

## TITLE 9

BUSINESS, PEDDLERS, SOLICITORS, ETC.<sup>1</sup>

## CHAPTER

1. PEDDLERS, SOLICITORS, ETC.
2. POOL ROOMS.
3. CABLE TELEVISION.

## CHAPTER 1

PEDDLERS, SOLICITORS, ETC.<sup>2</sup>

## SECTION

- 9-101. Definitions.
- 9-102. Exemptions.
- 9-103. Permit required.
- 9-104. Permit procedure.
- 9-105. Restrictions on peddlers, street barkers and solicitors.
- 9-106. Restrictions on transient vendors.
- 9-107. Display of permit.
- 9-108. Suspension or revocation of permit.
- 9-109. Expiration and renewal of permit.
- 9-110. Violation and penalty.

9-101. Definitions. Unless otherwise expressly stated, whenever used in this chapter, the following words shall have the meaning given to them in this section:

(1) "Peddler" means any person, firm or corporation, either a resident or a nonresident of the town, who has no permanent regular place of business and who goes from dwelling to dwelling, business to business, place to place, or

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<sup>1</sup>Municipal code references

Beer: title 8.  
 Junkyards: title 13.  
 Liquor and beer regulations: title 8.  
 Privilege tax: title 5.  
 Property maintenance: title 13.  
 Noise reductions: title 11.  
 Zoning: title 14.

<sup>2</sup>Municipal code references

Privilege taxes: title 5.  
 Trespass by peddlers, etc.: § 11-601.

from street to street, carrying or transporting goods, wares or merchandise and offering or exposing the same for sale.

(2) "Solicitor" means any person, firm or corporation who goes from dwelling to dwelling, business to business, place to place, or from street to street, taking or attempting to take orders for any goods, wares or merchandise, or personal property of any nature whatever for future delivery, except that the term shall not include solicitors for charitable and religious purposes and solicitors for subscriptions as those terms are defined below.

(3) "Solicitor for charitable or religious purposes" means any person, firm, corporation or organization who or which solicits contributions from the public, either on the streets of the town or from door to door, business to business, place to place, or from street to street, for any charitable or religious organization, and who does not sell or offer to sell any single item at a cost to the purchaser in excess of ten dollars (\$10.00). No organization shall qualify as a "charitable" or "religious" organization unless the organization meets one of the following conditions:

(a) Has a current exemption certificate from the Internal Revenue Service issued under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code of 1954, as amended.

(b) Is a member of United Way, Community Chest or similar "umbrella" organizations for charitable or religious organizations.

(c) Has been in continued existence as a charitable or religious organization in Meigs County for a period of two (2) years prior to the date of its application for registration under this chapter.

(4) "Solicitor for subscriptions" means any person who solicits subscriptions from the public, either on the streets of the town, or from door to door, business to business, place to place, or from street to street, and who offers for sale subscriptions to magazines or other materials protected by provisions of the Constitution of the United States.

(5) "Transient vendor"<sup>1</sup> means any person who brings into temporary premises and exhibits stocks of merchandise to the public for the purpose of selling or offering to sell the merchandise to the public. Transient vendor does not include any person selling goods by sample, brochure, or sales catalog for future delivery; or to sales resulting from the prior invitation to the seller by the owner or occupant of a residence. For purposes of this definition, "merchandise" means any consumer item that is or is represented to be new or not previously owned by a consumer, and "temporary premises" means any public or quasi-public place including a hotel, rooming house, storeroom, building or part of a building, tent, vacant lot, railroad car, or motor vehicle which is temporarily occupied for the purpose of exhibiting stocks of merchandise to the public. Premises are not temporary if the same person has conducted business at those premises for more than six (6) consecutive months or has occupied the premises as his or her permanent residence for more than six (6) consecutive months.

(6) "Street barker" means any peddler who does business during recognized festival or parade days in the town and who limits his business to selling or offering to sell novelty items and similar goods in the area of the festival or parade.

