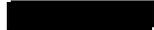




The New York City
Department of
Consumer Affairs
42 Broadway
New York, NY
10004-1716

Jonathan Mintz
Commissioner


Staff Counsel

February 1, 2008


Re: Mechanical Bull

Dear Ms. 

I am writing in response to your inquiry as to whether the operation of a mechanical bull requires a Department of Consumer Affairs ("DCA") license.

According to Title 20, Subchapter 3, §20-211(a) of the New York City Administrative Code ("Code"), an amusement device is "any contrivance, open to the public, that carries and conveys passengers along, around or over a fixed or restricted course or within a defined area for the purpose of amusing and entertaining its passengers, other than coin operated amusement devices as defined in subdivision b of this section."

Section 20-212(b) of the Code states that "it shall be unlawful for any person to operate or for the owner to permit the operation of an amusement device unless such owner has first obtained a license for such amusement device."

The mechanical bull you described simulates the movements of a real bull in a rodeo. Upon information and belief, a person sits on the bull while the bull moves up and down and rotates 360 degrees. In other words, the bull carries and conveys the passenger within a defined area for the purpose of amusing and entertaining the passenger. Therefore, the mechanical bull is an amusement device and its operation requires a license from DCA.

For your convenience, I have enclosed an application for a permanent amusement device license. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely, 


Staff Counsel

www.nyc.gov/consumers