

1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Illinois Explosives Act is amended by  
5 changing Section 2001 as follows:

6 (225 ILCS 210/2001) (from Ch. 96 1/2, par. 1-2001)

7 Sec. 2001. No person shall possess, use, purchase or  
8 transfer explosive materials unless licensed by the Department  
9 except as otherwise provided by this Act and the Pyrotechnic  
10 Distributor and Operator Licensing Act.

11 (Source: P.A. 93-263, eff. 7-22-03.)

12 Section 10. The Pyrotechnic Operator Licensing Act is  
13 amended by changing Sections 1, 5, 10, 30, 35, 50, 65, 75, and  
14 90 and adding Section 57 as follows:

15 (225 ILCS 227/1)

16 Sec. 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the  
17 Pyrotechnic Distributor and Operator Licensing Act.

18 (Source: P.A. 93-263, eff. 7-22-03.)

19 (225 ILCS 227/5)

20 Sec. 5. Definitions. In this Act:

21 "1.3G fireworks" means fireworks that are used for  
22 professional outdoor displays and classified as fireworks  
23 UN0333, UN0334, or UN0335 by the United States Department of  
24 Transportation under 49 C.F.R. 172.101.

25 "BATFE" means the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and  
26 Firearms Enforcement.

27 "Consumer fireworks" means fireworks that must comply with  
28 the construction, chemical composition, and labeling  
29 regulations of the U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission, as

1 set forth in 16 C.F.R. Parts 1500 and 1507, and classified as  
2 fireworks UN0336 or UN0337 by the United States Department of  
3 Transportation under 49 C.F.R. 172.101. "Consumer fireworks"  
4 does not include a substance or article exempted under the  
5 Fireworks Use Act.

6 "Display fireworks" means ~~any substance or article defined~~  
7 ~~as a Division 1.3G or special effects fireworks 1.4 explosive~~  
8 ~~by the United States Department of Transportation under 49 CFR~~  
9 ~~173.50, except a substance or article exempted under the~~  
10 ~~Fireworks Use Act.~~

11 "Facility" means an area being used for the conducting of a  
12 pyrotechnic display business, but does not include residential  
13 premises except for the portion of any residential premises  
14 that is actually used in the conduct of a pyrotechnic display  
15 business.

16 "Fireworks" has the meaning given to that term in the  
17 Fireworks Use Act.

18 "Flame effect" means the detonation, ignition, or  
19 deflagration of flammable gases, liquids, or special materials  
20 to produce a thermal, physical, visual, or audible effect  
21 before the public, invitees, or licensees, regardless of  
22 whether admission is charged in accordance with NFPA 160.

23 "Lead pyrotechnic operator" means the individual with  
24 overall responsibility for the safety, setup, discharge, and  
25 supervision of a pyrotechnic display.

26 "Office" means Office of the State Fire Marshal.

27 "Person" means an individual, firm, corporation,  
28 association, partnership, company, consortium, joint venture,  
29 commercial entity, state, municipality, or political  
30 subdivision of a state or any agency, department, or  
31 instrumentality of the United States and any officer, agent, or  
32 employee of these entities.

33 "Pyrotechnic display" or "display" means the detonation,  
34 ignition, or deflagration of display fireworks or flame effects  
35 to produce a visual or audible effect of an exhibitional nature  
36 before the public, invitees, or licensees, regardless of

1 whether admission is charged.

2 "Pyrotechnic distributor" means any person, company,  
3 association, group of persons, or corporation who distributes  
4 display fireworks for sale in the State of Illinois or provides  
5 them as part of a pyrotechnic display service in the State of  
6 Illinois or provides only pyrotechnic services.

7 "Special effects fireworks" means pyrotechnic devices used  
8 for special effects by professionals in the performing arts in  
9 conjunction with theatrical, musical, or other productions  
10 that are similar to consumer fireworks in chemical compositions  
11 and construction, but are not intended for consumer use and are  
12 not labeled as such or identified as "intended for indoor use".  
13 "Special effects fireworks" are classified as fireworks UN0431  
14 or UN0432 by the United States Department of Transportation  
15 under 49 C.F.R. 172.101.

