

Elliot Schulman, MD, MPH Director/ Health Officer
Michael D. Harris, Deputy Director
Richard Merrifield, REHS Director of Environmental Health

225 Camino Del Remedio ♦ Santa Barbara, CA 93110
805/681-4900 ♦ FAX 805/681-4901
2125 S. Centerpointe Pkwy. #333 ♦ Santa Maria, CA 93455
805/346-8460 ♦ FAX 805/346-8485

CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE REVISIONS AFFECTING OF MOBILE FOOD FACILITIES

Effective July 2007, there will be new provisions of the California Health and Safety Code covering statewide the operation and equipment requirements for a mobile food vehicles upon which food is sold or distributed at the retail level. The code changes that will most likely affect your business are noted in *Italics*.

Every mobile food facility is required to operate from a commissary

1. The facility you designate on the Statement of Commissary form as your commissary will be inspected to ensure provisions of the law are being met.
2. *All vehicles must report daily for cleaning and servicing at the commissary or an alternate location approved by this agency.* If the location for cleaning and servicing is different from the commissary, the Statement of Commissary form must clearly indicate the cleaning site address.
3. When not operating, your vehicle must be parked at either the approved commissary or another location approved by this agency. If you intend to park your vehicle at a location other than the commissary, the business name and address of the parking site must be clearly indicated on the Statement of Commissary form. *Mobile Food Vehicles may not be parked in residential neighborhoods.*
4. If the commissary is not located in Santa Barbara County, a copy of the Commissary Health Permit must be included with the application.

Commissary

The following partial list is provided to assist you in finding a commissary. If a commissary location is unavailable, you may arrange for a combination of a permitted food facility, cleaning site and vehicle storage location to fulfill the requirements.

1. Adequate facilities for the sanitary disposal of liquid waste.
2. Adequate facilities for the handling and disposal of garbage and refuse.
3. Hot and cold water under pressure shall be available for cleaning vehicles.
4. *Areas used for cleaning shall be sloped to a sewer drain.*
5. Potable water shall be available for filling the water tanks.
6. *Adequate facilities within the commissary shall be provided for the storage of food, utensils and other supplies. All potentially hazardous hot food from the vehicles must be destroyed at the end of the working day.*
7. *Vehicles doing food preparation shall have a commissary with an approved food preparation area. Vehicles are limited to the type of food preparation that can be done. Vehicles may not thaw, cool potentially hazardous cooked foods, slice or chop except as part of the cooking process, grind, reheat any food for hot holding, wash food, or cook potentially hazardous food for later use. All of these procedures are to be done in the approved commissary.*
8. *Servicing area shall have overhead protection.*

9. Adequate electrical outlets available for vehicles.

Schedule of Stops

If your vehicle is parked in a sales location for more than **one hour**, you must be within 200 feet of an approved restroom facility.

- *The restroom facilities should be indicated on the schedule of stops. Vehicles remaining in one location over the one-hour period may be required to submit verification from the owner of the business that the restroom is open and available for the use of vehicle employees. Prior to a permit to operate being issued for your vehicle, the proposed restroom may be inspected to determine that hot water and hand washing supplies are available.*

Plan Check

Plan check may be required of your vehicle. To avoid unnecessary expense, you are strongly advised not to purchase any vehicle without first consulting with Environmental Health.

- *Plan check is required for any new vehicle operating in Santa Barbara County. The standard plan check fee is \$320.00, which covers up to three hours of staff time. If additional time is required for processing the plans or inspections, billing will be at a rate of \$100.00 an hour.*
- *Vehicles changing ownership may be required to go through a plan check review for compliance with applicable code requirements.*
- *Plans and specification may be required for any vehicle that does not comply with applicable codes for the type of food service offered.*

Any vehicle not meeting the applicable structural code requirements will not be issued a permit to operate in Santa Barbara County.

Acknowledged this date: _____

Signature of Operator

Date

Printed Name

Contact Telephone Number