

ORDINANCE NO. 26-94

CHAPTER 9

ARTICLE 3

TO AMEND CHAPTER 9, ARTICLE 3 OF THE CITY CODE, BY AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 604-H, AS AMENDED TO PROVIDE FOR DEFINITION AND LICENSING OF SIGN CONTRACTORS, SIGN SPECIALISTS, ALARM CONTRACTORS ETC.

AN ORDINANCE to amend Chapter 9, Article 3, of the 1984 Detroit City Code (The Official Electrical Code Administrative Rules of the City of Detroit), by amending Sections 401.0, 401.1, 402.0, 402.1, 403.0, 403.1, 407.0, and 601.1, and by adding Sections 201.14, 201.15, 201.16, 201.17, 201.18, 201.19, 201.20, 408.0, and 409.0 to Ordinance 604-H, as amended to, to provide for licensing of Sign Contractors, Sign Specialists, Alarm Contractors, Alarm Specialists, Alarm Apprentices, and Electrical Apprentices.

IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF DETROIT THAT:

Section 1. Chapter 9, Article 3, of the 1984 Detroit City Code (The Official Electrical Code Administrative Rules of the City of Detroit) be amended by amending Sections 401.0, 401.1, 402.0, 402.1, 403.0, 403.1, 407.0, and 601.1, and by adding Sections 201.14, 201.15, 201.16, 201.17, 201.18, 201.19, 201.20, 408.0, and 409.0 to Ordinance 604-H, as amended, (The Official Electrical Code Administrative Rules) to read as follows:

Section 201.14 Apprentice Electrician. An individual other than an electrical Contractor, Master Electrician, or electrical Journeyman, who is engaged in learning about and assisting in the installation or alteration of electrical wiring and equipment under the direct personal supervision of an electrical Journeyman or Master Electrician.

Section 201.15 Fire Alarm Contractor. A person, firm, or corporation engaged in the business of erecting, installing, altering, repairing, servicing, or maintaining the wiring, devices, appliances or equipment of a fire alarm system.

Section 201.16 Fire Alarm Specialty Apprentice Technician. An individual other than a Fire Alarm Contractor a Fire Alarm Specialty Technician who is engaged in learning about and assisting in the installation or alteration of fire alarm system wiring and equipment under the direct personal supervision of a Fire Alarm Specialty Technician.

Section 201.17 Fire Alarm Specialty Technician. A person other than a Fire Alarm Contractor who, as his or her principal occupation, is engaged in the practical installation or alteration of fire alarm system wiring.

Section 201.18 Sign Specialist. A person who, as his or her personal principal occupation, is engaged in the installation, alteration or repair of electric signs.

Section 201.19 Sign Specialty Contractor. A person, firm, or corporation engaged in business of manufacturing, installing, maintaining, connecting, or repairing electric sign wiring or devices, including wiring that is directly related to electric signs and is electrically dedicated as a sign circuit beginning at the load side of the sign circuit disconnect.

Section 201.20 Related Sign Wiring.

- A. Except as otherwise provided in subsections, (b), (c), and (d) that portion of the electric sign wiring that originates at the load side terminals of a disconnecting means located in the vicinity of the electric sign involved, but does not include the installation of the disconnecting means, complete with line side connectors.
- B. In the case of electric sign installations having sign transformers installed physically apart from the electric sign wiring that originates at the load side terminals or a disconnecting means located in the vicinity of the electric sign involved, but does not include the installation of the disconnecting means, complete with line side connectors.
- C. In the case of the free-standing electric sign installations supplied through underground circuit conductors, that portion of the electric sign wiring that originates at a wiring termination point adjacent to, within, or immediately above the permanent base for the electric sign but does not include, if the base of the sign structure is suitable for use as a raceway, the installation of bushing, complete with free length circuit conductors extending through to accommodate the connection of the related wiring within the sign structure raceway.
- D. In the case of electric signs specifically designed to be connected directly to the building wiring raceway or cable supply, that portion of the electric sign wiring that originates at the point where the free length circuit conductors extend through the building wiring raceway or cable at the specifically designed supply location for the electric sign involved, but does not include the installation of the building wiring raceway or cable system to the specifically designated point of supply for the electric sign involved, complete

with free length circuit conductors extending through the building wiring raceway or cable to accommodate the connection of the related wiring.

