

TITLE III COMMUNITY PROTECTION

**CHAPTER 7 REGULATING PEDDLERS, SOLICITORS
AND TRANSIENT MERCHANTS**

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3-7-1 DEFINITIONS. For use in this Chapter, the following terms are defined as follows:

1. A "peddler" is any person carrying or transporting goods or merchandise who sells or offers for sale for immediate delivery such goods or merchandise from house-to-house or upon the public street.

2. A "solicitor" is any person who solicits or attempts to solicit from house-to-house or upon public streets orders for commercial goods, wares, subscriptions, publications, periodicals, merchandise, or services to be delivered or fulfilled at a future date.

For the purposes of this Chapter, "solicitor" does not include a person who contacts another person at such person's residence without prior invitation to enlist support for or against, or solicit funds for patriotic, philanthropic, charitable, political or religious purposes, whether or not there is an incidental purpose involving the sale of some goods or service.

3. A "transient merchant" includes any merchant, whether an individual person, a firm, corporation, partnership or association, who brings or causes to be brought within the municipality any goods, wares, or merchandise of any kind, nature, or description, with the intention of temporarily or intermittently selling or offering to sell at retail such goods, wares, or merchandise. Temporary association with a local merchant, dealer, trader, or auctioneer, for conducting such transient business in connection with, as part of, or in the name of any local merchant, dealer, trader, or auctioneer, does not exempt any such person, firm, or corporation from being considered a transient merchant.

The provisions of this Chapter shall not be construed to apply to persons selling at wholesale to merchants, nor to persons running a huckster wagon, or selling or distributing livestock feeds, fresh meats, fish, fruit, or vegetables, nor to persons selling their own work or production either by themselves or their employees.

3-7-2 EXEMPTIONS. The provisions of this Chapter shall not apply to nonprofit civic, charitable, religious or educational groups engaged in retail sale for the purposes of fund raising.

3-7-3 PERMITS. Before any person or organization engages in any of the practices defined herein, they must comply with all applicable Ordinances, and must also obtain from the City Clerk a permit in accordance with the provisions of sections 3-7-4 and 3-7-5. A fee of \$5.00 shall be paid at the time of registration to cover the cost of investigation and issuance.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 9C.2)

3-7-4 REQUIREMENTS. Any applicant engaged in any activity described in 3-7-1 of this Chapter must file with the City Clerk an application in writing that gives the following information:

1. Name and social security number;
2. Permanent and local addresses and, in case of transient merchants, the local address from which proposed sales will be made;
3. A brief description of the nature of the sales method;
4. Name and address of the firm for or on whose behalf the orders are solicited, or the supplier of the goods offered for sale;
5. Length of time for which the permit is desired;
6. A statement as to whether or not the applicant has been convicted of any crime, and if so, the date, the nature of the offense, and the name of the court imposing the penalty; and
7. Motor vehicle make, model, year, color and registration number, if a vehicle is to be used in the proposed solicitation.

3-7-5 HOURS OF SOLICITATION. No person may conduct those activities described in Section 3-7-1 except between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on each day, and no solicitation shall be done on Sundays or legal holidays.

3-7-6 CONSUMER PROTECTION LAW. All solicitors and peddlers shall be informed of, agree to comply with, and comply with the State law, Section 555A.3, Code of Iowa, requiring a "Notice of Cancellation" to be given in duplicate, properly filled out, to each buyer to whom such person sells a product or service and, comply with the other requirements of the law.

3-7-7 BOND REQUIRED. Before a permit under this Chapter is issued, each person subject to this Ordinance shall post with the City Clerk, a bond, by a surety company authorized to insure the fidelity of others in Iowa, in the amount of \$1,000 to the effect that the registrant and the surety consent to the forfeiture of the principal sum of the bond or such part thereof as may be necessary to: (1) indemnify the City for any penalties or costs occasioned by the enforcement of this Chapter, and (2) make payment of any judgment rendered against the registrant as a result of a claim or litigation arising out of or in connection with the registrant's peddling or solicitation. The bond shall not be retired until one (1) year from the expiration of the permit.

3-7-8 OBSTRUCTION OF PEDESTRIAN OR VEHICULAR TRAFFIC. No person, while engaged in any of the practices described in Section 3-7-1, shall block or obstruct the path of any pedestrian or vehicular traffic, or block or obstruct any way of ingress or egress to roads, buildings, or other enclosures or conveyances, including, but not limited to, vehicles, elevators and escalators.

3-7-9 DISPLAY OF PERMIT. Each solicitor or peddler shall at all times while doing business in this City keep in his or her possession the permit provided for in Section 3-7-3 of this Chapter, and shall, upon the request of prospective customers, exhibit the permit as evidence that he or she has complied with all requirements of this Chapter. Each transient merchant shall display publicly the permit in his or her place of business.

3-7-10 PERMIT NOT TRANSFERABLE. Permits issued under the provisions of this Chapter are not transferable in any situation and are to be applicable only to the person filing the application.

3-7-11 REVOCATION OF PERMIT. The City Council, after notice and hearing, may revoke any permit issued under this Ordinance where the permittee, in the course of conducting his or her business, has made fraudulent or incorrect statements or has violated this Ordinance or has otherwise conducted his or her business in an unlawful manner.

3-7-12 FEES. Every licensee shall pay the following fee before a license shall be issued.

1. "Solicitors." In addition to the investigating fee for each person actually soliciting (Principal or agent), a fee for the principal...\$10 per year.
2. "Peddlers or transient merchants."
 - a. For one day - \$25.00
 - b. For one week - \$50.00
 - c. For up to six months - \$200.00
 - d. For one year or major part thereof - \$400.00
3. For longer than one month all fees shall be computed by first computing the monthly fee, then the weekly fee, then the daily fee, and the sum of these fees shall be the fee charged.

3-7-13 STORING. It shall be unlawful for a transient merchant to use any street, avenue, alley, or public ground for the placing, storing, keeping, or the selling of any goods, wares, or merchandise either at auction or private sale.

