary use is for something other than the serving of beer, wine or intoxicating liquor by-the-drink for on-premises consumption. (Initiative Ordinance Passed 11-8-83.)

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

**929.99 PENALTY.**

(EDITOR'S NOTE: See Section 901.99 for penalties applicable to any misdemeanor classification.)

- (2) When a nuisance subject to this Chapter has not been abated within the time prescribed in the notice, the Director may authorize the immediate abatement of such nuisance by the City notwithstanding the pendency of an appeal of such order/notice to the Municipal Planning Commission. If, as a result of such appeal, the Planning Commission overturns the order of the Director, then the owner shall not be obligated to pay to the City its costs to abate the nuisance.

(g) Relationship to Other Laws. The authority to abate nuisances, and the procedures required herein, as set forth in this Chapter, shall be in addition to and shall not limit the authority to abate nuisances granted in other ordinances of the City or the laws or Constitution of the State of Ohio.

(h) Penalty. Any owner of real estate, upon which a nuisance exists or the cause or source of such nuisance is located, who fails to comply with the direction of the Director of Public Service or Director of Public Safety to abate such nuisance within the time specified in the notice from the Director, shall be deemed guilty of a minor misdemeanor for a first offense and guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree for a second or subsequent offense within one year. Each day of failure to comply shall constitute a separate offense.  
(Ord. 2018-31. Passed 5-21-18.)

#### **931.02 CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES AS A NUISANCE; ABATEMENT, PROCEDURE AND COSTS OF ENFORCEMENT.**

(a) The following activities occurring on any privately owned lot, or within thirty (30) feet from the property line of same, and engaged in by an owner, occupant, tenant, guest or invitee of one lawfully residing or occupying the premises or establishment on the subject lot, are hereby declared to be nuisances:

- (1) Any act that would constitute a violation of any section of Part Nine "General Offense" of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Berea, or any similar Ohio Revised Code provision, except any act that would constitute an offense against a family member in violation of a provision of Chapter 937 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Berea or Chapter 2919 of the Ohio Revised Code;
- (2) Any act that would constitute a violation of Chapter 321 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Berea, Garbage and Rubbish or similar Ohio Revised Code provision;
- (3) Any act that would constitute a violation of Chapter 327 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Berea, Trees and Weeds or similar Ohio Revised Code provision;
- (4) Any act that would constitute a violation of Chapter 1329 of the Building Code of the City of Berea, Exterior Maintenance or similar Ohio Revised Code provision;
- (5) Any act that would constitute a felony under the Ohio Revised Code except any act that would constitute an offense against a family member in violation of any provision of Ohio R.C. Chapter 2919.

(b) The Chief of Police or his designee, upon finding that one (1) or more nuisance activities declared in subsection (a) hereinabove have occurred within thirty (30) feet of any property line of the same premises, may cause a written warning letter to be sent via regular mail to the last known address of the property owner and the occupant(s), declaring that such property may be declared a nuisance property if a second or additional nuisance activities occur at or within thirty (30) feet of any property line of the same premises within any twenty-four (24) month period.

The Chief of Police or his designee, upon finding that a two (2) or more nuisance activities declared in subsection (a) hereinabove has occurred within the twenty-four (24) month period immediately preceding the second nuisance activity, at or within thirty (30) feet of any property line of the same premises, shall cause written notice and order to be sent via regular mail to the last known address of the property owner and the occupant(s) declaring that such property is a nuisance property. The notice and order shall set forth the nature of the nuisances, the estimated cost to abate any future nuisance, and state that the owner may avoid being charged the cost of the City abatement by taking steps to prevent any further nuisance activity as declared in subsection(a) hereinabove. The notice and order shall further state that if a third nuisance activity or subsequent nuisance activities as declared in subsection (a) hereinabove occurs within twenty-four (24) months of the dates of the second nuisance activity, the City may abate the nuisance by responding to the activities using administrative and law enforcement actions, and the costs of such abatement shall be assessed on the nuisance property. The notice and order shall be sent via regular mail to the last known address of the property owner and occupant(s).

(c) If within twenty-four (24) months after the first of the two (2) nuisances referred to in subsection (a) and (b) hereinabove occurred, a third nuisance activity occurs, the City may abate the nuisance by responding to the activity using administrative and law enforcement actions, and the costs of such abatement may be assessed on the nuisance property, and the costs shall be calculated as set forth in subsection (d) of this section. The City shall provide notice to the owner of the nuisance property of the City's intent to assess the costs of abatement against the owner's property at least thirty (30) days before such costs are certified to the County for assessment against the property, and such notice shall contain a description of the nuisance activity that is the basis for the notice of intent to assess the property, and the cost to abate. Notice shall be sent via regular mail to the last known address of the property owner.

(d) Costs of the abatement shall be based upon the hourly wage of the police officer(s) or City employees or their agents involved in the abatement of the nuisance activity, plus seventy-five percent (75 %) (to recoup the costs of fuel, materials, vehicle and equipment depreciation and other related expenses), multiplied by the number of hours required to abate the nuisance. The minimum cost of abatement shall be seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00) per incident. Any portion of time less than one hour shall be rounded up to the next whole hour.

(e) The owner of a nuisance property who receives a notice from the Chief of Police or his designee pursuant to this chapter may appeal such notice by submitting a written request for reconsideration to the Chief of Police within thirty (30) days of the date of the notice. If the Chief of Police finds that the facts presented do not support the declaration of a nuisance, the Chief shall rescind the notice. Otherwise, the Chief shall deny the request and advise the appellant in writing of the denial and of the appellant's right to file an appeal to the Planning Commission. The owner may appeal the denial of the request for reconsideration by submitting a written appeal letter to the Planning Commission within thirty (30) days of the date of the Chief's denial. Any such appeal shall not stay any actions by the City to abate the first or any subsequent nuisance activity.

In any such appeal, the City must show by a preponderance of the evidence that each violation stated in the notice being appealed has occurred, and that the declaration of the property as a nuisance property or of the intent of the City to assess the property for abatement costs, whichever is applicable, is justified. The City shall be deemed to have failed to meet this standard if the owner demonstrates by a preponderance of evidence that:

- (1) He or she was not the owner at the time of any of the nuisance activity that is the basis of the notice; or
- (2) He or she had knowledge of the nuisance activity, but has promptly and vigorously taken all actions necessary to abate each nuisance including, without limitation, compliance with the requirements of Ohio Revised Code Sections 5321.17(C) and 5321.04(A)(9); or
- (3) He or she had no knowledge of the nuisance activity and could not, with reasonable care and diligence, have known of the nuisance activity, and upon receipt of the notice of the declaration of the property as a nuisance property, he or she promptly took all actions necessary to abate the nuisance including, without limitation, compliance with the requirements of Ohio Revised Code Sections 5321.17(C) and 5321.04(A)(9).

(f) The declaration of a nuisance property, an order to abate a nuisance, or the assessment of costs by the City on a property, do not affect or limit the City's right or authority to bring criminal prosecution or other legal action against any person for violation of the City's ordinances. The remedies provided in this chapter are cumulative and do not restrict or limit any other civil remedy or criminal penalty provided for elsewhere in the Codified Ordinances of the City of Berea or the Ohio Revised Code.

(Ord. 2021-29. Passed 6-21-21.)



## CHAPTER 937 Offenses Against Persons

937.01	Negligent homicide.	937.12	Misuse of 9-1-1 system.
937.02	Vehicular homicide and manslaughter.	937.13	Adulterating of or furnishing adulterated food or confection.
937.021	Vehicular assault in a construction zone.	937.14	Domestic violence.
937.03	Assault.	937.15	Temporary protection order.
937.04	Negligent assault.	937.16	Illegal distribution of cigarettes, other tobacco products or alternate nicotine products. (Repealed)
937.05	Aggravated menacing.	937.17	Reserved.
937.051	Menacing by stalking.	937.18	Contributing to unruliness or delinquency of a child.
937.06	Menacing.	937.19	Interference with custody.
937.07	Endangering children.	937.20	Child stealing.
937.08	Unlawful restraint.	937.21	Hazing prohibited.
937.09	Coercion.	937.99	Penalty.
937.10	Telecommunication harassment.		
937.11	Threatening or harassing telephone calls.		

### CROSS REFERENCES

See sectional histories for similar State law

Physical harm to persons defined - see GEN. OFF.

