

# Sign Permits & Regulations

Applied by Many Municipalities to Both New and Temporary Signage.

## Sign Ordinances: All in Favor?

Many cities argue that regulations reduce visual clutter and end competitive "sign wars." Signage codes can also help protect the character of a community or enhance its identity.



## ... All Opposed?

Foes of sign laws note that ordinances require adequate staffing to review applications, conduct inspections and enforce codes. Regulations also burden businesses with added costs.

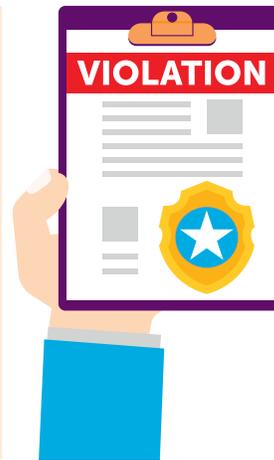


Sign applications for city historic districts are among the most scrutinized, as leaders seek to ensure that designs are compatible with each building's architectural style.



## When Erecting Signs, Fees Can Mount

Many municipalities charge a fee not only for the initial permit, but also for periodic inspections as well as the sign's eventual removal.



## Penalties: Fine with You?

Fines for unpermitted signs can be substantial, reaching up to \$15,000 per sign per day in Chicago, for example. Other cities remove noncompliant signs... at the sole expense of the owner.

## All According to Plan

Before issuing a permit for a sign, many cities require you to submit a plan to ensure it meets regulations regarding size, location, lighting and the presence of other signs on the property.



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