Business Licenses
BLIP
Information Program

Surveillance Cameras

Small businesses can become targets for theft and violent crimes. Surveillance cameras assist in deterring crime and can provide information to the police to investigate when crimes do occur. An ordinance to require surveillance cameras was enacted in 2005 to protect the public health, safety and welfare by increasing security for patrons and employees of these businesses. Minneapolis Code of Ordinances Section 259.230.

These businesses must have a surveillance camera operating in their stores during business hours:

Gas stations with groceries	Tobacco dealers	Grocery stores
Off-sale liquor establishments	Confectioneries – candy stores	

Other Requirements

Stores have other requirements regarding their surveillance cameras.

1. Signage: A sign notifying the public that a surveillance camera is operating on the premises.
2. One camera must be aimed at the entrance door.
3. Police or Business Licenses must be able to get recording material within 8 hours of their request.
4. Minneapolis Police or Business Licenses can inspect the camera to ensure it operates properly.
5. Surveillance cameras must record in color.
6. Recorded materials must be clear in all lighting conditions and easily viewed. A camera must be fixed to record the entrance door; a panning camera is not allowed.
7. Date and time stamps must be printed on the recorded materials.
8. Surveillance cameras must record during all hours of operation of the business.

Only Two Types of Surveillance Camera Systems Are Allowed

VHS/S-VHS Analog Systems

- VHS systems must record at 240 lines of horizontal resolution.
- S-VHS systems must record at 400 lines of horizontal resolution.
- The store must have 32 videotapes with the date each month the tape is recording.
- Videotapes must be replaced every 12 months.

Digital Surveillance Systems

- The digital system must be able to store and retrieve 30 days of recorded materials.
- Recorded materials must be able to be retrieved by business owner and made available to Business Licenses or Minneapolis Police in a viewable format.

What Happens if You Are in Violation?

1. Expect a letter, telephone call, or visit from a License Inspector describing the complaint or violation.
2. Take this notice seriously. Call your Inspector for information or solutions.
3. Failure to comply with violation orders may result in citations, fines, suspensions, and revocation of your license to operate.

Questions? Give us a call: 612-673-3000 or 311

For more information in other languages: Yog xav paub tshaj nos ntxiv, hu 612-673-2800. Macluumaad dheeri ah, kala soo xiriir 612-673-3500. Para mas información llame al 612-673-2700.