901.01 (c), (e)

Fighting; provoking violent response - see GEN. OFF. 909.03

### **937.01 NEGLIGENT HOMICIDE.**

(a) No person shall negligently cause the death of another or the unlawful termination of another's pregnancy by means of a deadly weapon or dangerous ordnance as defined in Section 949.01.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of negligent homicide, a misdemeanor of the first degree. (ORC 2903.05)

### **937.02 VEHICULAR HOMICIDE AND MANSLAUGHTER.**

(a) No person, while operating or participating in the operation of a motor vehicle, motorcycle, snowmobile, locomotive, watercraft, or aircraft, shall cause the death of another or the unlawful termination of another's pregnancy in any of the following ways:

(1) A. Negligently;

- B. As the proximate result of committing, while operating or participating in the operation of a motor vehicle or motorcycle in a construction zone, a speeding offense, provided that this subsection applies only if the person whose death is caused or whose pregnancy is unlawfully terminated is in the construction zone at the time of the offender's commission of the speeding offense in the construction zone and does not apply as described in subsection (d) of this section.
- (2) As the proximate result of committing a violation of any provision of any section contained in Title XLV of the Ohio Revised Code that is a minor misdemeanor or of a municipal ordinance that, regardless of the penalty set by ordinance for the violation, is substantially equivalent to any provision of any section contained in Title XLV of the Ohio Revised Code that is a minor misdemeanor.
- (b) (1) Whoever violates subsection (a)(1) of this section is guilty of vehicular homicide. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, vehicular homicide is a misdemeanor of the first degree. Vehicular homicide is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law if, at the time of the offense, the offender was driving under a suspension or cancellation imposed under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4510 or any other provision of the Ohio Revised Code or was operating a motor vehicle or motorcycle, did not have a valid driver's license, commercial driver's license, temporary instruction permit, probationary license, or nonresident operating privilege, and was not eligible for renewal of the offender's driver's license or commercial driver's license without examination under Ohio R.C. 4507.10 or if the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a violation of this section or any traffic-related homicide, manslaughter or assault offense. The court shall impose a mandatory jail term on the offender when required by Ohio R.C. 2903.06(E).
- (2) Whoever violates subsection (a)(2) of this section is guilty of vehicular manslaughter. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, vehicular manslaughter is a misdemeanor of the second degree. Vehicular manslaughter is a misdemeanor of the first degree if, at the time of the offense, the offender was driving under a suspension or cancellation imposed under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4510 or any other provision of the Ohio Revised Code or was operating a motor vehicle or motorcycle, did not have a valid driver's license, commercial driver's license, temporary instruction permit, probationary license, or nonresident operating privilege, and was not eligible for renewal of the offender's driver's license or commercial driver's license without examination under Ohio R.C. 4507.10 or if the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a violation of this section or any traffic-related homicide, manslaughter, or assault offense.

**937.20 CHILD STEALING.**

(a) No person, by any means, and with purpose to withhold a minor from the legal custody of his parent, guardian or custodian, shall remove the minor from the place where he is found.

(b) It is an affirmative defense to a charge under this section that the actor reasonably believed that his conduct was necessary to preserve the minor's health or welfare.

(c) Whoever violates this section is guilty of child stealing. If the offender is a natural or adoptive parent, or a stepparent of the minor, but not entitled to legal custody of the minor when the offense is committed, child stealing is a misdemeanor of the first degree unless:

- (1) The offender removes the child from this State, or the offender previously has been convicted of child stealing or of kidnapping or abduction involving a minor.
- (2) Physical harm is done to the minor.

**937.21 HAZING PROHIBITED.**

(a) As used in this section:

- (1) "Hazing" means doing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to do any act of initiation into any student or other organization or any act to continue or reinstate membership in or affiliation with any student or other organization that causes or creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm to any person, including coercing another to consume alcohol or a drug of abuse, as defined in Ohio R.C. 3719.011.
- (2) "Organization" includes a national or international organization with which a fraternity or sorority is affiliated.

(b) (1) No person shall recklessly participate in the hazing of another.  
(2) No administrator, employee, faculty member, teacher, consultant, alumnus, or volunteer of any organization, including any primary, secondary, or post-secondary school or any other educational institution, public or private, shall recklessly permit the hazing of any person associated with the organization.

(c) (1) No person shall recklessly participate in the hazing of another when the hazing includes coerced consumption of alcohol or drugs of abuse resulting in serious physical harm to the other person.  
(2) No administrator, employee, faculty member, teacher, consultant, alumnus, or volunteer of any organization, including any primary, secondary, or post-secondary school or other educational institution, public or private, shall recklessly permit the hazing of any person associated with the organization when the hazing includes coerced consumption of alcohol or drugs of abuse resulting in serious physical harm to that person.

(d) Whoever violates subsections (b) or (c) of this section is guilty of hazing. A violation of subsections (b)(1) or (b)(2) of this section is a misdemeanor of the second degree. A violation of subsections (c)(1) or (c)(2) of this section is a felony to be prosecuted under appropriate state law. (ORC 2903.31)

- (e) Reckless failure to immediately report knowledge of hazing.
  - (1) No administrator, employee, faculty member, teacher, consultant, alumnus, or volunteer of any organization, including any primary, secondary, or post-secondary school or any other public or private educational institution, who is acting in an official and professional capacity shall recklessly fail to immediately report the knowledge of hazing to a law enforcement agency in the county in which the victim of hazing resides or in which the hazing is occurring or has occurred.
  - (2) A violation of subsection (e)(1) of this section is a misdemeanor of the fourth degree, except that the violation is a misdemeanor of the first degree if the hazing causes serious physical harm.  
(ORC 2903.311(B), (C))

**937.99 PENALTY.**

(EDITOR'S NOTE: See Section 901.99 for penalties applicable to any misdemeanor classification.)

- (5) When the property involved is a warehouse receipt, bill of lading, pawn ticket, claim check or other instrument entitling the holder or bearer to receive property, the face value or, if there is no face value, the value of the property covered by the instrument less any payment necessary to receive the property, is prima-facie evidence of the value of the instrument.
- (6) When the property involved is a ticket of admission, ticket for transportation, coupon, token or other instrument entitling the holder or bearer to receive property or services, the face value or, if there is no face value, the value of the property or services that may be received by the instrument, is prima-facie evidence of the value of the instrument.
- (7) When the services involved are gas, electricity, water, telephone, transportation, shipping or other services for which the rate is established by law, the duly established rate is prima-facie evidence of the value of the services.
- (8) When the services involved are services for which the rate is not established by law, and the offender has been notified prior to the offense of the rate for the services, either in writing or orally, or by posting in a manner reasonably calculated to come to the attention of potential offenders, the rate contained in the notice is prima-facie evidence of the value of the services. (ORC 2913.61)

#### **945.03 PROPERTY EXCEPTIONS AS FELONY OFFENSE.**

Regardless of the value of the property involved, and regardless of whether the offender has previously been convicted of a theft offense, the provisions of Section 545.05 or 545.18 do not apply if the property involved is any of the following:

- (a) A credit card;
  - (b) A printed form for a check or other negotiable instrument, that on its face identifies the drawer or maker for whose use it is designed or identifies the account on which it is to be drawn, and that has not been executed by the drawer or maker or on which the amount is blank;
  - (c) A motor vehicle identification license plate as prescribed by Ohio R.C. 4503.22, a temporary motor vehicle license registration as prescribed by Ohio R.C. 4503.182, or any comparable temporary motor vehicle license registration as prescribed by the applicable law of another state or the United States;
  - (d) A blank form for a certificate of title or a manufacturer's or importer's certificate to a motor vehicle, as prescribed by Ohio R.C. 4505.07;
  - (e) A blank form for any license listed in Ohio R.C. 4507.01(A).
- (ORC 2913.71)

#### **945.04 DETENTION OF SHOPLIFTERS; RIGHTS OF MUSEUMS AND LIBRARIES.**

(a) A merchant, or his employee or agent, who has probable cause to believe that items offered for sale by a mercantile establishment have been unlawfully taken by a person, may, for the purposes set forth in subsection (c) hereof, detain the person in a reasonable manner for a reasonable length of time within the mercantile establishment or its immediate vicinity.

(b) Any officer, employee or agent of a library, museum or archival institution may, for the purposes set forth in subsection (c) hereof or for the purpose of conducting a reasonable investigation of a belief that the person has acted in a manner described in subsections (b)(1) and (2) hereof, detain a person in a reasonable manner for a reasonable length of time within, or in the immediate vicinity of the library, museum or archival institution, if the officer, employee or agent has probable cause to believe that the person has either:

- (1) Without privilege to do so, knowingly moved, defaced, damaged, destroyed or otherwise improperly tampered with property owned by or in the custody of the library, museum or archival institution; or
- (2) With purpose to deprive the library, museum or archival institution of property owned by it or in its custody, knowingly obtained or exerted control over the property without the consent of the owner or person authorized to give consent, beyond the scope of the express or implied consent of the owner or person authorized to give consent, by deception, or by threat.

(c) An officer, agent or employee of a library, museum or archival institution pursuant to subsection (b) hereof or a merchant or his employee or agent pursuant to subsection (a) hereof may detain another person for any of the following purposes:

- (1) To recover the property that is the subject of the unlawful taking, criminal mischief or theft;
- (2) To cause an arrest to be made by a peace officer;
- (3) To obtain a warrant of arrest.
- (4) To offer the person, if the person is suspected of the unlawful taking, criminal mischief, or theft and notwithstanding any other provision of this General Offenses or the Ohio Revised Code, an opportunity to complete a pretrial diversion program and to inform the person of the other legal remedies available to the library, museum, archival institution or merchant.

