



Department of
Consumer Affairs

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Commissioner

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██████████
██████████
Re: A license is not required to operate a shoe shine stand/booth in a public space

Dear Mr ██████████:

I am writing in response to your inquiry whether the operation of a shoe shine stand/booth on the public sidewalk requires a Department of Consumer Affairs ("DCA" or "the Department") license. The answer is that a license is not required for the activity you describe.

Prior to 1992, the New York City Administrative Code ("Code") §20-233(b) defined a stoop line stand as a "stand[] or booth[]" used for the sale or display of fruits, vegetables, soft drinks, cigars, cigarettes, tobacco, confectionary, ice cream, flowers, for the shining of shoes. " Stoop line stands require a DCA license

In 1992, the City Council introduced, and passed, Local Law 65 of 1992. The stated purpose of the law was to "amend the [Code], in relation to repealing the licensing requirements for stoop line stands for the shining of shoes and exempting the shining of shoes from the licensing requirements for general vendors "

Specifically, Local Law 65 of 1992 amended §20-452(b) (General Vendors) of the Code by stating that "[t]his definition [general vendors] also shall not include persons who use stands or booths in a public space for the shining of shoes" (emphasis added). In addition, Local Law 65 of 1992 removed the words "for the shining of shoes" from the definition of a stoop line stand.

Therefore, the operation of a shoe shine stand/booth in a public space does not require a DCA license.

Please note that you should check with other city agencies, including the Department of Transportation, regarding any relevant regulations with respect to the use of the public sidewalks.

Please feel free to contact me with any further questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,

██████████
Staff Counsel