16 (Source: P.A. 93-263, eff. 7-22-03.)

17 (225 ILCS 227/10)

18 Sec. 10. License; enforcement. No person may act as a  
19 pyrotechnic distributor or lead pyrotechnic operator, or  
20 advertise or use any title implying that the person is a  
21 pyrotechnic distributor or lead pyrotechnic operator, unless  
22 licensed by the Office under this Act. An out-of-state person  
23 hired for or engaged in a pyrotechnic display must have a  
24 pyrotechnic distributor license issued by the Office. No  
25 pyrotechnic display shall be conducted without a person  
26 licensed under this Act as a lead pyrotechnic operator  
27 supervising the display. The State Fire Marshal, in the name of  
28 the People, through the Attorney General, the State's Attorney  
29 of any county, any resident of the State, or any legal entity  
30 within the State may apply for injunctive relief in any court  
31 to enjoin any person who has not been issued a license or whose  
32 license has been suspended, revoked, or not renewed, from  
33 practicing a licensed activity. Upon filing a verified petition  
34 in court, the court, if satisfied by affidavit, or otherwise,  
35 that the person is or has been practicing in violation of this

1 Act, may enter a temporary restraining order or preliminary  
2 injunction, without bond, enjoining the defendant from further  
3 unlicensed activity. A copy of the verified complaint shall be  
4 served upon the defendant and the proceedings are to be  
5 conducted as in other civil cases. The court may enter a  
6 judgment permanently enjoining a defendant from further  
7 unlicensed activity if it is established that the defendant has  
8 been or is practicing in violation of this Act. In case of  
9 violation of any injunctive order or judgment entered under  
10 this Section, the court may summarily try and punish the  
11 offender for contempt of court. Injunctive proceedings are in  
12 addition to all penalties and other remedies in this Act.

13 (Source: P.A. 93-263, eff. 7-22-03.)

14 (225 ILCS 227/30)

15 Sec. 30. Rules. The State Fire Marshal shall adopt all  
16 rules necessary to carry out its responsibilities under this  
17 Act including rules requiring the training, examination, and  
18 licensing of pyrotechnic distributors and lead pyrotechnic  
19 operators ~~engaging in or responsible for the handling and use~~  
20 ~~of Division 1.3G (Class B) and 1.4 (Class C) explosives.~~ The  
21 ~~test shall incorporate the~~ rules of the State Fire Marshal,  
22 ~~which~~ shall be based upon nationally recognized standards such  
23 as those of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)  
24 1123 guidelines for outdoor displays, ~~and~~ NFPA 1126 for  
25 proximate audience indoor displays, and NFPA 160 for flame  
26 effect displays. The State Fire Marshal shall conduct the  
27 training and examination of pyrotechnic operators and  
28 pyrotechnic distributors or may delegate the responsibility to  
29 train and examine pyrotechnic distributors and operators to the  
30 Department of Natural Resources. ~~The Fire Marshal shall adopt~~  
31 ~~rules as required for the licensing of a lead pyrotechnic~~  
32 ~~operator involved in an outdoor or indoor pyrotechnic display.~~

33 (Source: P.A. 93-263, eff. 7-22-03.)

34 (225 ILCS 227/35)

1           Sec. 35. Licensure requirements and fees.

2           (a) Each application for a license to practice under this  
3 Act shall be in writing and signed by the applicant on forms  
4 provided by the Office. ~~The Office shall have the testing~~  
5 ~~procedures for licensing as a lead pyrotechnic operator~~  
6 ~~developed by October 1, 2004.~~

7           (b) After January 1, 2006 ~~April 1, 2005~~, all pyrotechnic  
8 displays, both indoor and outdoor, must comply with the  
9 requirements set forth in this Act.

10           (c) After January 1, 2006 ~~April 1, 2005~~, no person  
11 ~~individual~~ may engage in pyrotechnic distribution without  
12 first applying for and obtaining a license from the Office.  
13 Applicants for a license must submit to the Office the  
14 following:

15                 (1) A current BATFE license for distribution of display  
16 fireworks.