Section 401.0 Electrical Contractor, Fire Alarm Contractor, and Sign Specialty Contractor. It shall be unlawful for any person to engage as an independent Electrical Contractor, Fire Alarm Contractor, or Sign Specialty Contractor in the installation, maintenance, repairing, servicing, or altering of electrical equipment for light, heat, fire alarm, or power purposes where the electromotive force exceeds fifty volts (except for fire alarms) in or on any building structure or part thereof, or premises without first having filed an application with the Department and having obtained an Electrical Contractor's License, or Sign Specialty Contractor's License therefore as hereinafter provided. An Electrical Contractor, Fire Alarm Contractor, or Sign Specialty Contractor shall not allow his or her License to be used by any other person. No License will be required for minor repair work, the replacement of lamps, or the connection of portable electrical equipment to suitable permanently install receptacles.

Section 401.1 Contractor Applicant Qualifications

- A. **Electrical Contractor's License; Requirements.** The Department shall issue an Electrical Contractor's License to a person who does all of the following:
1. Holds a Master Electrician's License or has not less than one (1) Master Electrician residing in this state who is in his or her full time employ. Such Master Electrician shall be actively in charge of and responsible for code compliance of all installations of electrical wiring and equipment, and represents no other person, firm, or corporation as their Master electrician;
 2. Files a completed application on a form provided by the Buildings and Safety Engineering Department;
 3. Pays the examination fee and passes an examination provided for by the Board and the Buildings and Safety Engineering Department; and
 4. Pays the license fee prescribed by the Official Fee Schedule
- B. **Fire Alarm Contractor's License; Requirements.** The Department shall issue a Fire Alarm Contractor's License to a person who does all of the following:
1. Holds a Fire Alarm Specialty Technician's License or has not less than one (1) Fire Alarm Specialty Technician residing in this date who is in his or her full time employ. Such Fire Alarm Specialty Technician shall be actively in charge of and responsible for code compliance of all installations of fire alarm system wiring and equipment;

2. Files a completed application on a form provided by the Buildings and Safety Engineering Department;
3. Pays the examination fee and passes the examination provided by the Board and the Buildings and Safety Engineering Department; and
4. Pays the license fee prescribed by the Official Fee Schedule.

C. Sign Specialty Contractor's License; Requirements. The Department shall issue a Sign Specialty Contractor's License to a person who does all of the following:

1. Holds a Sign Specialist's License or as not less than one (1) Sign Specialist residing in this state who is in his or her full time employ. Such Sign Specialist shall be actively in charge of and responsible for code compliance of all installations, maintenance, connection, and repair of electric signs and related wiring;
2. Files a completed application on a form provided by the Buildings and Safety Engineering Department;
3. Pays the examination fee and passes an examination provided for by the Board and the Buildings and Safety Engineering Department;
4. Pays the license fee prescribed by the Official Fee Schedule; and
5. Provides evidence of public liability insurance coverage.

Section 402.0 Master, Journeyman, and Apprentice Electricians. It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in the trade or occupation of Master, Journeyman, or Apprentice Electrician. In the installation, alteration, maintenance or repair of electrical wiring equipment, apparatus of fixtures for light, heat, power or medical purposes in or about buildings and/or structures within the City of Detroit without having first obtained a License or Apprentice Registration as herein provided. All electrical work done by Apprentice Electricians shall be performed under the direct supervision of a Journeyman or Master Electrician who shall be on the premises at all times when such Apprentice Electricians are performing such work.

Section 402.1 Applicant Qualifications. Master, Journeyman and Apprentice Electricians.