9-102. Exemptions. The terms of this chapter shall neither apply to persons selling at wholesale to dealers, nor to newsboys, nor to bona fide merchants who merely deliver goods in the regular course of business.

9-103. Permit required. No person, firm or corporation shall operate a business as a peddler, transient vendor, solicitor or street barker, and no solicitor for charitable or religious purposes or solicitor for subscriptions shall solicit within the town unless the same has obtained a permit from the town in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

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<sup>1</sup>State law references

Tennessee Code Annotated, § 62-30-101, et seq., contains permit requirements for "transitory vendors."

The definition of "transient vendors" is taken from Tennessee Code Annotated, § 62-30-101(3). Note also that Tennessee Code Annotated, § 67-4-709(a) prescribes that transient vendors shall pay a tax of \$50.00 for each 14 day period in each county and/or municipality in which such vendors sell or offer to sell merchandise for which they are issued a business license, but that they are not liable for the gross receipts portion of the tax provided for in Tennessee Code Annotated, § 67-4-709(b).

9-104. Permit procedure. (1) Application form. A sworn application containing the following information shall be completed and filed with the city recorder by each applicant for a permit as a peddler, transient vendor, solicitor, or street barker and by each applicant for a permit as a solicitor for charitable or religious purposes or as a solicitor for subscriptions:

(a) The complete name and permanent address of the business or organization the applicant represents.

(b) A brief description of the type of business and the goods to be sold.

(c) The dates for which the applicant intends to do business or make solicitations.

(d) The names and permanent addresses of each person who will make sales or solicitations within the town.

(e) The make, model, complete description, and license tag number and state of issue, of each vehicle to be used to make sales or solicitations, whether or not such vehicle is owned individually by the person making sales or solicitations, by the business or organization itself, or rented or borrowed from another business or person.

(f) Tennessee State sales tax number, if applicable.

(2) Permit fee. Each applicant for a permit as a peddler, transient vendor, solicitor or street barker shall submit with his application a nonrefundable fee of twenty dollars (\$20.00). There shall be no fee for an application for a permit as a solicitor for charitable purposes or as a solicitor for subscriptions.

(3) Permit issued. Upon the completion of the application form and the payment of the permit fee, where required, the recorder shall issue a permit and provide a copy of the same to the applicant.

(4) Submission of application form to chief of police. Immediately after the applicant obtains a permit from the city recorder, the city recorder shall submit to the chief of police a copy of the application form and the permit.

9-105. Restrictions on peddlers, street barkers and solicitors. No peddler, street barker, solicitor, solicitor for charitable purposes, or solicitor for subscriptions shall:

(1) Be permitted to set up and operate a booth or stand on any street or sidewalk, or in any other public area within the town.

(2) Stand or sit in or near the entrance to any dwelling or place of business, or in any other place which may disrupt or impede pedestrian or vehicular traffic.

(3) Offer to sell goods or services or solicit in vehicular traffic lanes, or operate a "road block" of any kind.

(4) Call attention to his business or merchandise or to his solicitation efforts by crying out, by blowing a horn, by ringing a bell, or creating other noise, except that the street barker shall be allowed to cry out to call attention

to his business or merchandise during recognized parade or festival days of the town.

(5) Enter in or upon any premises or attempt to enter in or upon any premises wherein a sign or placard bearing the notice "Peddlers or Solicitors Prohibited," or similar language carrying the same meaning, is located.

9-106. Restrictions on transient vendors. A transient vendor shall not advertise, represent, or hold forth a sale of goods, wares or merchandise as an insurance, bankrupt, insolvent, assignee, trustee, estate, executor, administrator, receiver's manufacturer's wholesale, cancelled order, or misfit sale, or closing-out sale, or a sale of any goods damaged by smoke, fire, water or otherwise, unless such advertisement, representation or holding forth is actually of the character it is advertised, represented or held forth.