(d) The officer, agent or employee of the library, museum or archival institution, or the merchant or his employee or agent acting under subsection (a) or (b) hereof shall not search the person, search or seize any property belonging to the person detained without the person's consent, or use undue restraint upon the person detained.

(e) Any peace officer may arrest without a warrant any person that he has probable cause to believe has committed any act described in subsection (b)(1) or (2) hereof or that he has probable cause to believe has committed an unlawful taking in a mercantile establishment. An arrest under this subsection shall be made within a reasonable time after the commission of the act or unlawful taking.

(f) As used in this section:

- (1) "Archival institution" means any public or private building, structure or shelter in which are stored historical documents, devices, records, manuscripts or items of public interest, which historical materials are stored to preserve the materials or the information in the materials, to disseminate the information contained in the materials, or to make the materials available for public inspection or for inspection by certain persons who have a particular interest in, use for or knowledge concerning the materials.
- (2) "Museum" means any public or private nonprofit institution that is permanently organized for primarily educational or aesthetic purposes, owns or borrows objects or items of public interest, and cares for and exhibits to the public the objects or items.
- (3) "Pretrial diversion program" means a rehabilitative, educational program designed to reduce recidivism and promote personal responsibility that is at least four hours in length and that has been approved by any court in this State. (ORC 2935.041)

- (3) "Insurer" means any person that is authorized to engage in the business of insurance in this State under Title XXXIX of the Ohio Revised Code; The Ohio Fair Plan Underwriting Association created under Ohio R.C. 3929.43; any health insuring corporation; and any legal entity that is self-insured and provides benefits to its employees or members.
- (4) "Policy" means a policy, certificate, contract or plan that is issued by an insurer.
- (5) "Statement" includes, but is not limited to, any notice, letter or memorandum; proof of loss; bill of lading; receipt for payment; invoice, account or other financial statement; estimate of property damage; bill for services; diagnosis or prognosis; prescription; hospital, medical or dental chart or other record; X-Ray, photograph, videotape or movie film; test result; other evidence of loss, injury or expense; computer-generated document; and data in any form.

(b) No person, with purpose to defraud or knowing that the person is facilitating a fraud, shall do either of the following:

- (1) Present to, or cause to be presented to, an insurer any written or oral statement that is part of, or in support of, an application for insurance, a claim for payment pursuant to a policy or a claim for any other benefit pursuant to a policy, knowing that the statement, or any part of the statement, is false or deceptive;
- (2) Assist, aid, abet, solicit, procure or conspire with another to prepare or make any written or oral statement that is intended to be presented to an insurer as part of, or in support of, an application for insurance, a claim for payment pursuant to a policy, or a claim for any other benefit pursuant to a policy, knowing that the statement, or any part of the statement, is false or deceptive.

(c) Whoever violates this section is guilty of insurance fraud a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the amount of the claim that is false or deceptive is one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more, insurance fraud is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law.

(d) This section shall not be construed to abrogate, waive or modify Ohio R.C. 2317.02(A). (ORC 2913.47)

#### **945.08 UNAUTHORIZED USE OF PROPERTY.**

(a) No person shall knowingly use or operate the property of another without the consent of the owner or person authorized to give consent.

(b) The affirmative defenses contained in Section 945.06(c) are affirmative defenses to a charge under this section.

(c) Whoever violates this section is guilty of unauthorized use of property. Except as provided in subsection (d) hereof, unauthorized use of property is a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.

(d) If unauthorized use of property is committed for the purpose of devising or executing a scheme to defraud or to obtain property or services, unauthorized use of property is a misdemeanor of the first degree. Unauthorized use of property is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law if:

- (1) Unauthorized use of property is committed for the purpose of devising or executing a scheme to defraud or to obtain property or services, and if the value of the property is one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more; or
- (2) If the victim of the offense is an elderly person or disabled adult.  
(ORC 2913.04)

#### **945.09 PASSING BAD CHECKS.**

- (a) As used in this section:
  - (1) "Check" includes any form of debit from a demand deposit account, including, but not limited to any of the following:
    - A. A check, bill of exchange, draft, order of withdrawal, or similar negotiable or nonnegotiable instrument;
    - B. An electronic check, electronic transaction, debit card transaction, check card transaction, substitute check, web check, or any form of automated clearing house transaction.
  - (2) "Issue a check" means causing any form of debit from a demand deposit account.
- (b) No person, with purpose to defraud, shall issue or transfer or cause to be issued or transferred a check or other negotiable instrument, knowing that it will be dishonored or knowing that a person has ordered or will order stop payment on the check or other negotiable instrument.
- (c) For purposes of this section, a person who issues or transfers a check or other negotiable instrument is presumed to know that it will be dishonored, if either of the following occurs:
  - (1) The drawer had no account with the drawee at the time of issue or the stated date, whichever is later.
  - (2) The check or other negotiable instrument was properly refused payment for insufficient funds upon presentment within thirty days after issue or the stated date, whichever is later, and the liability of the drawer, indorser or any party who may be liable thereon is not discharged by payment or satisfaction within ten days after receiving notice of dishonor.
- (d) In determining the value of the payment for purposes of subsection (e) of this section, the court may aggregate all checks and other negotiable instruments that the offender issued or transferred or caused to be issued or transferred in violation of subsection (a) of this section within a period of one hundred eighty consecutive days.
- (e) Whoever violates this section is guilty of passing bad checks. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, passing bad checks is a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the check or checks or other negotiable instrument or instruments are issued or transferred to a single vendor or single other person for the payment of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more or if the check or checks or other negotiable instrument or instruments are issued or transferred to multiple vendors or persons for the payment of one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500) or more, passing bad checks is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law.  
(ORC 2913.11)

**945.10 MISUSE OF CREDIT CARDS.**

- (a) No person shall do any of the following:
- (1) Practice deception for the purpose of procuring the issuance of a credit card, when a credit card is issued in actual reliance thereon;
  - (2) Knowingly buy or sell a credit card from or to a person other than the issuer.
  - (3) As an officer, employee, or appointee of a political subdivision or as a public servant as defined under Section 925.01, knowingly misuse a credit card account held by a political subdivision.

- (b) No person, with purpose to defraud, shall do any of the following:
- (1) Obtain control over a credit card as security for a debt;
  - (2) Obtain property or services by the use of a credit card, in one or more transactions, knowing or having reasonable cause to believe that the card has expired or been revoked, or was obtained, is retained or is being used in violation of law;
  - (3) Furnish property or services upon presentation of a credit card, knowing that the card is being used in violation of law;
  - (4) Represent or cause to be represented to the issuer of a credit card that property or services have been furnished, knowing that the representation is false.

(c) No person, with purpose to violate this section, shall receive, possess, control or dispose of a credit card.

(d) Whoever violates this section is guilty of misuse of credit cards, a misdemeanor of the first degree. Misuse of credit cards is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law if:

- (1) The cumulative retail value of the property and services involved in one or more violations of subsection (b)(2), (3) or (4) hereof, which violations involve one or more credit card accounts and occur within a period of ninety consecutive days commencing on the date of the first violation, is one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more; or
- (2) The victim of the offense is an elderly person or disabled adult and the offense involves a violation of subsection (b)(1) or (2) hereof.  
(ORC 2913.21)

**945.11 MAKING OR USING SLUGS.**

- (a) No person shall do any of the following:
- (1) Insert or deposit a slug in a coin machine, with purpose to defraud;
  - (2) Make, possess or dispose of a slug, with purpose of enabling another to defraud by inserting or depositing it in a coin machine.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of making or using slugs, a misdemeanor of the second degree. (ORC 2913.33)

**945.12 TAMPERING WITH COIN MACHINES.**

(a) No person, with purpose to commit theft or to defraud, shall knowingly enter, force an entrance into, tamper with or insert any part of an instrument into any coin machine.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of tampering with coin machines, a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the offender has previously been convicted of a violation of Ohio R.C. 2911.32 or of any theft offense, tampering with coin machines is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law. (ORC 2911.32)

**945.13 CRIMINAL SIMULATION.**

(a) No person, with purpose to defraud, or knowing that the person is facilitating a fraud, shall do any of the following:

- (1) Make or alter any object so that it appears to have value because of antiquity, rarity, curiosity, source, or authorship, which it does not in fact possess;
- (2) Practice deception in making, retouching, editing, or reproducing any photograph, movie film, video tape, phonograph record, or recording tape;
- (3) Falsely or fraudulently make, simulate, forge, alter, or counterfeit any wrapper, label, stamp, cork, or cap prescribed by the Liquor Control Commission under Ohio R.C. Chapters 4301 and 4303, falsely or fraudulently cause to be made, simulated, forged, altered, or counterfeited any wrapper, label, stamp, cork, or cap prescribed by the Liquor Control Commission under Ohio R.C. Chapters 4301 and 4303, or use more than once any wrapper, label, stamp, cork, or cap prescribed by the Liquor Control Commission under Ohio R.C. Chapters 4301 and 4303.
- (4) Utter, or possess with purpose to utter, any object that the person knows to have been simulated as provided in subsection (a)(1), (2) or (3) of this section.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of criminal simulation, a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the loss to the victim is one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more, criminal simulation is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law. (ORC 2913.32)

**945.14 TAMPERING WITH RECORDS.**

(a) No person, knowing the person has no privilege to do so, and with purpose to defraud or knowing that the person is facilitating a fraud, shall do any of the following:

- (1) Falsify, destroy, remove, conceal, alter, deface or mutilate any writing, computer software, data, or record;
- (2) Utter any writing or record, knowing it to have been tampered with as provided in subsection (a)(1) hereof.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of tampering with records, a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the violation involves data or computer software the value of which or loss to the victim is one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more, or if the writing or record is a will unrevoked at the time of the offense, tampering with records is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law. (ORC 2913.42)

**945.15 SECURING WRITINGS BY DECEPTION.**

(a) No person, by deception, shall cause another to execute any writing that disposes of or encumbers property, or by which a pecuniary obligation is incurred.

### 1311.05 NON-RESIDENTIAL NEW CONSTRUCTION AND ADDITIONS PERMITS FEES.

**Table 1311.05 Non Residential Non Residential Structure and Use Permit Fees <sup>a,b,c</sup>**

		New Construction <sup>a,c</sup>	Additions <sup>a, c</sup>	3% BBS FEE <sup>b</sup>
A	BUILDING PERMIT	GA X SFCT = PF	GA X SFCT = PF	YES
B	ELECTRICAL PERMIT	12% X PF	12% X PF	YES
C	PLUMBING PERMIT	12% X PF	12% X PF	YES
D	HVAC PERMIT	12% X PF	12% X PF	YES
E	BUILDING PLAN REVIEW FEE	See 1311.02		YES
F	ENGINEERING REVIEW FEE	See 1311.04		NO
G	CONNECTION TO SANITARY SEWER	See 1311.06		NO
H	CONNECTION TO STORM SEWER	See 1311.06		NO
I	WATER TAP-IN FEE	See 1311.06		NO
J	CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY	See 1311.06		YES

- a. Building Valuation Data or "BVD" published by the International Code Council utilizes the "average construction costs per square foot table" and is one of the factors used for determining permit cost in the City of Berea. The average construction cost per square foot table presents factors that reflect relative value of one construction classification/occupancy group to another so that more expensive construction is assessed greater permit fees than less expensive construction.
- b. A 3% tax is added to the building, electrical, mechanical and plumbing permits that are governed by the Residential Code of Ohio, pursuant to H.B. 175 and sections 103.2.4.2 and 103.2.4.1 of Rule 4101:8-1-03 of the Ohio Administrative Code adopted by the Board of Building Standards.
- c. Refer to the Building Value Range Table 1311.01 for appropriate permit fees.  
(Ord. 2019-6. Passed 2-4-19.)

**1311.06 NON-RESIDENTIAL ALTERATION, RENOVATIONS AND  
MISCELLANEOUS BUILDING PERMITS FEES.**

		BASE FEE	SQUARE FOOTAGE FEE	3% BBS FEE
A	ALTERATION & RENOVATION	\$500.00	SQ.FT./100 X \$5.00	YES
B	WRECKING, DEMOLITION OR RAZING	\$500.00	SQ.FT./100 X \$5.00	YES
C	MOVING STRUCTURE	\$1000.00	SQ.FT./100 X \$20.00	YES
1	ACCESSORY STRUCTURE	\$20.00 PER STRUCTURE		
D	CONNECTION TO SANITARY SEWER	\$2000.00		NO
E	CONNECTION TO STORM SEWER	\$2000.00		NO
F	WATER TAP-IN FEE	\$2500.00		NO
G	CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY	\$100.00	SQ.FT./100 X .40	YES
H	ROOFING	\$100.00	SQ.FT./500 X \$10.00	YES
I	SIDING	\$100.00	SQ. FT./500 X \$10.00	YES
J	WINDOW REPLACEMENT	\$100.00	\$5.00 PER OPENING	YES
K	DOOR REPLACEMENT	\$100.00	\$5.00 PER OPENING	YES
L	GUTTERS	\$100.00		YES
M	ACCESSORY BUILDING	\$100.00		YES
N	FENCE	\$100.00		YES
O	PARKING LOT PAVING, RESURFACE, NEW & REPLACEMENT (CONCRETE/ASPHALT)	\$200.00	SQ. FT./1000 X \$4.00	YES
P	DRIVEWAY (CONCRETE/ASPHALT)	\$100.00		YES
Q	APRON	\$100.00		YES
R	SIDEWALK	\$50.00	.40 PER LINEAL FT.	YES
S	WALKWAYS	\$50.00	.40 PER LINEAL FT.	YES
T	STORM WATER/CATCH BASIN	\$25.00 PER BASIN		YES
U	RETAINING WALL	\$100.00		YES
V	WATERPROOFING/WATER CONTROL	\$100.00		YES

W	UNDERGROUND SANITARY SEWER REPLACEMENT	\$100.00	\$20.00 PER 100 FT. OF PIPE	YES
X	UNDERGROUND STORM SEWER REPLACEMENT	\$100.00	\$20.00 PER 100 FT. OF PIPE	YES
Y	UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS	\$250.00		YES
1	PLUS \$5.00 FEE FOR EACH 1000 GAL. CAPACITY OR FRACTION THEREOF			
Z	ABOVEGROUND STORAGE TANKS	\$200.00		YES
1	PLUS \$5.00 FEE FOR EACH 1000 GAL. CAPACITY OR FRACTION THEREOF			
AA	PERMANENT SIGNS	\$100.00	\$5.00 PER 10 SQ. FT. OF SIGNAGE	YES
BB	TEMPORARY SIGN	\$100.00	PLUS \$1.00 FOR EACH DAY OVER 10 DAYS	NO
CC	BULK WATER	\$50.00		NO

(Ord. 2022-12. Passed 4-4-22.)

### 1311.07 NON-RESIDENTIAL MISCELLANEOUS ELECTRICAL PERMIT FEES.

		BASE FEE	SQUARE FOOTAGE FEE	3% BBS FEE
A	ALTERATIONS & RENOVATIONS	\$250.00	SQ.FT./100 X \$10.00	YES
B	NEW ELECTRICAL SERVICE	\$250.00		YES
C	TEMPORARY ELECTRICAL SERVICE	\$150.00		YES
D	ELECTRIC PANEL & SUB PANEL	\$100.00	PER PANEL	YES
E	RESTORE ELECTRICAL SERVICE INSPECTION	\$100.00		
F	GENERATOR	\$200.00		YES
G	SOLAR ENERGY	\$200.00	SQ.FT./100 X \$10.00	YES
H	MISCELLANEOUS ELECTRICAL WORK	\$200.00		YES
I	WIND ENERGY	\$200.00	OVERALL HEIGHT INCLUDING WIND GENERATOR X \$3.00	YES

(Ord. 2020-06. Passed 2-18-20.)

**1311.08 NON-RESIDENTIAL MISCELLANEOUS PLUMBING PERMIT FEES.**

		BASE FEE	SQUARE FOOTAGE FEE	3% BBS FEE
A	ALTERATIONS & RENOVATIONS	\$200.00	SQ.FT./100 X \$8.00	YES
B	WATER SUPPLY LINES	\$60.00	\$10.00 PER LINEAL FT.	YES
C	WATER DRAIN LINES	\$60.00	\$10.00 PER LINEAL FT.	YES
D	GAS LINE	\$100.00	\$10.00 PER LINEAL FT.	YES
E	HOT WATER TANK	\$100.00		YES
1	OVER 150 AND UP TO AND INCLUDING 300 GAL. CAPACITY	\$110.00		YES
2	OVER 300 GAL. CAPACITY	\$130.00		YES
F	BACK FLOW VALVE	\$60.00		YES
G	WATER METER FEES: ACTUAL COST TO THE CITY FOR METER + MTU CHARGE			

(Ord. 2022-13. Passed 4-4-22.)

