

## **ORDINANCE NO. 2012-O-154**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 18 OF THE CITY OF LAREDO CODE OF ORDINANCES BY ADDING A NEW ARTICLE V TO BE ENTITLED, "REGULATIONS FOR NEW BUSINESS REGISTRATION," PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION, AND PROVIDING FOR A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE.**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council deems it necessary, for the purpose of promoting the health, safety, morals and general welfare of the City and its residents, to adopt and enforce regulations regarding the registration of businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to identify business locations and operations within the city will help guide the orderly growth of new business and enhance the efficient delivery of city services, including police and fire; and

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAREDO, TEXAS THAT:**

**Section 1:** Chapter 18 "Licenses, Permits and Miscellaneous Business Regulations" of the Code of the City of Laredo is hereby amended by adding a new Article V to read as follows:

### **ARTICLE V REGULATIONS FOR NEW BUSINESS REGISTRATION**

#### **Section 18-2 Definition.**

As used in this Article, the term "Business" shall mean the purchase and sales of goods and services for a profit.

#### **Section 18-3 Registration Requirements.**

The submission of a completed registration application containing the following information is required for every new business in the City of Laredo:

- (1) The legal and assumed name of the business and the business owner;
- (2) The address of the business and the address of the owner;
- (3) The business telephone and the cell phone number of the owner or the manager;
- (4) The type of business and or the primary business operation;
- (5) The legal description of the business site; and,
- (6) The signature of the applicant certifying that all information submitted is true correct.

#### **Section 18-4 Permit Approvals Required**

Every new business must have approval from the following departments and or divisions within the departments:

- (1) Building Development Services Department. Application must be reviewed and approved by zoning division, building division, right-of-way division and environmental engineer.
- (2) The Planning Department. Historic Preservation Division must review and approve if business is located within a designated historic district.
- (3) The Health Department. Application must be reviewed and approved if business involves the selling or handling of food.
- (4) The Fire Department. Application must be reviewed and approved to ensure business is in compliance with all applicable fire codes.

#### **Section 18-5 Application Fee**

Every new business shall pay a registration application fee of fifty (\$50.00) dollars. Any existing business shall pay fifty (\$50.00) dollars for a change of name fee.

Every new business must have a Certificate of Occupancy to conduct business within the City of Laredo. A Certificate of Occupancy will be issued upon approval from the above departments and/or divisions within the departments if applicable.

#### **Section 18-6 Issuance of New Business Permit**

The Building Development Services Director or his designee will issue an applicant a new business permit only after all of the requirements of contained herein, have been met.

#### **Section 18-7 Enforcement**

The duly constituted authorities having the duty of enforcing the ordinances of the City, including but not limited to the Building Development Services Department, may enforce any of the provisions of this Article by any lawful means.

#### **Section 18-8 Penalty Clause**

Any person, firm, corporation or business entity violating any of the provisions or terms of this ordinance shall be deemed guilty of a Class C misdemeanor and shall upon conviction be punished by a fine not to exceed five hundred (\$500.00) for each offense.

#### **Section 2: Publication**

#### **Section 3: Severability**

If any provision, section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance, or the application of the same to any person or set of circumstances is for any reason held to be unconstitutional, void or invalid, the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance or their

application to other persons or sets of circumstances shall not be affected thereby, so that all provisions of this ordinance are declared to be severable for that purpose.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 17th DAY OF September, 2012.

  
RAUL G. SALINAS  
MAYOR

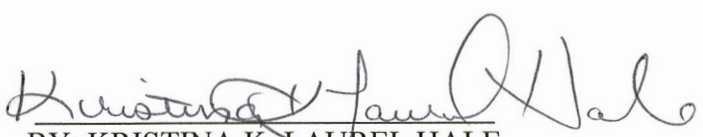
ATTEST:

  
GUSTAVO GUEVARA, JR.  
CITY SECRETARY



APPROVED AS TO FORM:

RAUL CASSO  
CITY ATTORNEY

  
BY: KRISTINA K. LAUREL HALE  
ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY