



Office of the Chicago City  
Clerk



O2012-652

Office of the City Clerk

City Council Document Tracking Sheet

<b>Meeting Date:</b>	3/14/2012
<b>Sponsor(s):</b>	Zalewski, Michael R. (23)
<b>Type:</b>	Ordinance
<b>Title:</b>	Amendment of Title 4 of Municipal Code to regulate stagehand riggers
<b>Committee(s) Assignment:</b>	Committee on License and Consumer Protection

**ORDINANCE**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO:**

**SECTION 1.** Title IV of the Municipal Code of Chicago is hereby amended by inserting a new Chapter 4-299, as follows:

**CHAPTER 4-299  
STAGEHAND RIGGER**

**4-299-010 Definitions.**

As used in this chapter:

“Apprentice rigger” means any person that holds or is required to hold a Class B apprentice license under this chapter

“Approved” means acceptable to the commissioner.

“Commissioner” means the commissioner of buildings or the commissioner’s designee.

“Department” means the department of buildings.

“Down-rigger” means the rigger on the floor who assembles and attaches the portable gear to the portable rigging equipment secured by the up-rigger.

“Mechanical rigging” means the overhead suspension of any chain hoist, cable hoist, truss system or hydraulic system.

“Rigging” means the temporary installation or operation of portable mechanical rigging or static rigging for the overhead suspension of equipment, including, but not limited to, audio equipment, video equipment, lighting, backdrops, scenery or other effects, in any theater, concert hall, arena, hotel ballroom, outdoor tent, outdoor festival or similar venue, whether indoors or outdoors, in which live events are held. The term “rigging” does not include (1) the operation or transportation of heavy equipment, or (2) freight-handling.

“Static rigging” means the overhead suspension of dead-hung objects weighing 250 pounds or more per point of contact between the building structure and the portable gear.

“Up-rigger” means the overhead rigger who drops the points and secures the portable rigging equipment.

**4-299-020 License required.**

(a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (c) of this section, it shall be unlawful for any person to engage in rigging without first having obtained a rigger license under this chapter.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (c) of this section, it shall be unlawful for any person to employ, permit or direct any person to engage in rigging unless such person holds a valid rigger license under this chapter.

(c) The requirements of this chapter shall not apply to persons engaged in rigging at properties owned and managed by the Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority ("MPEA"), including the McCormick Place complex and Navy Pier.

**4-299-030 License classification.**

Rigger licenses shall be divided into classifications, as follows:

Class A License: This license authorizes a natural person to engage in rigging.

Class B Apprentice License: This license authorizes a natural person to engage in rigging under the direct supervision of a natural person holding a Class A License under this chapter.

**4-299-040 License – Application.**

An application for a license under this chapter shall be made in writing to the commissioner, on a form supplied by the department, and shall be accompanied by the following:

(a) the applicant's full name, residence address, residence telephone number, business address, business e-mail address and business telephone number;

(b) the applicant's date of birth and social security number or other acceptable identifier;

(c) proof that the applicant is at least 18 years of age;

(d) a statement as to whether the applicant has ever had a rigger license or comparable license suspended or revoked by the City of Chicago or any other jurisdiction;

(e) a statement as to whether the applicant has ever been convicted, in custody, under parole or under any other non-custodial supervision resulting from a conviction in a court of any jurisdiction for the commission of a felony or criminal offense of whatever degree involving driving while intoxicated or the criminal possession, manufacture or distribution of a controlled substance or any comparable offense;

(f) if the applicant is applying for a Class A license, proof that the applicant possesses an industry certification in rigging from the Entertainment Technician Certification Program (“ETCP”) administered by the Entertainment Services and Technology Association or its successor organization, or has been trained or certified as a rigger by an approved organization with standards substantially similar to that of the ETCP;

(g) if the applicant is applying for a Class B Apprentice License, a notarized statement from a rigger holding a Class A license under this chapter or from an employer of such riggers stating that (1) such apprentice rigger will be trained as a rigger under the direct supervision of a rigger holding a Class A license under this chapter; and (2) at least one up-rigger and one down-rigger holding a Class A license under this chapter will be present at all times when rigging is performed by such apprentice rigger; and (3) on any job site where rigging is performed by such apprentice rigger, the ratio of certified apprentices to licensed riggers shall not exceed 4:1;

(h) the license fee; and

(i) any other information that the commissioner may reasonably require.

It is a condition of the license that all information in the license application be kept current. Any change in required information shall be reported in writing to the commissioner within 14 business days of such change.

For purposes of this section, a post office box shall not suffice as an address.

**4-299-050 License – Display – Nontransferability.**

(a) While engaged in rigging and at all times while on duty as a rigger, each licensee under this chapter shall: (1) carry on his or her person a copy of such person’s rigger license; and (2) upon request by any authorized city official, produce a copy of such license and photographic identification for inspection by such authorized city official. Any person who violates the requirements of this subsection (a) shall be subject to the penalty set forth in Section 4-299-110. Provided however, that if such person holds a valid rigger license under this chapter and produces a copy of such rigger license at such person’s hearing on the underlying offense, such fine may be reduced to \$50.00 by the commissioner.

(b) No transfer of ownership shall be allowed on any license issued under this chapter.

**4-299-060 License – Term.**

A rigger license under this chapter shall be valid for a period of at least two years and, unless suspended or revoked, shall expire on the date indicated on the face of such license.

**4-299-070 License fee.**

The license fee shall be as set forth in Section 4-5-010.