**1311.09 NON-RESIDENTIAL MISCELLANEOUS HVAC PERMIT FEES.**

		BASE FEE	SQUARE FOOTAGE FEE	3% BBS
A	ALTERATIONS & RENOVATIONS	\$200.00	SQ. FT./100 X \$8.00	YES
B	INDIVIDUAL HEATING EQUIPMENT, UNIT OR STRUCTURE	\$200.00		YES
1	UP TO AND INCLUDING 150,000 BTU	\$30.00 EACH UNIT		YES
2	OVER 150,000 BTU	\$40.00 EACH UNIT		YES
3	PLUS A FEE FOR EACH 100,000 BTU	\$10.00 EACH UNIT		YES

**1312.04 RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMITS.**

		BASE FEE	SQUARE FOOTAGE FEE	1% BBS FEE
A	NEW CONSTRUCTION	\$500.00	SQ. FT. x \$0.10	Y
1	CONNECTION TO SANITARY SEWER	\$1,000.00		N
2	CONNECTION TO STORM SEWER	\$1,000.00		N
3	WATER TAP-IN FEE	\$1,500.00		N
B	ALTERATIONS, ADDITIONS & RENOVATION	\$100.00	SQ. FT. X \$0.10	Y
C	WRECKING, DEMOLITION OR RAZING			
1	DEMOLITION HOUSE	\$200.00		Y
2	DEMOLITION ACCESSORY STRUCTURE	\$50.00		Y
D	MOVING STRUCTURE			
1	MOVING STRUCTURE	\$250.00		Y
2	MOVING ACCESSORY STRUCTURE	\$50.00		Y
E	BULK WATER			
1	BULK WATER	\$50.00		N

(Ord. 2022-12. Passed 4-4-22.)

**1312.05 RESIDENTIAL MISCELLANEOUS BUILDING PERMITS.**

		BASE FEE	SQUARE FOOTAGE FEE	1% BBS FEE
A	ROOFING	\$50.00		Y
B	SIDING	\$50.00		Y
C	WINDOW REPLACEMENT	\$50.00		Y
D	DOOR REPLACEMENT	\$50.00		Y
E	GUTTER	\$50.00		Y
F	ACCESSORY STRUCTURE	\$50.00		Y
G	DECKS	\$50.00		Y
H	FENCE	\$50.00		Y
I	PERGOLA	\$50.00		Y
J	TRELLIS	\$50.00		Y
K	DRIVEWAY (CONCRETE ASPHALT)	\$50.00		Y
L	APRON	\$50.00		Y
M	PATIO	\$50.00		Y
N	SIDEWALK	\$50.00		Y
O	WALKWAY	\$50.00		Y
P	GARAGE FLOOR REPLACEMENT	\$50.00		Y
Q	SWIMMING POOLS, HOT TUB, DECORATIVE FOUNTAIN	\$50.00		Y
R	RETAINING WALL	\$50.00		Y
S	WATER PROOFING	\$50.00		Y
T	WATER CONTROL	\$50.00		Y
U	UNDERGROUND SANITARY SEWER	\$50.00	PER 100 FT. \$10.00	Y
V	UNDERGROUND STORM SEWER	\$50.00	PER 100 FT. \$10.00	Y

(Ord. 2018-17. Passed 4-2-18.)

**1312.06 RESIDENTIAL ELECTRICAL PERMITS.**

		BASE FEE	SQUARE FOOTAGE FEE	1% BBS FEE
A	NEW CONSTRUCTION & ADDITIONS	\$150.00	SQ. FT./100 X \$0.17	Y
B	ALTERATIONS & RENOVATION	\$50.00	SQ. FT./100 X \$0.16	Y
C	TEMPORARY ELECTRIC SERVICE	\$75.00		Y
D	NEW ELECTRIC SERVICE	\$125.00		Y
E	ELECTRIC PANEL, SUB PANEL, RESTORE POWER	\$50.00		Y
F	GENERATOR	\$125.00		Y
G	SOLAR ENERGY	\$125.00	SQ. FT. X \$0.12	Y

(Ord. 2020-06. Passed 2-18-20.)

**1312.07 RESIDENTIAL PLUMBING PERMITS.**

		BASE FEE	SQUARE FOOTAGE FEE	1% BBS FEE
A	NEW CONSTRUCTION & ADDITIONS	\$150.00	SQ. FT. X \$0.12	Y
B	ALTERATIONS & RENOVATION	\$50.00	SQ. FT. X \$0.11	Y
C	HOT WATER HEATER	\$50.00		Y
D	WATER SUPPLY LINES	\$30.00	PER 100 FT. \$10.00	Y
E	WATER DRAIN LINES	\$30.00	PER 100 FT. \$10.00	Y
F	GAS LINE	\$50.00	PER 100 FT. \$10.00	Y
G	WATER METER FEES: ACTUAL COST TO THE CITY FOR METER + MTU CHARGE			

(Ord. 2022-13. Passed 4-4-22.)

**1312.08 RESIDENTIAL HVAC PERMITS.**

		BASE FEE	SQUARE FOOTAGE FEE	1% BBS FEE
A	NEW CONSTRUCTION & ADDITIONS	\$150.00	SQ. FT. X \$0.03	Y
B	ALTERATIONS & RENOVATION	\$50.00	SQ. FT. X \$0.02	Y
C*	FURNACE	\$75.00		Y
D*	AIR CONDITIONING COMPRESSOR	\$75.00		Y
E*	HEAT PUMP	\$75.00		Y

(Ord. 2018-17. Passed 4-2-18.)

**1312.09 CHANGE IN RESIDENTIAL PLANS, WORK STARTED WITHOUT PERMITS, AND RE-INSPECTION FEE.**

A	CHANGE IN PLANS:	50% OF ORIGINAL FEE		
	WHEN MAJOR REVISIONS ARE DECIDED ON AFTER THE ORIGINAL CONSTRUCTION PERMIT(S) HAVE BEEN ISSUED FOR PERMITS ISSUED UNDER SECTION 1311.01 THRU 1311.08, AN ADDITIONAL FEE OF THE ORIGINAL CONSTRUCTION PERMIT FEE(S) SHALL BE COLLECTED FOR CONSIDERATION OF SUCH REVISIONS			
B	WORK STARTED WITHOUT PERMITS:	Double Fee		
	WHEN WORK HAS STARTED PRIOR TO OBTAINING THE NECESSARY PERMITS REQUIRED UNDER SECTION 1311.01 THRU 1311.08, THE PERMIT FEE(S) SHALL BE DOUBLED THE COST FOR ALL PERMITS REQUIRED			
C	RE-INSPECTION:	\$25.00 PER INSPECTION		
	WHEN AN INSPECTION IS REQUESTED AND IS MADE AND THE WORK IS FOUND TO BE EITHER INCOMPLETE OR NOT IN CONFORMITY WITH THE APPLICABLE CODE(S) OR WITH ANY APPROVED SPECIFICATIONS OR PLANS, A CHARGE SHALL BE MADE FOR REINSPECTION FOUND NECESSARY BY THE BUILDING INSPECTOR			

(Ord. 2018-17. Passed 4-2-18.)

In making a determination, the City may rely on information provided by the applicant and in public records. The City shall conduct an exterior property maintenance inspection of the property at least once every other year.

(d) Fee. The fee charged for a Leasing Permit application shall be \$60 per year. The fee shall be paid at the time the Leasing Permit Application is filed.  
(Ord. 2018-33. Passed 5-21-18.)

#### **1331.04 DENIAL OR REVOCATION OF PERMIT - APPEAL.**

(a) An applicant who has been denied a Leasing Permit for any of the reasons stated in subsection 1331.03 (c)(1) - (5) above, may within five (5) business days of receipt of notice of a denial, request that the Director of Public Safety or her designee reconsider the permit application. The Director of Public Safety or her designee shall review and reconsider the permit application and send a written decision, by regular mail, within seven (7) business days.

(b) If a Leasing Permit is denied due to subsection 1331.03(c)(6) or a leasing permit revoked due to a nuisance condition, the applicant may request an administrative hearing before a Nuisance Adjudication Hearing Officer, in accordance with 1331.05.

(c) A Leasing Permit may be revoked if any false statement is made by the applicant in connection with the issuance of such permit, for substantial noncompliance of any requirement set forth in Part 13 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Berea. Except in cases involving a revocation due to a nuisance condition, an applicant may appeal a permit revocation to the Director of Public Safety or her designee within five (5) business days of receipt of notice of a permit revocation. The Director of Public Safety or her designee shall review and reconsider the circumstances leading to the revocation and send a written decision, by regular mail, within seven (7) business days.

(d) Any applicant who has been adversely affected by a decision of the Director of Public Safety or her designee, may seek further appeal to the Municipal Planning Commission in accordance with the procedure contained in Chapter 103 of the Zoning Code of the City of Berea.  
(Ord. 2018-33. Passed 5-21-18.)