17                 (2) Proof of \$1,000,000 in product liability  
18 insurance.

19                 (3) Proof of \$1,000,000 in general liability  
20 insurance.

21                 (4) Proof of Illinois Worker's Compensation Insurance.

22                 (5) A license fee set by the Office.

23                 (6) Proof of a current United States Department of  
24 Transportation (DOT) Identification Number.

25                 (7) Proof of a current USDOT Hazardous Materials  
26 Registration Number.

27                 (8) Proof of having the requisite knowledge, either  
28 through training, examination, or continuing education, as  
29 established by Office rule.

30           (c-5) After January 1, 2006, no individual may act as a  
31 lead operator in a pyrotechnic display without first applying  
32 for and obtaining a lead pyrotechnic operator's license from  
33 the Office. The Office shall establish separate licenses for  
34 lead pyrotechnic operators for indoor and outdoor pyrotechnic  
35 displays. Applicants for a license must:

36                 (1) Pay the fees set by the Office.

1           (2) Have the requisite training or continuing  
2 education as established in the Office's rules.

3           (3) (Blank) ~~Pass the examination presented by the~~  
4 ~~Office.~~

5           (d) A person is qualified to receive a license under this  
6 Act if the person meets all of the following minimum  
7 requirements:

8           (1) Is at least 21 years of age.

9           (2) Has not willfully violated any provisions of this  
10 Act.

11           (3) Has not made any material misstatement or knowingly  
12 withheld information in connection with any original or  
13 renewal application.

14           (4) Has not been declared incompetent by any competent  
15 court by reasons of mental or physical defect or disease  
16 unless a court has since declared the person competent.

17           (5) Does not have an addiction to or dependency on  
18 alcohol or drugs that is likely to endanger the public at a  
19 pyrotechnic display.

20           (6) Has not been convicted in any jurisdiction of any  
21 felony within the prior 5 years.

22           (7) Is not a fugitive from justice.

23           (8) Has, or has applied for, a BATFE explosives license  
24 or a Letter of Clearance from the BATFE.

25           (e) A person is qualified to assist a lead operator if the  
26 person meets all of the following minimum requirements:

27           (1) Is at least 18 years of age.

28           (2) Has not willfully violated any provision of this  
29 Act.

30           (3) Has not been declared incompetent by any competent  
31 court by reasons of mental or physical defect or disease  
32 unless a court has since declared the person competent.

33           (4) Does not have an addiction to or dependency on  
34 alcohol or drugs that is likely to endanger the public at a  
35 pyrotechnic display.

36           (5) Has not been convicted in any jurisdiction of any

1 felony within the prior 5 years.

2 (6) Is not a fugitive from justice.

3 (Source: P.A. 93-263, eff. 7-22-03.)

4 (225 ILCS 227/50)

5 Sec. 50. Issuance of license; renewal; fees nonrefundable.

6 (a) The Office, upon the applicant's satisfactory  
7 completion of the requirements imposed under this Act and upon  
8 receipt of the requisite fees, shall issue the appropriate  
9 license showing the name, address, and photograph of the  
10 licensee and the dates of issuance and expiration. The license  
11 shall include the name of the pyrotechnic distributor employing  
12 the lead pyrotechnic operator. A lead pyrotechnic operator is  
13 required to have a separate license for each pyrotechnic  
14 distributor who employs the lead pyrotechnic operator.

15 (b) Each licensee may apply for renewal of his or her  
16 license upon payment of the applicable fees. The expiration  
17 date and renewal period for each license issued under this Act  
18 shall be set by rule. Failure to renew within 60 days of the  
19 expiration date results in lapse of the license. A lapsed  
20 license may not be reinstated until a written application is  
21 filed, the renewal fee is paid, and the reinstatement fee  
22 established by the Office is paid. Renewal and reinstatement  
23 fees shall be waived for persons who did not renew while on  
24 active duty in the military and who file for renewal or  
25 restoration within one year after discharge from the service. A  
26 lapsed license may not be reinstated after 5 years have elapsed  
27 except upon passing an examination to determine fitness to have  
28 the license restored and by paying the required fees.