A. Master Electrician's License; requirements, failure to pass examination; condition of renewal; license limitation.

1. The Department shall issue a Master Electrician's License to a person not less than twenty-two (22) years of age who does all of the following:
 - a. Files a completed application on a form provided by the Buildings and Safety Engineering Department;

- b. Pays the examination fee prescribed and passes the examination provided by the Board
 - c. Pays the license fee prescribed by the Buildings and Safety Engineering Department;
 - d. Files a written statement from present or former employers to the effect that the applicant has not less than 12,000 hours of practical experience obtained over a period of not less than six (6) years related to electrical construction or maintenance of buildings, or electrical wiring or equipment under the supervision of a Master Electrician; and
 - e. Has held an electrical Journeyman's License for not less than (2) years. Verification of the license shall be furnished.
2. Upon failure to pass the Master Electrician examination two (2) times within a period of two (2) years, an applicant shall be ineligible to sit for another examination until a period of not less than one (1) year from the date of failure of the second examination, at which time he or she shall present proof to the Board of the successful completion of a course on code, electrical fundamentals, or electrical theory, approved by the Board; in order to become eligible to again sit for an examination.
3. As a condition of renewal of a Master Electrician's License, the Master Electrician shall demonstrate the successful completion of a course, approved by the Board, concerning any update or change in the code, prior to within twelve (12) months after, the adoption of the update or change in that code. This requirement applies only during or after those years that the code is updated or changed by adoption into Ordinance.
4. A holder of a Master Electrician's License shall not qualify for more than one (1) Electrical Contractor's License.

B. Electrician Journey's License; Requirements; Failure to pass examination; condition of renewal.

1. The Department shall issue an electrical Journeyman's License to a person not less than twenty (20) years of age who does all of the following:
 - a. Files a completed application on a form provided by the Buildings and Safety Engineering Department;
 - b. Pays the examination fee prescribed and passes an examination provided for by the Board
 - c. Pays the license fee prescribed by the Buildings and Safety Engineering Department; and

- d. Files a written statement from present or former employers to the effect that the applicant has not less than 8,000 hours of experience obtained over a period of not less than four (4) years related to electrical construction or maintenance of buildings, or electrical wiring or equipment under the direct supervision of a Master Electrician or Journeyman Electrician that is licensed under this Ordinance.
2. Upon failure to pass the Electrical Journeyman examination two (2) times within a period of two (2) years, an applicant shall be ineligible to sit for another examination until a period of not less than one (1) year from the date of failure of the second examination, at which time he or she shall present proof to the Board of the successful completion of a course on code, electrical fundamentals, or electrical theory, approved by the Board; in order to become eligible to again sit for an examination.
3. As a condition of renewal of an electrical Journeyman's License, the electrical Journeyman shall demonstrate the successful completion of a course, approved by the Board, concerning any update or change in the code, prior to or within twelve (12) months after the adoption of the update or change in that code. This requirement applies only during or after those years that the code is updated or changed by adoption into Ordinance.

C. Apprentice Electrician; registration; forms; Certificate of Registration; Apprenticeship Training Program; Apprentice Electrician Ratio.

1. An individual employed as an Apprentice Registration shall register on a form provided by the Board within thirty (30) days after employment.
2. The Buildings and Safety Engineering Department shall issue a Certificate of Registration to a person seeking registration upon satisfactory proof of the person's participation in a bona fide Apprenticeship training program approved by the Board. This program shall be equivalent to the requirements of those imposed by the United States Labor Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training, subject to Subsection (3).
3. Except as otherwise provided in Subsection (4), the ratio of electrical Journeyman or Master electricians to registered Apprentice Electricians shall be on the basis of one (1) electrical Journeyman or Master electrician to one (1) registered Apprentice Electrician. The Department shall enforce the ratio on a job site basis.

4. Notwithstanding Subsection (3), in the case of a residential single-family dwelling or a multi-family dwelling not exceeding eight (8) units per building, the Department shall enforce the Apprentice Electrician ratio on the basis of one (1) electrical Journeyman or Master electrician to two (2) registered Apprentice Registrations on a job site basis.

Section 403.0 Fire Alarm Specialty Technician, Fire Alarm Apprentice, and Sign Specialty Technician Licenses. It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in the occupation or trade of Fire Alarm Specialty Technician, Fire Alarm Apprentice, or Sign Specialty Technician in the City without securing a License therefore as hereinafter provided.