#### **1331.05 NUISANCE CONDITIONS AT LEASED PROPERTIES PROHIBITED - PROCEDURES - NUISANCE HEARING OFFICER.**

(a) The following activities occurring on any privately-owned lot that is subject to Chapter 1331, or within thirty (30) feet from the property line of same, and engaged in by an owner, occupant, tenant, guest or invitee of one lawfully residing or occupying the premises or establishment on the subject lot, are hereby declared to be nuisances:

- (1) Any act that would constitute a violation of any section of Part Nine "General Offense" of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Berea, or any similar Ohio Revised Code provision, except any act that would constitute an offense against a family member in violation of a provision of Chapter 937 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Berea or Chapter 2919 of the Ohio Revised Code or a person in a dating relationship, as defined in Section 3113.31 of the Revised Code;
- (2) Any act that would constitute a violation of Chapter 321 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Berea, Garbage and Rubbish or similar Ohio Revised Code provision;

- (3) Any act that would constitute a violation of Chapter 327 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Berea, Trees and Weeds or similar Ohio Revised Code provision;
- (4) Any act that would constitute a violation of Chapter 1329 of the Building Code of the City of Berea, Exterior Maintenance or similar Ohio Revised Code provision;
- (5) Any act that would constitute a felony under the Ohio Revised Code except any act that would constitute an offense against a family member in violation of any provision of Chapter 2919 of the Ohio Revised Code or a person in a dating relationship, as defined in Section 3113.31.

(b) The Director of Public Safety or a designee, upon finding that one or more nuisance activities declared in subsection (a) herein above have occurred within thirty (30) feet of any property line of the same premises, may cause a written warning letter to be sent via regular mail to the last known address of the property owner declaring that such property may be declared a nuisance property upon continued violations. A copy of the warning letter shall also be sent via regular mail to the subject property addressed to the occupant(s).

The Director of Public Safety or a designee, upon finding that two (2) or more nuisance activities declared in subsection (a) above have occurred within the twenty-four (24) month period immediately preceding the second nuisance activity, at or within thirty (30) feet of any property line of the subject premises, shall cause written notice and order to be sent via regular mail to the last known address of the property owner declaring that such property may be subject to the nuisance law upon a third or subsequent offense. A copy of the notice and order shall also be sent by regular mail to the subject property, addressed to the occupant(s).

The notice and order shall set forth the nature of the nuisance(s), the estimated cost to abate any future nuisance(s), and state that the owner may avoid being charged the cost of abatement by the City by taking steps to prevent any further nuisance activity. The notice and order shall also state that if a third or subsequent nuisance activities occurs within twenty-four (24) months of the date of the first nuisance activity, the City may abate the nuisance by responding to the activities using administrative and law enforcement actions, and the costs of such abatement shall be assessed to the nuisance property.

(c) If within twenty-four (24) months after the occurrence of the first of the two previous nuisance conditions, a third or subsequent nuisance activity occurs, the City may declare the property a criminal nuisance and abate the nuisance by responding to the activity using administrative and law enforcement actions, with the cost calculated as set forth in subsection (d) of this section. The cost of such abatement may be assessed on the nuisance property, and notice to the owner of the nuisance property of the City's intent to assess the costs of abatement against the owner's property at least thirty (30) days before such costs are certified to the County for assessment against the property, and such notice shall contain a description of the nuisance activity that is the basis for the notice of intent to assess the property, and the cost to abate. Notice shall be sent by regular mail to the last known address of the property owner and posted on the subject property. (Ord. 2021-29. Passed 6-21-21.)

(d) Costs of Abatement shall be based upon the hourly wage of each City employee involved in the enforcement and abatement of the nuisance activity, plus 75 %, to recoup the costs of fuel, materials, vehicle and equipment depreciation and other related expenses, multiplied by the number of hours expended by City employees required to abate the nuisance plus the additional direct cost to the City if abatement activities were performed by an outside contractor. The minimum cost of abatement shall be seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00) per incident. Any portion of time less than one hour shall be rounded up to the next whole hour.

## CHAPTER 1519 Fireworks

<b>1519.01</b>	<b>Definitions.</b>	<b>1519.05</b>	<b>Application.</b>
<b>1519.02</b>	<b>Public exhibition permit required; fee; bond; records.</b>	<b>1519.06</b>	<b>Safety requirements for fireworks showroom structures.</b>
<b>1519.03</b>	<b>Unlawful conduct by exhibitor.</b>	<b>1519.99</b>	<b>Penalty.</b>
<b>1519.04</b>	<b>Possession, sale or discharge prohibited; exceptions.</b>		

### CROSS REFERENCES

Manufacturers to comply with building and zoning ordinances - see Ohio R.C. 3743.06(F)  
 Wholesalers to comply with building and zoning ordinances - see Ohio R.C. 3743.19(G)  
 Arrests, seizure of fireworks by certified fire safety inspector - see Ohio R.C. 3743.68  
 Conflict of Fire Marshal's rules with rules of Ohio Board of Building Standards - see Ohio R.C. 3781.11(D)

### **1519.01 DEFINITIONS.**

As used in this chapter:

- (a) "Beer" and "intoxicating liquor" have the same meanings as in section 4301.01 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- (b) "Booby trap" means a small tube that has a string protruding from both ends, that has a friction-sensitive composition, and that is ignited by pulling the ends of the string.
- (c) "Cigarette load" means a small wooden peg that is coated with a small quantity of explosive composition and that is ignited in a cigarette.
- (d) (1) "1.3G fireworks" means display fireworks consistent with regulations of the United States department of transportation as expressed using the designation "division 1.3" in Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations.  
 (2) "1.4G fireworks" means consumer fireworks consistent with regulations of the United States department of transportation as expressed using the designation "division 1.4" in Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations.
- (e) "Controlled substance" has the same meaning as in section 3719.01 of the Ohio Revised Code.

- (f) "Fireworks" means any composition or device prepared for the purpose of producing a visible or an audible effect by combustion, deflagration, or detonation, except ordinary matches and except as provided in section 3743.80 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- (g) "Fireworks plant" means all buildings and other structures in which the manufacturing of fireworks, or the storage or sale of manufactured fireworks by a manufacturer, takes place.
- (h) "Fountain device" means a specific type of 1.4G firework that meets all of the following criteria:
  - (1) It is nonaerial and nonreport producing.
  - (2) It is recognized and manufactured in accordance with sections 3.1.1 and 3.5 of APA standard 87-1 (2001 edition).
  - (3) It is a ground-based or hand-held sparkler with one or more tubes containing a nonexplosive pyrotechnic mixture that produces a shower of sparks upon ignition, with or without additional effects that may include a colored flame, audible crackling effect, audible whistle effect, or smoke.
  - (4) It contains not more than seventy-five grams of the nonexplosive pyrotechnic mixture in any individual tube and not more than five hundred grams or less for multiple tubes.
- (i) "Highway" means any public street, road, alley, way, lane, or other public thoroughfare.
- (j) "Licensed exhibitor of fireworks" or "licensed exhibitor" means a person licensed pursuant to sections 3743.50 to 3743.55 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- (k) "Licensed fountain device retailer" or "licensed retailer" means a person licensed pursuant to section 3743.26 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- (l) "Licensed manufacturer of fireworks" or "licensed manufacturer" means a person licensed pursuant to sections 3743.02 to 3743.08 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- (m) "Licensed wholesaler of fireworks" or "licensed wholesaler" means a person licensed pursuant to sections 3743.15 to 3743.21 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- (n) "List of licensed exhibitors" means the list required by division (C) of section 3743.51 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- (o) "List of licensed manufacturers" means the list required by division (C) of section 3743.03 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- (p) "List of licensed wholesalers" means the list required by division (C) of section 3743.16 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- (q) "Manufacturing of fireworks" means the making of fireworks from raw materials, none of which in and of themselves constitute a fireworks, or the processing of fireworks.
- (r) "Navigable waters" means any body of water susceptible of being used in its ordinary condition as a highway of commerce over which trade and travel is or may be conducted in the customary modes, but does not include a body of water that is not capable of navigation by barges, tugboats, and other large vessels.
- (s) "Novelties and trick noisemakers" include the following items:
  - (1) Devices that produce a small report intended to surprise the user, including, but not limited to, booby traps, cigarette loads, party poppers, and snappers;
  - (2) Snakes or glow worms;
  - (3) Smoke devices;
  - (4) Trick matches.

