NUISANCE BUSINESS LAW

ABOUT

The Nuisance Business Law was created to address the City’s commitment to reducing chronic nuisance behaviors in and around businesses to improve the health, safety, and welfare of the community. This new law is critical to improving the quality of life in our business communities. This law is an empowerment tool for business owners to be part of the solution by combatting nuisance behavior. When businesses are proactive in deterring nuisance behavior, commercial corridors will prosper and neighborhoods will improve.

WHAT IS NUISANCE BEHAVIOR?

Any behavior that interferes with the health, safety, and welfare of the community, including but not limited to:

- Litter on sidewalks
- Gambling
- Loitering
- Prostitution
- Public urination or defecation
- Vehicles parked on sidewalk
- Illegal drug activity or consumption of alcoholic beverages
- Unlawful street or sidewalk obstruction
- Off street parking spaces used for open storage, sale, or rental of goods, or storage of inoperable vehicles

WHAT IF THERE IS A NUISANCE BUSINESS IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD?

1. Contact your district Police Captain. Visit phillypolice.com/districts or call 311 to find contact information for your district Captain.

2. Attend the Police District Advisory Council (PDAC) meetings in your District and sign up for PDAC communications. District Captains will inform the PDAC when a business that is in violation of the law has been scheduled for an administrative review hearing with L&I. Community members or organizations located in close proximity to the business may present confidential written information to L&I for consideration at the hearing.

MY BUSINESS RECEIVED A NUISANCE BUSINESS NOTIFICATION LETTER. NOW WHAT?

If you received a nuisance business notification letter, the sooner you contact the Police Department, the better! The City is dedicated to not penalizing business owners of behavior out of their control if you take active measures. If business owners do not take steps to deter nuisance behavior, they will be held accountable by the City through violations and possible closure of their business by Licenses & Inspections. For an outline of steps to take, flip to the back side!

CONTACT

Department of Commerce, Office of Business Services | business@phila.gov | 215.683.2100
NUISANCE BUSINESS LAW
WHAT TO DO WHEN YOUR BUSINESS ReceIVES A NUISANCE BUSINESS NOTIFICATION LETTER

NOTIFICATION LETTER RECEIVED

CONTACT YOUR DISTRICT POLICE CAPTAIN
As soon as possible, contact your district Police Captain to discuss ways to remediate the issue. To find contact information, call 311 or visit phillypolice.com/districts

SHOW ADEQUATE REMEDIAL MEASURES
Work with the Police Department to take steps to show adequate remedial measures to reduce, eliminate, or prevent future recurrences of nuisance behavior, such as installing and maintaining security cameras and sufficient lighting around the business

NOTICE COMPLIED, CASE CLOSED

IF YOU DO NOT CONTACT YOUR CAPTAIN
If you receive three (3) Nuisance Business Notification Letters within sixty (60) days OR 7 Nuisance Business Notification Letters within twelve (12) months, and have not contacted or cooperated with the Police, you will be classified as a chronic nuisance business

IF YOUR BUSINESS IS CLASSIFIED AS A CHRONIC NUISANCE BUSINESS, YOU WILL RECEIVE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CEASE OPERATIONS FROM L&I

CONTACT L&I
You must contact the L&I within five (5) days to schedule an administrative review hearing.
At this proceeding, L&I will work with you to develop a nuisance abatement plan.

NOTICE COMPLIED, CASE CLOSED

IF YOU DO NOT CONTACT L&I
If you do not respond within five (5) days, L&I will issue a Cease Operations Order

YOUR BUSINESS WILL BE SHUT DOWN

NOTES:
1. Business owners have the option to appeal from the actions of the Police and L&I.
2. Language assistance is available upon request when contacting your Police Captain.