



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
LANSING

DAN WYANT
DIRECTOR

DATE: May 5, 2005

TO: All Local Health Departments (LHD's)
Attn: Health Officer/Director of Environmental Health/Chief Sanitarian
Michigan Department of Agriculture
Attn: Food and Dairy Division Managers

FROM: Thomas Crook, Manager
Food Service Sanitation Section
Food and Dairy Division

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas Crook".

SUBJECT: Food Service Licensing Questions and Answers

I would like to share some questions that I have recently received relative to licensing.

Special Transitory Food Unit (STFU)

Question: Can I renew an STFU license if the applicant has not paid for and received the two \$90.00 operational inspections?

Answer: No. The Food Law, Section 6137(2)(d) states an STFU license holder shall "While in operation, request and receive two inspections per licensing year. A local health department and the department shall charge a fee of \$90.00 for such an inspection".

Section 6137(3) states "If a license holder fails to comply with any of the requirements of this section or the Food Code, the food establishment is ineligible for licensure as a special transitory food establishment for the following licensing year and must apply for temporary or other type of food establishment licenses.

We have held fast to this requirement and have not issued licenses without evidence of two paid operational inspections since the adoption of the Food Law. Under the new licensing procedures, local health is responsible for issuing licenses in accordance with the Food Law and may not issue a license to an STFU operator found to be in violation of 6137(2)(d).

Follow the "Food Service Licensing Procedures" for deleting licenses.

MDA's licensing database requires the dates the two operational inspections were conducted for each STFU. Please include the inspections dates in the "facilities

approved” spreadsheet (electronic or hardcopy) that is required to be submitted to MDA by the 1st and 15th of each month.

Licenses in Need of Correction

Question: Corrections are needed on both the application and the license for one of my food service establishments. What do I need to do?

Answer: The “Food Service License Issuance Agreement” between MDA and the Local Health Department requires the LHD to return applications and licenses in need of correction to MDA. MDA will make the corrections and re-issue the license. MDA cannot re-issue the license until the application and both copies of the license requiring correction have been received.

Mobile Food Establishments

Question: In the past, the LHD entered the decal number on the mobile food license application and sent the application to MDA. MDA printed the license with the decal number on it. Now the mobile food establishment licenses are printed by MDA before the decal is issued. Is this a problem?

Answer: No. The Food Law does not require the decal number to be printed on the license. Local health departments should not write decal numbers on mobile food establishment licenses. MDA’s licensing database, however, needs the decal number that has been issued for each mobile food establishment. Please include mobile food establishment decal numbers on the “facilities approved” spreadsheet.

I hope that this information has been helpful. Please contact me at (517) 241-0933 or Rosy Ruedger at (517) 241-2434 if you have any questions.