- (t) "Party popper" means a small plastic or paper item that contains not more than sixteen milligrams of friction-sensitive explosive composition, that is ignited by pulling a string protruding from the item, and from which paper streamers are expelled when the item is ignited.
- (u) "Processing of fireworks" means the making of fireworks from materials all or part of which in and of themselves constitute a fireworks, but does not include the mere packaging or repackaging of fireworks.
- (v) "Railroad" means any railway or railroad that carries freight or passengers for hire, but does not include auxiliary tracks, spurs, and sidings installed and primarily used in serving a mine, quarry, or plant.
- (w) "Retail sale" or "sell at retail" means a sale of fireworks to a purchaser who intends to use the fireworks, and not resell them.
- (x) "Smoke device" means a tube or sphere that contains pyrotechnic composition that, upon ignition, produces white or colored smoke as the primary effect.
- (y) "Snake or glow worm" means a device that consists of a pressed pellet of pyrotechnic composition that produces a large, snake-like ash upon burning, which ash expands in length as the pellet burns.
- (z) "Snapper" means a small, paper-wrapped item that contains a minute quantity of explosive composition coated on small bits of sand, and that, when dropped, implodes.
- (aa) "Trick match" means a kitchen or book match that is coated with a small quantity of explosive composition and that, upon ignition, produces a small report or a shower of sparks.
- (bb) "Wire sparkler" means a sparkler consisting of a wire or stick coated with a nonexplosive pyrotechnic mixture that produces a shower of sparks upon ignition and that contains no more than one hundred grams of this mixture.
- (cc) "Wholesale sale" or "sell at wholesale" means a sale of fireworks to a purchaser who intends to resell the fireworks so purchased.
- (dd) "Licensed premises" means the real estate upon which a licensed manufacturer or wholesaler of fireworks conducts business.
- (ee) "Licensed building" means a building on the licensed premises of a licensed manufacturer or wholesaler of fireworks that is approved for occupancy by the building official having jurisdiction.
- (ff) "Fireworks incident" means any action or omission that occurs at a fireworks exhibition, that results in injury or death, or a substantial risk of injury or death, to any person, and that involves either of the following:
  - (1) The handling or other use, or the results of the handling or other use, of fireworks or associated equipment or other materials;
  - (2) The failure of any person to comply with any applicable requirement imposed by this chapter or any applicable rule adopted under this chapter.
- (gg) "Discharge site" means an area immediately surrounding the mortars used to fire aerial shells.
- (hh) "Fireworks incident site" means a discharge site or other location at a fireworks exhibition where a fireworks incident occurs, a location where an injury or death associated with a fireworks incident occurs, or a location where evidence of a fireworks incident or an injury or death associated with a fireworks incident is found.

- (ii) "Storage location" means a single parcel or contiguous parcels of real estate approved by the state fire marshal pursuant to division (I) of section 3743.04 of the Ohio Revised Code or division (F) of section 3743.17 of the Ohio Revised Code that are separate from a licensed premises containing a retail showroom, and which parcel or parcels a licensed manufacturer or wholesaler of fireworks may use only for the distribution, possession, and storage of fireworks in accordance with this chapter.  
(ORC 3743.01)

**1519.02 PUBLIC EXHIBITION PERMIT REQUIRED; FEE; BOND;  
RECORDS.**

(a) A licensed exhibitor of fireworks who wishes to conduct a public fireworks exhibition within the Municipality shall apply for approval to conduct the exhibition to the Fire Chief and from the Police Chief or other similar chief law enforcement officer, or the designee of the Police Chief or similar chief law enforcement officer.

The required approval shall be evidenced by the Fire Chief or Fire Prevention Officer and by the Police Chief or other similar chief law enforcement officer, or the designee of the Police Chief or similar chief law enforcement officer, signing a permit for the exhibition, the form for which shall be prescribed by the State Fire Marshal. Any exhibitor of fireworks who wishes to conduct a public fireworks exhibition may obtain a copy of the form from the Fire Marshal or, if it is available, from the Fire Chief, Fire Prevention Officer, Police Chief or other similar chief law enforcement officer, or the designee of the Police Chief or similar chief law enforcement officer.

(b) Before a permit is signed and issued to a licensed exhibitor of fireworks, the Fire Chief or Fire Prevention Officer in consultation with the Police Chief or other similar chief law enforcement officer, or a designee of such Police Chief or similar chief law enforcement officer, shall inspect the premises on which the exhibition will take place and shall determine that, in fact, the applicant for the permit is a licensed exhibitor of fireworks. Each applicant shall show the applicant's license as an exhibitor of fireworks to the Fire Chief or Fire Prevention Officer.

The Fire Chief or Fire Prevention Officer and the Police Chief or other similar chief law enforcement officer, or a designee of such Police Chief or similar chief law enforcement officer, shall give approval to conduct a public fireworks exhibition only if satisfied, based on the inspection, that the premises on which the exhibition will be conducted allow the exhibitor to comply with the rules adopted by the Fire Marshal pursuant to Ohio R.C. 3743.53(B) and (E) and that the applicant is, in fact, a licensed exhibitor of fireworks. The Fire Chief or Fire Prevention Officer in consultation with the Police Chief or other similar chief law enforcement officer, or a designee of such Police Chief or similar chief law enforcement officer, may inspect the premises immediately prior to the exhibition to determine if the exhibitor has complied with the rules, and may revoke the permit for noncompliance with the rules.

(c) The Fire Chief or Fire Prevention Officer and the Police Chief or other similar chief law enforcement officer, or a designee of such Police Chief or similar chief law enforcement officer, shall not issue a permit until the applicant pays a permit fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) plus any necessary costs of investigation of the applicant and of inspecting the premises on which the exhibition will be conducted.

Each exhibitor shall provide an indemnity bond in the amount of at least one million dollars (\$1,000,000), with surety satisfactory to the Fire Chief or Fire Prevention Officer and to Police Chief or other similar chief law enforcement officer, or a designee of such Police Chief or similar chief law enforcement officer, conditioned for the payment of all final judgments that may be rendered against the exhibitor on account of injury, death or loss to persons or property emanating from the fireworks exhibition, or proof of insurance coverage of at least one million dollars (\$1,000,000) for liability arising from injury, death or loss to persons or property emanating from the fireworks exhibition. The Legislative Authority may require the exhibitor to provide an indemnity bond or proof of insurance coverage in amounts greater than those required by this subsection. The Fire Chief or Fire Prevention Officer and Police Chief or other similar chief law enforcement officer, or a designee of such Police Chief or similar chief law enforcement officer, shall not issue a permit until the exhibitor provides the bond or proof of the insurance coverage required by this subsection.

- (d) (1) Each permit for a fireworks exhibition issued by the Fire Chief or Fire Prevention Officer and by the Police Chief or other similar chief law enforcement officer, or a designee of such Police Chief or similar chief law enforcement officer, shall contain a distinct number, designate the Municipality, and identify the certified Fire Safety Inspector, Fire Chief or Fire Prevention Officer who will be present before, during, and after the exhibition, where appropriate. A copy of each permit issued shall be forwarded by the Fire Chief or Fire Prevention Officer and by the Police Chief or other similar chief law enforcement officer, or a designee of such Police Chief or similar chief law enforcement officer, issuing it to the Fire Marshal, who shall keep a record of the permits received. A permit is not transferable or assignable.
- (2) The Fire Chief, Fire Prevention Officer and Police Chief or other similar chief law enforcement officer, or a designee of such Police Chief or similar chief law enforcement officer, shall keep a record of issued permits for fireworks exhibitions. In this list, the Fire Chief, Fire Prevention Officer, Police Chief or other similar chief law enforcement officer, or a designee of such Police Chief or similar chief law enforcement officer, shall list the name of the exhibitor, the exhibitor's license number, the premises on which the exhibition will be conducted, the date and time of the exhibition and the number of the permit issued to the exhibitor for the exhibition.

(e) The governing authority having jurisdiction in the location where an exhibition is to take place shall require that a certified Fire Safety Inspector, Fire Chief, or Fire Prevention Officer be present before, during, and after the exhibition, and shall require the certified Fire Safety Inspector, Fire Chief, or Fire Prevention Officer to inspect the premises where the exhibition is to take place and determine whether the exhibition is in compliance with this chapter and Ohio R.C. Chapter 3743. (ORC 3743.54)

#### **1519.03 UNLAWFUL CONDUCT BY EXHIBITOR.**

(a) No licensed exhibitor of fireworks shall fail to comply with the applicable requirements of the rules adopted by the Fire Marshal pursuant to Ohio R.C. 3743.53(B) and (E) or to comply with Divisions (C) and (D) of that section.

(b) No licensed exhibitor of fireworks shall conduct a fireworks exhibition unless a permit has been secured for the exhibition pursuant to Section 1519.02 or if a permit so secured is revoked by the Fire Chief or Fire Prevention Officer in consultation with the Police Chief or other similar chief law enforcement official or a designee of such Police Chief or other similar law enforcement official pursuant to that section.

(c) No licensed exhibitor of fireworks shall acquire fireworks for use at a fireworks exhibition other than in accordance with Ohio R.C. 3743.54 and 3743.55.

(d) No licensed exhibitor of fireworks or other person associated with the conduct of a fireworks exhibition shall have possession or control of, or be under the influence of, any intoxicating liquor, beer or controlled substance while on the premises on which the exhibition is being conducted.