29 (c) All fees paid under this Act are nonrefundable.

30 (Source: P.A. 93-263, eff. 7-22-03.)

31 (225 ILCS 227/57 new)

32 Sec. 57. Training; additional lead pyrotechnic operators.  
33 No pyrotechnic distributor shall allow any person in the  
34 pyrotechnic distributor's employ to act as a lead pyrotechnic

1 operator until the person has obtained a lead pyrotechnic  
2 operator's license from the Office. Nothing in this Section  
3 shall prevent an assistant from acting as a lead pyrotechnic  
4 operator under the direct supervision of a licensed lead  
5 pyrotechnic operator for training purposes.

6 (225 ILCS 227/65)

7 Sec. 65. Grounds for discipline. Licensees subject to this  
8 Act shall conduct their practice in accordance with this Act  
9 and the rules promulgated under this Act. A licensee is subject  
10 to disciplinary sanctions enumerated in this Act if the State  
11 Fire Marshal finds that the licensee is guilty of any of the  
12 following:

13 (1) Fraud or material deception in obtaining or  
14 renewing a license.

15 (2) Engaging in dishonorable, unethical, or  
16 unprofessional conduct of a character likely to deceive,  
17 defraud, or harm the public in the course of professional  
18 services or activities.

19 (3) Conviction of any crime that has a substantial  
20 relationship to his or her practice or an essential element  
21 of which is misstatement, fraud, dishonesty, or conviction  
22 in this or another state of any crime that is a felony  
23 under the laws of Illinois or conviction of a felony in a  
24 federal court, unless the licensee demonstrates that he or  
25 she has been sufficiently rehabilitated to warrant the  
26 public trust.

27 (4) Performing any service in a grossly negligent  
28 manner or permitting any lead pyrotechnic operator or  
29 assistant ~~licensed employee~~ to perform a service in a  
30 grossly negligent manner, regardless of whether actual  
31 damage or damage to the public is established.

32 (5) Addiction to or dependency on alcohol or drugs or  
33 use of alcohol or drugs that is likely to endanger the  
34 public at a pyrotechnic display.

35 (6) Willfully receiving direct or indirect



1 compensation for any professional service not actually  
2 rendered.

3 (7) Having disciplinary action taken against his or her  
4 license in another state.

5 (8) Making differential treatment against any person  
6 to his or her detriment because of race, color, creed, sex,  
7 religion, or national origin.

8 (9) Engaging in unprofessional conduct.

9 (10) Engaging in false or misleading advertising.

10 (11) Contracting or assisting an unlicensed person to  
11 perform services for which a license is required under this  
12 Act.

13 (12) Permitting the use of his or her license to enable  
14 an unlicensed person or agency to operate as a licensee.

15 (13) Performing and charging for a service without  
16 having the authorization to do so from the member of the  
17 public being served.

18 (14) Failure to comply with any provision of this Act  
19 or the rules promulgated under this Act.

20 (15) Conducting business regulated by this Act without  
21 a currently valid license in those circumstances where a  
22 license is required.

23 (Source: P.A. 93-263, eff. 7-22-03.)

24 (225 ILCS 227/75)

25 Sec. 75. Formal charges; hearing.

26 (a) The Office may file formal charges against a licensee.  
27 The formal charges, at a minimum, shall inform the licensee of  
28 the specific facts that are the basis of the charge to enable  
29 the licensee to defend himself or herself.

30 (b) Each licensee whose conduct is the subject of a formal  
31 charge that seeks to impose disciplinary action against the  
32 licensee shall be served notice of the formal charge at least  
33 30 days before the date of the hearing. The hearing shall be  
34 presided over by the Office or a hearing officer authorized by  
35 the Office in compliance with the Illinois Administrative

1 Procedure Act. Service shall be considered to have been given  
2 if the notice was personally received by the licensee or if the  
3 notice was mailed certified, return requested, to the licensee  
4 at the licensee's last known address as listed with the Office.