**4-299-080 License issuance and renewal prohibited when.**

(a) No license under this chapter shall be issued to the following persons:

(1) Any person whose license under this chapter or comparable license in another jurisdiction has been revoked for cause; provided, however, that upon good cause shown and after a full investigation, the commissioner may waive this prohibition;

(2) Any person who has ever been convicted, in custody, under parole or under any other non-custodial supervision resulting from a conviction in a court of any jurisdiction for the commission of a felony or criminal offense of whatever degree involving driving while intoxicated or the possession, manufacture or distribution of a controlled substance or any comparable offense, unless, upon request, the commissioner determines that such person has been substantially rehabilitated to warrant the public trust. The burden of proof of substantial rehabilitation shall be on the person seeking such rehabilitation;

(3) Any person under the age of eighteen; or

(4) Any person who, following notice and the opportunity for a hearing in accordance with the requirements of Section 4-299-100, is determined by the commissioner to be grossly negligent or incompetent with respect to rigging, or whose actions with respect to rigging demonstrate a pattern of carelessness or wilful disregard for the health and safety of others, or who makes a false statement of material fact in connection with such person's application for a rigger license.

(b) Eligibility for issuance of a license under this chapter shall be a continuing requirement for maintaining a license under this chapter. Failure to maintain such eligibility may result in license suspension or revocation in accordance with the requirements set forth in Section 4-299-100.

**4-299-090 Unlawful acts.**

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person that holds or is required to hold a Class A license under this chapter to permit, direct or otherwise allow any apprentice rigger to engage in rigging (1) unless such apprentice rigger is performing rigging under the direct supervision of a person holding a Class A license under this chapter; and (2) unless at least one up-rigger and one down-rigger holding a Class A license under this chapter is present at all times when rigging is performed by such apprentice rigger; and (3) if, on the job site where rigging is performed by such apprentice rigger, the ratio of apprentice riggers to riggers holding a Class A license under this chapter exceeds 4:1.

(b) It shall be unlawful for any person that holds or is required to hold a Class B license under this chapter to engage in rigging unless all of the requirements set forth in items (1) through (3), inclusive, of subsection (a) of this section are met.

(c) In addition to any other penalty provided by law, any person who violates any requirement of this section shall be subject to a fine of not less than \$1,000.00 nor more than \$1,500.00 for each offense. Each day that a violation continues shall constitute a separate and distinct offense.

**4-299-100 License suspension or revocation – Immediate suspension authorized when.**

(a) The commissioner may revoke, suspend or refuse to renew the license of any person licensed under this chapter if such person is found to be grossly negligent or incompetent with respect to rigging, or if such person's actions while engaged in rigging demonstrate a pattern of carelessness or wilful disregard for the health and safety of others, or if such person is determined to have made a false statement of material fact on such person's license application. Provided, however, that no such license shall be suspended, revoked or not renewed for these reasons or for any other violation of the requirements of this chapter except upon written notice to such rigger and the opportunity for a hearing before the commissioner.

(b) If the commissioner determines that the performance of rigging by any licensee under this chapter poses an immediate threat to public safety, the commissioner may temporarily suspend such person's license for a period not to exceed ten days. Provided, however, that (1) written notice of such temporary suspension and the grounds for such temporary suspension shall be immediately sent or delivered to the licensee; and (2) the licensee shall be provided with the opportunity for a hearing before the commissioner prior to expiration of the ten-day period. Provided further, that nothing in this subsection (b) shall be construed to prohibit suspension of such person's license for longer than ten days or revocation of such person's license.

**4-299-110 Violation – Penalty.**

Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, in addition to any other penalty provided by law, any person who violates any requirement of this section shall be subject to a fine of not less than \$500.00 nor more than \$750.00 for each offense. Each day that a violation continues shall constitute a separate and distinct offense.

**4-299-120 Rules and regulations.**

The commissioner shall have the authority to issue rules and regulations necessary to implement the requirements of this chapter.

**SECTION 2.** Section 4-5-010 of the Municipal Code of Chicago is hereby amended by deleting the language stricken through and by inserting the language underscored, as follows:

**4-5-010 Establishment of license fees.**

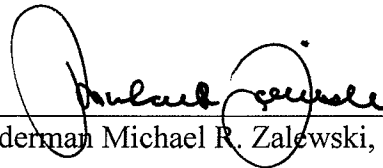
This chapter shall establish fees for various licenses created by this title unless otherwise provided. The following fees shall apply for the specified licenses.

*(Omitted text is unaffected by this ordinance)*

(72) ~~[Reserved.]~~ Stagehand rigger (4-299) . . . . . \$250.00

*(Omitted text is unaffected by this ordinance)*

**SECTION 3.** This ordinance shall take full force and effect upon its passage and publication.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Alderman Michael R. Zalewski, 23<sup>rd</sup> Ward



**CITY COUNCIL**  
CITY OF CHICAGO

**COMMITTEE on ZONING,  
LANDMARKS AND  
BUILDING STANDARDS**

CITY HALL, ROOM 304  
121 NORTH LASALLE STREET  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602

To the President and Members of the City Council:

RE: DOC # O2012-652

Your Committee on Zoning, Landmarks, and Building Standards, having under consideration an ordinance introduced by Alderman Zalewski, (which was referred on 2-15-12), Amending Title 4 of the Municipal Code regarding stagehand riggers, begs leave to recommend that your Honorable Body *re-refer* the ordinance which is transmitted herewith to the Committee on License and Consumer Protection

Respectfully Submitted,

DANIEL SOLIS  
CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON  
ZONING, LANDMARKS,  
AND BUILDING STANDARDS