Section 403.1 Applicant Qualifications. Fire Alarm Specialty Technician, Fire Alarm Apprentice, Sign Specialty Technician.

A. Fire Alarm Specialty Technician; License Required; Conditions of Renewal.

1. The Department shall issue a Fire Alarm Specialty Technician's License to a person not less than twenty (20) years of age who does all of the following:

- A. Files a completed application form provided by the Buildings and Safety Engineering Department;
- B. Pays the examination fee and passes an examination provided for by the Board and the Buildings and Safety Engineering Department;
- C. Pays the license fee; and
- D. Has certification by the National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technology as an Associate Engineering Technician, Level II, or the equivalent as determined by the Board, in the field of Fire Alarm Systems Technology.

2. As a condition of renewal of a Fire Alarm Specialty Technician's License, the Fire Alarm Specialty Technician shall demonstrate the successful completion of a course, approved by the Board, concerning any update or change in the code relating to fire alarm systems prior to or within twelve (12) months after the adoption of the update or change in that code. This requirement applies only during or after those years that the code is updated or changed by adoption into Ordinance.

3. The holder of a Fire Alarm Specialty Technician's License shall not qualify for more than one (1) Fire Alarm Contractor's License.

B. Fire Alarm Apprentice Registration; Requirements; Apprentice Ratio.

1. An individual employed as a Fire Alarm Specialty Apprentice Technician shall register with the Board on a form provided by the Board within thirty (30) days after employment.

2. The Buildings and Safety Engineering Department shall issue a Certificate of Registration to a person seeking registration upon satisfactory proof of the person's participation in a bona fide Apprenticeship Training Program approved by the Board. The program shall be equivalent to the requirements of those imposed by the United States Department of Labor Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training, subject to Subsection(c).

3. The ratio of Fire Alarm Specialty Technicians to registered Fire Alarm Specialty Technicians to registered Fire Alarm Specialty Apprentice Technicians shall be on the basis of one (1) Fire Alarm Specialty Technician to two (2) registered Fire Alarm Specialty Apprentice Technicians. The Department shall enforce the ratio on a job site basis.

C. Sign Specialty License; Requirements; Failure to pass Examination; Conditions of Renewal.

1. The Buildings and Safety Engineering Department shall issue a Sign Specialist's License to a person not less than eighteen (18) years of age who does all of the following:

A. Files a completed application form provided by the Buildings and Safety Engineering Department;

B. Pays the examination fee and passes the examination provided for by the Buildings and Safety Engineering Department;

C. Pays the license fee; and

D. Provides a statement from present or past employers to the effect that the applicant has not less than 4,000 hours of experience, obtained over a period of not less than two (2) years, related to the manufacture, installation, maintenance, connection, or repair of electric signs and related wiring; equivalent education may be substituted for work experience as determined by the Board.

E. Demonstrates the successful completion of a course concerning the installation, maintenance, connection, or repair of electric signs and related wiring as contained in the sign electrician's workbook published by the American Technical Publishers, Inc. or any other course designed to address the sign industry, as approved by the Board.

2. Upon failure to pass the Sign Specialist examination two (2) times within a period of two (2) years, an applicant shall be ineligible to sit for another examination until he or she shall presents proof to the Board of the successful completion of a course on code and electrical fundamentals approved by the Board; in order to become eligible to again sit for an examination.

3. As a condition of renewal of a Sign Specialist's License, the Sign Specialist shall demonstrate the successful completion of a course, approved by the Board,

concerning any update or change in applicable sections of the code prior to or within twelve (12) months after the adoption of the update or change in that code. The requirement applies only during or after those years that the code is updated or changed by adoption into Ordinance.