(e) No licensed exhibitor of fireworks shall permit an employee to assist the licensed exhibitor in conducting fireworks exhibitions unless the employee is registered with the Fire Marshal under Ohio R.C. 3743.56. (ORC 3743.64)

#### **1519.04 POSSESSION, SALE OR DISCHARGE PROHIBITED; EXCEPTIONS.**

(a) No person shall possess fireworks in this Municipality or shall possess for sale or sell fireworks in this Municipality, except a licensed manufacturer of fireworks as authorized by Ohio R.C. 3743.02 to 3743.08, a licensed wholesaler of fireworks as authorized by Ohio R.C. 3743.15 to 3743.21, a shipping permit holder as authorized by Ohio R.C. 3743.40, an out-of-state resident as authorized by Ohio R.C. 3743.44, a resident of this State as authorized by Ohio R.C. 3743.45, or a licensed exhibitor of fireworks as authorized by Ohio R.C. 3743.50 to 3743.55 and Section 1519.02 and except as provided in Section 1519.05.

(b) Except as provided in Section 1519.05 and except for licensed exhibitors of fireworks authorized to conduct a fireworks exhibition pursuant to Ohio R.C. 3743.50 to 3743.55 and Section 1519.02, no person shall discharge, ignite or explode any fireworks in this Municipality.

(c) No person shall use in a theater or public hall, what is technically known as fireworks showers, or a mixture containing potassium chlorate and sulphur.

(d) No person shall sell fireworks of any kind to a person under eighteen years of age. No person under eighteen years of age shall enter a fireworks sales showroom unless that person is accompanied by a parent, legal guardian, or other responsible adult. No person under eighteen years of age shall touch or possess fireworks on a licensed premises without the consent of the licensee. A licensee may eject any person from a licensed premises that is in any way disruptive to the safe operation of the premises.

(e) Except as otherwise provided in Ohio R.C. 3743.44, no person, other than a licensed manufacturer, licensed wholesaler, licensed exhibitor, or shipping permit holder, shall possess 1.3 G fireworks.  
(ORC 3743.65)

#### **1519.05 APPLICATION.**

This chapter does not prohibit or apply to the following:

- (a) The manufacture, sale, possession, transportation, storage or use in emergency situations, of pyrotechnic signaling devices and distress signals for marine, aviation or highway use;

- (b) The manufacture, sale, possession, transportation, storage or use of fuses, torpedoes or other signals necessary for the safe operation of railroads;
- (c) The manufacture, sale, possession, transportation, storage or use of blank cartridges in connection with theaters or shows, or in connection with athletics as signals or for ceremonial purposes;
- (d) The manufacture for, the transportation, storage, possession or use by, or the sale to the armed forces of the United States and the militia of this state, as recognized by the Adjutant General of Ohio, of pyrotechnic devices;
- (e) The manufacture, sale, possession, transportation, storage or use of toy pistols, toy canes, toy guns or other devices in which paper or plastic caps containing twenty-five hundredths grains or less of explosive material are used, provided that they are constructed so that a hand cannot come into contact with a cap when it is in place for explosion, or apply to the manufacture, sale, possession, transportation, storage or use of those caps;
- (f) The manufacture, sale, possession, transportation, storage or use of novelties and trick noisemakers, auto burglar alarms or model rockets and model rocket motors designed, sold and used for the purpose of propelling recoverable aero models;
- (g) The manufacture, sale, possession, transportation, storage or use of wire sparklers.
- (h) The conduct of radio-controlled special effect exhibitions that use an explosive black powder charge of not more than one-quarter pound per charge, and that are not connected in any manner to propellant charges, provided that the exhibition complies with all of following:
  - (1) No explosive aerial display is conducted in the exhibition;
  - (2) The exhibition is separated from spectators by not less than two hundred feet;
  - (3) The person conducting the exhibition complies with regulations of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms of the United States Department of the Treasury and the United States Department of Transportation with respect to the storage and transport of the explosive black powder used in the exhibition.  
(ORC 3743.80)

**1519.06 SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR FIREWORKS SHOWROOM STRUCTURES.**

- (a) (1) Except as described in subsection (a)(2) of this section, all retail sales of 1.4G fireworks by a licensed manufacturer or wholesaler shall only occur from an approved retail sales showroom on a licensed premises or from a representative sample showroom as described in this section on a licensed premises. For the purposes of this section, a retail sale includes the transfer of the possession of the 1.4G fireworks from the licensed manufacturer or wholesaler to the purchaser of the fireworks.
- (2) Sales of 1.4G fireworks to a licensed exhibitor for a properly permitted exhibition shall occur in accordance with the provisions of the Ohio Revised Code and rules adopted by the State Fire Marshal under Ohio R.C. Chapter 119. Such rules shall specify, at a minimum, that the licensed exhibitor holds a license under Ohio R.C. 3743.51, that the exhibitor possesses a valid exhibition permit issued in accordance with Ohio R.C. 3743.54, and that the fireworks shipped are to be used at the specifically permitted exhibition.

(b) All wholesale sales of fireworks by a licensed manufacturer or wholesaler shall only occur from a licensed premises to persons who intend to resell the fireworks purchased at wholesale. A wholesale sale by a licensed manufacturer or wholesaler may occur as follows:

- (1) The direct sale and shipment of fireworks to a person outside of this state;
- (2) From an approved retail sales showroom as described in this section;
- (3) From a representative sample showroom as described in this section;
- (4) By delivery of wholesale fireworks to a purchaser at a licensed premises outside of a structure or building on that premises. All other portions of the wholesale sales transaction may occur at any location on a licensed premises.
- (5) Any other method as described in rules adopted by the Fire Marshal under Ohio R.C. Chapter 119.

- (c)
- (1) A licensed manufacturer or wholesaler shall only sell 1.4G fireworks from a representative sample showroom or a retail sales showroom. Each licensed premises shall only contain one sales structure.
  - (2) A representative sample showroom shall consist of a structure constructed and maintained in accordance with the Nonresidential Building Code adopted under Ohio R.C. Chapter 3781 and the Fire Code adopted under Ohio R.C. 3737.82 for a use and occupancy group that permits mercantile sales. A representative sample showroom shall not contain any pyrotechnics, pyrotechnic materials, fireworks, explosives, explosive materials, or any similar hazardous materials or substances. A representative sample showroom shall be used only for the public viewing of fireworks product representations, including paper materials, packaging materials, catalogs, photographs, or other similar product depictions. The delivery of product to a purchaser of fireworks at a licensed premises that has a representative sample structure shall not occur inside any structure on a licensed premises. Such product delivery shall occur on the licensed premises in a manner prescribed by rules adopted by the State Fire Marshal pursuant to Ohio R.C. Chapter 119.
  - (3) If a manufacturer or wholesaler elects to conduct sales from a retail sales showroom, the showroom structures, to which the public may have any access and in which employees are required to work, on all licensed premises, shall comply with the following safety requirements:
    - A. A fireworks showroom that is constructed or upon which expansion is undertaken on and after June 30, 1997, shall be equipped with interlinked fire detection, fire suppression, smoke exhaust, and smoke evacuation systems that are approved by the Superintendent of Industrial Compliance in the Department of Commerce.
    - B.
      1. A fireworks showroom that first begins to operate on or after June 30, 1997, or that resumes operations at any time after a period of inactive status or licensure greater than one year, and to which the public has access for retail purposes shall not exceed 7,500 square feet in floor area.
      2. A fireworks showroom that, through construction of a new showroom, expansion of an existing showroom, or similar means, first exceeds 5,000 square feet, to which the public has access for retail purposes, after February 7, 2022, shall be equipped with a sprinkler system that meets the criteria for sprinkler systems in extra hazard (group 2) occupancies under "NFPA 13, Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems (2019 Edition)".

3. Notwithstanding subsection (d) of this section, the State Fire Marshal may provide a variance to the requirements of subsection (c)(3)B.2. of this section pursuant to Ohio R.C. 3743.59 for a sprinkler system that matches or exceeds the degree of safety provided by a sprinkler system that meets the criteria for sprinkler systems in extra hazard (group 2) occupancies under "NFPA 13, Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems (2019 Edition)".
- C. A newly constructed or an existing fireworks showroom structure that exists on September 23, 2008, but that, on or after September 23, 2008, is altered or added to in a manner requiring the submission of plans, drawings, specifications, or data pursuant to Ohio R.C. 3791.04, shall comply with a graphic floor plan layout that is approved by the State Fire Marshal and Superintendent of Industrial Compliance showing width of aisles, parallel arrangement of aisles to exits, number of exits per wall, maximum occupancy load, evacuation plan for occupants, height of storage or display of merchandise, and other information as may be required by the State Fire Marshal and Superintendent of Industrial Compliance.
- D. A fireworks showroom structure that exists on June 30, 1997, shall be in compliance on or after June 30, 1997, with floor plans showing occupancy load limits and internal circulation and egress patterns that are approved by the State Fire Marshal and Superintendent of Industrial Compliance, and that are submitted under seal as required by Ohio R.C. 3791.04.

(d) The safety requirements established in subsection (c) of this section are not subject to any variance, waiver, or exclusion pursuant to this chapter or any applicable building code. (ORC 3743.25)

**1519.99 PENALTY.**

Whoever violates any provision of this chapter is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree for a first offense and shall be fined not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or imprisoned not more than six months or both. (ORC 3743.99(C))

