



Sandusky Fire Department Flame Effect Permit Procedures

The following checklist is to assist performers with the flame effect permit process for the City of Sandusky. NFPA 160 defines a flame effect as the combustion of flammable solids, liquids, or gases to produce thermal, physical, visual, or audible phenomena before an audience.

All performers must have an exhibitor's license from the State of Ohio. This license can be obtained upon proper application to the Division of State Fire Marshal (SFM), including:

- Written documentation demonstrating competency by experience or training in the operation of flame effects.
- Evidence that you do not have any felony convictions in this state or any other state.

The applicant will be scheduled for an examination once a completed application and \$50 fee are submitted. It is a closed book examination and you must attain a minimum grade of seventy percent (70%) to pass and be issued a license. The examination is prepared from the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) section 3743, Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) section 1301:7-7-33, and the referenced editions of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standard 160 (2001 edition).

The application can be downloaded from the following website: www.com.ohio.gov

To obtain copies of the NFPA standards, call (800) 344-3555.

The Sandusky Fire Department Fire Prevention Bureau requires that all flame effect performances require a permit. The Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 1301:7-7-33(L) specifies that:

(1) 3312.1 A permit shall be obtained from the local fire official of the jurisdiction for the use of all indoor and outdoor flame effects before an audience at least **five days** in advance of the production, exhibition, demonstration, or simulation using the flame effects. Failure to submit the permit application prior to five days in advance of the production or noncompliance shall result in denial or revocation of the permit.

(2) 3312.2 Flame effects plans. Before the performance of any production, the permit applicant shall submit a plan for the use of flame effects to the Fire Prevention Bureau. The plan shall be made in writing in such form as is acceptable to the local fire official and shall demonstrate compliance with NFPA 160 listed in rule 1301:7-7-45 of the Administrative Code. The plan shall include but is not limited to the following:

(a) 3312.2.1 The name of the person, group, or organization sponsoring the production;

- (b) 3312.2.2 The date and time of day of the production;
- (c) 3312.2.3 The exact location of the production;
- (d) 3312.2.4 The name of the flame effect exhibitor and proof of valid flame effect exhibitor license issued by the fire marshal;
- (e) 3312.2.5 The number, names, and ages of all assistants that will be present;
- (f) 3312.2.6 The qualifications and experience of the flame effect exhibitor;
- (g) 3312.2.7 The flame effect classification and design criteria in accordance with NFPA 160 listed in rule 1301:7-7-45 of the Administrative Code;
- (h) 3312.2.8 A diagram of the site indicating the location of all flame effect devices, the areas affected by each device, location of the audience and separation distances, means of egress, and information on all fuels and ventilation for each effect;
- (i) 3312.2.9 A narrative description of the flame effect, controls and control sequences of all devices, and emergency response procedures;
- (j) 3312.2.10 A valid Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) for each fuel utilized;
- (k) 3312.2.11 Documentation that the set, scenery, and rigging materials are treated with appropriate flame retardant.
- (3) 3312.3 After a permit has been granted, the permittee shall keep the plan available at the site for safety inspectors or other designated agents of the Sandusky Fire Department.
- (4) 3312.4 Any performance adding flame effects different from the performance described in the permittee's plan shall require approval by the local fire official.

NFPA 160, ORC, & OAC regulatory requirements were implemented to provide protection for the audience, support personnel, performers, the operator, assistants, and property where flame effects are used. These minimum requirements are intended to provide increased safety standards for the safe operation of flame effects.

If you have any questions, please contact the Sandusky Fire Department Fire Prevention Bureau at: 419-627-5823.