Section 407.0 Expiration of Licenses. Licenses issued hereunder shall expire on December 31st following the date of issue, and shall be renewed upon application by the licensee upon approval of the Board and Director, and payment of the required fee. Apprentice Registrations shall expire on August 31st following the date of issue and shall be renewable within thirty (30) days. After March 1st, Journeyman and Master Licenses, and Alarm and Sign Specialist Licenses not renewed may not be reissued except upon special approval by the Board. Electrical Contractors, Sign Contractors, Alarm Contractors, Sign Specialists, Alarm Specialists, Master Electricians, and Journeyman Electrician Licenses shall be issued by the Licenses and Permit Division of the Department upon approval of the Board and Director. Licenses issued under this Ordinance shall be non-transferable and shall be displayed when requested. It shall be unlawful for any person whose License has expired to engage in the trade of installing, maintaining, servicing, or altering electrical equipment.

Section 408.0 Residency.

A. Applicants for Journeyman and Master Electrician License; Fire Alarm Specialty Technician License and Sign Specialist License shall designate their residence as the location of their legal address. All applicants for Contractor Licenses shall designate their principal place of business as their legal address.

B. All electrical Contractors, Fire Alarm Contractors, Sign Specialty Contractors, Master Electricians, Journeyman Electricians, Fire Alarm Specialty Technicians, Sign Specialists, Apprentice Electricians and Fire Alarm Specialty Apprentice Technicians having their legal address within the corporate limits of the City of Detroit shall secure their License or Registration from the City of Detroit.

Section 409.0 Examination.

A. The Board shall prepare the application forms and prescribe the examination. Due notice shall be given applicants of the date of examination. All applicants for examination shall be in writing. The examination shall consist of a written examination as the Board shall determine, and other practical tests at the discretion of the Board.

- B. The examination for Journeyman and Master Electricians, Fire Alarm Specialty Technician License, and Sign Specialist License shall include, but not be limited to, questions designed to test an individual's knowledge of this Ordinance, and State Construction Code Act of 1972, and any code adopted by the City of Detroit, as well as the theory relative to those codes.
- C. The examination for electrical Contractor's License, Fire Alarm Contractor's License, and Sign Specialty Contractor's License shall include, but not limited to, questions designed to test an individual's knowledge of this Ordinance, and State Construction Code Act of 1972, and the administration and enforcement procedures of any code adopted by the City of Detroit.
- D. A person holding a valid electrical Contractor's License, Master Electrician's License, electrical Journeyman's License, or Apprentice Electrician's Registration shall not be required to hold any specialty licenses in order to perform specialty installations.

Section 601.1 To Whom Permits May be Issued. Permits shall be issued only to:

- 1. Licensed Electrical Contractors
- 2. Licensed Fire Alarm Contractors
- 3. Licensed Sign Specialty Contractors
- 4. A bona fide owner of a single family residence which is, or will be on upon completion, his or her own place of residence, and no part of which is used for rental or commercial purposes no or is now contemplated for such purpose, provided that the owner shall:
 - A. Sign an affidavit on a form furnished by the Buildings and Safety Engineering Department showing the applicant to be the bona fide owner and occupant, or will be the occupant on upon completion of the residence; and that the applicant will personally install the equipment therein for which the permit is required.
 - B. Apply for and secure the required permit.
- 5. Any person employing as a full time electrician, a licensed electrical Journeyman, to actively supervise the installation of electrical equipment on a premises owned or occupied and used by the applicant in the conduct of his or her business, and at which premises the licensed Journeyman Electrician performs his or her duties, provided said licensed Journeyman Electrician has held his or her License for at least two (2) full years. Provided further that an affidavit form furnished by the Electrical Inspection Division is signed by both the employer and the Licensed Journeyman. This affidavit is to be kept on file in the Offices of the Electrical Inspection Division. And
- 6. Persons requested or requiring inspections for carnivals, road shows, inspection time for special investigation or electrical installations or

equipment, etc., as approved by the Director of the Buildings and Safety Engineering Department.

Section 2. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith be and the same as hereby repealed.

Section 3. This Ordinance is hereby declared necessary for the preservation of the peace, health, safety, and welfare of the People of the City of Detroit and is hereby given immediate effect.

(J.C.C.P.

November 9, 1994)

Passed

November 30, 1994

Approved

December 14, 1994

Published

December 20, 1994

Effective

December 20, 1994

JACKIE L. CURRIE

City Clerk