5 (c) The notice of a formal charge shall consist, at a  
6 minimum, of the following information:

7 (1) The time and date of the hearing.

8 (2) A statement that the licensee may appear personally  
9 at the hearing and may be represented by counsel.

10 (3) A statement that the licensee has the right to  
11 produce witnesses and evidence in his or her behalf and the  
12 right to cross-examine witnesses and evidence produced  
13 against him or her.

14 (4) A statement that the hearing can result in  
15 disciplinary action being taken against the ~~his or her~~  
16 license.

17 (5) A statement that rules for the conduct of these  
18 hearings exist and that it may be in the licensee's ~~his or~~  
19 ~~her~~ best interest to obtain a copy.

20 (6) A statement that the hearing officer authorized by  
21 the Office shall preside at the hearing and, following the  
22 conclusion of the hearing, make findings of fact,  
23 conclusions of law, and recommendations, separately  
24 stated, to the Office as to what disciplinary action, if  
25 any, should be imposed on the licensee.

26 (7) A statement that the Office may continue the  
27 hearing.

28 (d) The Office or the hearing officer authorized by the  
29 Office shall hear evidence produced in support of the formal  
30 charges and contrary evidence produced by the licensee, if any.  
31 If the hearing is conducted by a hearing officer, at the  
32 conclusion of the hearing, the hearing officer shall make  
33 findings of fact, conclusions of law, and recommendations,  
34 separately stated, and submit them to the Office and to all  
35 parties to the proceeding. Submission to the licensee shall be  
36 considered as having been made if done in a similar fashion as

1 service of the notice of formal charges. Within 20 days after  
2 the service, any party to the proceeding may present to the  
3 Office a motion, in writing, for a rehearing. The written  
4 motion shall specify the particular grounds for the rehearing.

5 (e) The Office, following the time allowed for filing a  
6 motion for rehearing, shall review the hearing officer's  
7 findings of fact, conclusions of law, recommendations, and any  
8 motions filed subsequent to the hearing. After review of the  
9 information the Office may hear oral arguments and thereafter  
10 issue an order. The report of findings of fact, conclusions of  
11 law, and recommendations of the hearing officer shall be the  
12 basis for the Office's order. If the Office finds that  
13 substantial justice was not done, it may issue an order in  
14 contravention of the hearing officer's findings.

15 (f) All proceedings under this Section are matters of  
16 public record and a record of the proceedings shall be  
17 preserved.

18 (Source: P.A. 93-263, eff. 7-22-03.)

19 (225 ILCS 227/90)

20 Sec. 90. Penalties. Any natural person who violates any of  
21 the following provisions is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor for  
22 the first offense and a corporation or other entity that  
23 violates any of the following provision commits a business  
24 offense punishable by a fine not to exceed \$5,000; a second or  
25 subsequent offense in violation of any Section of this Act,  
26 including this Section, is a Class 4 felony if committed by a  
27 natural person, or a business offense punishable by a fine of  
28 up to \$10,000 if committed by a corporation or other business  
29 entity:

30 (1) Practicing or attempting to practice as a  
31 pyrotechnic distributor or lead pyrotechnic operator  
32 without a license;

33 (2) Obtaining or attempting to obtain a license,  
34 practice or business, or any other thing of value by  
35 fraudulent representation;

1           (3) Permitting, directing, or authorizing any person  
2           in one's employ or under one's direction or supervision to  
3           work or serve as a licensee if that individual does not  
4           possess an appropriate valid license.

5           Whenever any person is punished as a repeat offender under  
6           this Section, the Office may proceed to obtain a permanent  
7           injunction against the person under Section 10. If any person  
8           in making any oath or affidavit required by this Act swears  
9           falsely, the person is guilty of perjury and upon conviction  
10          may be punished accordingly.

11          (Source: P.A. 93-263, eff. 7-22-03.)

12          Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
13          becoming law.