



Newport Police Department

169 SW Coast Highway
Newport, Oregon 97365

NPD MEDIA RELEASE

06/19/2012 11:00 a.m.

***Incident:* The City of Newport Updates Business License Requirements**

July 1st marks the beginning of the new fiscal year at which time the City's updates to the business license ordinance will go into effect. These changes will affect all who will be conducting business in the City of Newport in the upcoming year. Many businesses that were not required to obtain a license in the past, might need to do so now. While a large part of the business community might be aware that the City has been working this past year to revise the business license code, some may not be aware of the final changes, and how those changes will affect them. Please find, below, some changes to be noted.

In the past, the fee for a business license varied according to the number of employees in a business, ranging from \$75 to several hundred dollars. The City will now charge a flat annual fee of \$95. While certain circumstances, e.g., non-profit organizations, allow the fee to be waived, a business license must still be obtained.

A business will no longer need a separate license for each location within the City, provided the person is conducting the same, or substantially similar, business at each location. For example, a business that sells art from a gallery on the Bay Front as well as from another gallery in Nye Beach is no longer required to obtain two separate business licenses and pay two annual fees.

Under the new ordinance, persons offering residential or commercial property for rent are required to obtain a business license. If you offer to rent two or more residential properties for 30 days or more (this is a typical month-to-month rental) you

MUST obtain a license. If you only offer to rent only one property as a month-to-month rental, you DO NOT need a business license. If your residential rentals are for periods fewer than 30 days (vacation or short-term rentals), you MUST obtain a business license, even if you have only one rental property.

If you offer for rent ANY commercial property, you are required to obtain a business license. This license is separate from the license for the business that is operating out of the commercial building. For example, if a person is operating an auto repair shop out of a commercial garage that he/she is renting from someone else, the auto repair shop must obtain a business license; the person renting out the commercial building requires a separate business license.

A person renting residential and/or commercial property is required to obtain only one license, regardless of the number of rentals that are offered. The address for each location covered by the business license must be listed on the business license application.

A business license expires every year on July 1st. If you obtained a license a few months ago, you must obtain a new one before July 1.

There is a \$25 application fee for all new businesses. If you allow your license to expire, you will be required to pay the \$25 again.

Anyone in violation of this ordinance may be subject to a fine up to \$500. In order to give people time to adjust to these changes, the City will not issue fines for business license violations until August 1, 2012.

The City will now exert stronger enforcement of business licenses. During the next few months, the community will receive notices and information through various media about changes in the business license ordinance.

If you have any questions or would like more information about changes to the business license ordinance, please call the Community Service Officer Dustin Kittel, at 541-265-4847. You may also read the ordinance on the City's website at www.thecityofnewport.net

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