9-107. Display of permit. Each peddler, street barker, solicitor, solicitor for charitable purposes or solicitor for subscriptions is required to have in his possession a valid permit while making sales or solicitations, and shall be required to display the same to any police officer upon demand.

9-108. Suspension or revocation of permit. (1) Suspension by the recorder. The permit issued to any person or organization under this chapter may be suspended by the city recorder for any of the following causes:

(a) Any false statement, material omission, or untrue or misleading information which is contained in or left out of the application; or

(b) Any violation of this chapter.

(2) Suspension or revocation by the board of mayor and aldermen. The permit issued to any person or organization under this chapter may be suspended or revoked by the board of mayor and aldermen, after notice and hearing, for the same causes set out in paragraph (1) above. Notice of the hearing for suspension or revocation of a permit shall be given by the city recorder in writing, setting forth specifically the grounds of complaint and the time and place of the hearing. Such notice shall be mailed to the permit holder at his last known address at least five (5) days prior to the date set for hearing, or it shall be delivered by a police officer in the same manner as a summons at least three (3) days prior to the date set for hearing.

9-109. Expiration and renewal of permit. The permit of peddlers, solicitors and transient vendors shall expire on the same date that the permit holder's privilege license expires. The registration of any peddler, solicitor, or transient vendor who for any reason is not subject to the privilege tax shall be issued for six (6) months. The permit of street barkers shall be for a period corresponding to the dates of the recognized parade or festival days of the town. The permit of solicitors for religious or charitable purposes and solicitors for

subscriptions shall expire on the date provided in the permit, not to exceed thirty (30) days.

9-110. Violation and penalty. In addition to any other action the town may take against a permit holder in violation of this chapter, such violation shall be punishable under the general penalty provision of this code. Each day a violation occurs shall constitute a separate offense.

## CHAPTER 2

POOL ROOMS<sup>1</sup>

## SECTION

9-201. Prohibited in residential areas.

9-202. Hours of operation regulated.

9-203. Minors to be kept out; exception.

9-201. Prohibited in residential areas. It shall be unlawful for any person to open, maintain, conduct, or operate any place where pool tables or billiard tables are kept for public use or hire on any premises located in any block where fifty percent (50%) or more of the land is used or zoned for residential purposes. (1970 Code, § 5-501)

9-202. Hours of operation regulated. It shall be unlawful for any person to open, maintain, conduct, or operate any place where pool tables or billiard tables are kept for public use or hire at any time on Sunday. Pool halls may remain open and operate between the hours of 6:00 A.M. and 11:00 P.M. on Monday through Thursday; and from 6:00 A.M. to midnight on Friday and Saturday. (1970 Code, § 5-502, as amended by Ord. #63, May 1988)

9-203. Minors to be kept out; exception. It shall be unlawful for any person engaged regularly, or otherwise, in keeping billiard, bagatelle, or pool rooms or tables, their employees, agents, servants, or other persons for them, knowingly to permit any person under the age of eighteen (18) years to play on said tables at any game of billiards, bagatelle, pool, or other games requiring the use of cue and balls, without first having obtained the written consent of the father and mother of such minor, if living; if the father is dead, then the mother, guardian, or other person having legal control of such minor; or if the minor be in attendance as a student at some literary institution, then the written consent of the principal or person in charge of such school; provided that this section shall not apply to the use of billiards, bagatelle, and pool tables in private residences. (1970 Code, § 5-503)

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<sup>1</sup>Municipal code reference  
Privilege taxes: title 5.

## CHAPTER 3

CABLE TELEVISION

## SECTION

9-301. To be furnished under franchise.

9-301. To be furnished under franchise. Cable television service shall be furnished to the Town of Decatur and its inhabitants under franchise as the board of mayor and aldermen shall grant. The rights, powers, duties and obligations of the Town of Decatur and its inhabitants and the grantee of the franchise shall be clearly stated in the franchise agreement which shall be binding upon the parties concerned.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>For complete details relating to the cable television franchise agreement see Ord. #40 dated December 1982 in the office of the recorder.