



TOWN OF ROCKLAND
Board of Health
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REGULATIONS CONCERNING THE PRACTICE OF BODY ART

Section I - Rationale

The Town of Rockland promulgates these rules and regulations of Body Art, which provide minimum requirements to be met by any person performing Body Art activities for hire upon another individual and for any establishment wherein Body Art activities are to be performed. These requirements include, but are not limited to, requirements concerning the general sanitation of the establishments wherein Body Art activities are to be performed, requirements concerning the general sanitation of the establishments and sterilization of the instruments to be used in the conduct of the Body Art. By enacting these rules and regulations, the Rockland Board of Health has determined that these rules and regulations are necessary to protect the public's health by preventing diseases, including, but not limited to, the transmission of hepatitis B and/or human immunodeficiency virus (HIV/AIDS).

In addition, this regulation establishes a requirement for registration and a procedure for registration with the Board of Health of all persons performing Body Art activities, a requirement for minimal training standards for all practitioners including requirements for the prevention of disease transmission and for knowledge of anatomy and physiology; provision for the regular inspection of establishments wherein Body Art activities are to be performed and for the revocation of the registration of any person or establishment deemed in violation of the rules and regulations promulgated under these regulations, or for other means of enforcement of the provisions of the regulation.

This regulation provides for an annual fee to be paid by a person and establishment registered under this regulation. This fee is intended to help defray the cost to the Town of Rockland for the administration of the requirements of the regulation.

Section II - Authority

These rules and regulations are adopted under the authority of the Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 111, Section 31.

Section III - Purpose and Scope

The purpose of these regulations is to protect the public health by establishing minimum conditions governing the practice of Body Art in the Town of Rockland.

Section IV - Definitions

Aftercare: The written instruction given to the client, specific to the Body Art procedure(s) rendered, about caring for the Body Art and surrounding area. These instructions will include information about when to seek medical treatment, if necessary.

Blood-borne Pathogens Standard: OSHA Regulations 29 CFR 1910.1030.

Board of Health or Board: The Rockland Board of Health or its agent(s).

Body Art: The practice of physical body adornment by permitted establishments and practitioners using, but not limited to the following techniques: body piercing, tattooing, cosmetic tattooing, braiding, branding, and scarification. This definition does not include practices that are considered medical procedures by the Board of Registration in Medicine in the Commonwealth, such as implants under the skin, which shall not be performed in a Body Art establishment.

Body Art Establishment or establishment: A specified place or premise that has been granted a permit by the Board, whether public or private, where the practices of Body Art are performed, whether or not for profit.

Body Art Practitioner or practitioner: A specified person who has been granted a permit by the Board to perform Body Art in a Body Art establishment that has been granted a valid permit by the Board of Health.

Body Piercing: The puncturing or penetration of the skin of a person with pre-sterilized, single-use needles and the insertion of pre-sterilized jewelry or other adornment thereto in the opening. This definition includes piercing of the outer perimeter of the ear, but does not include piercing of the earlobe with pre-sterilized, single-use stud-and-clasp ear-piercing systems.

Braiding: The cutting of strips of skin of a person, which strips are then to be intertwined with one another and placed onto a person so as to cause or allow the incised and inter-woven strips of skin to heal in such an intertwined condition.

Branding: Inducing a pattern of scar tissue by use of a heated material (usually metal) to the skin, making a serious burn, which eventually becomes a scar.

Client: Any person who has requested a Body Art procedure at a Body Art establishment.

Contaminated Waste: Any Liquid or semi-liquid blood or other potentially infectious materials; contaminated items that would release blood or other potentially infectious materials in a liquid or semi-liquid state if compressed; items that are caked with dried blood or other potentially infectious materials and are capable of releasing these materials during handling; sharps and any wastes containing blood and other potentially infectious materials, as defined in 29 Code of Federal Regulations Part 1910.1030 (latest edition) known as "Occupational Exposure to Blood-borne Pathogens" or as defined as "infectious or physically dangerous medical or biological waste" in accordance with 105 CMR 480.00. Storage and Disposal of infectious or Physically Dangerous Medical or Biological Waste, State Sanitary Code, Chapter VIII and the Town of Rockland's local regulations concerning infectious and hazardous waste.

Cosmetic Tattooing: see "Tattooing"

Disinfectant: A product registered as a disinfectant by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Disinfection: The destruction of disease-causing micro-organisms on inanimate objects or surfaces, thereby rendering these objects safe for use or handling.

Ear Piercing: The puncturing of the lobe of the ear with a pre-sterilized, single-use, stud-and-clasp ear-piercing system following the manufacturer's instructions.

Equipment: All machinery, including fixtures, containers, vessels, tools, devices, implements, furniture, display and storage areas, sinks, and all other apparatus and appurtenances used in connection with the operation of a Body Art establishment.

Hand Sink: A lavatory equipped with hot and cold running water under pressure, used solely for washing hands, arms or other portions of the body.

Hot Water: Water that attains and maintains a temperature of 110-130 degrees Fahrenheit.

Instruments Used for Body Art: Hand pieces, needles, needle bars and other instruments that may come in contact with a client's body or may be exposed to bodily fluids during Body Art procedures.

Invasive: The entry into the client's body either by incision or insertion of any instruments into or through the skin or mucosa, or by any other means intended to puncture, break or otherwise compromise the skin or mucosa.

Jewelry: Any personal ornament inserted into a newly pierced area, which must be made of surgical implant-grade steel; solid 14k or 18k white or yellow gold, niobium, titanium or platinum; or a dense, low-porosity plastic, which is free of nicks, scratches or irregular surfaces and has been properly sterilized prior to use.

Minor: Any person under the age of eighteen (18) years.

Mobile Body Art Establishment: Any trailer, truck, car, van, camper or other motorized or non-motorized vehicle, shed, tent, movable structure, bar home or other facility wherein, or concert, fair, party or other event whereat, one desires to, or actually does, conduct Body Art procedures.

Operator: Any person who alone / jointly or severally with others owns, has care, charge or control of any Body Art establishment as agent or lessee of the owner or as an independent contractor, but is not a Body Art practitioner.

Permit: An approval in writing by the Board of Health either (1) to operate a Body Art establishment or (2) to operate as a Body Art practitioner within a Body Art establishment. Board approval shall be granted solely for the practice of Body Art pursuant to these regulations. Said permit is exclusive of the establishment's compliance with other licensing or permitting requirements that may exist within community or political subdivision compromising the Board's jurisdiction.

Person: Any individual, any form of business or social organization or any other non-governmental legal entity, including but not limited to, corporations, partnerships, limited-liability companies, associations, trusts or unincorporated organizations.

Practitioner: see "Body Art Practitioner".

Physician: An individual registered by the Board of Registration in Medicine pursuant to M.G.L. c 112 § 2 as a qualified physician.

Procedure Surface: Any surface of an inanimate object that contacts the client's unclothed body during a Body Art procedure, skin preparation of the area adjacent to and including the Body Art procedure, or any associated work area which may require sanitizing.

Sanitizing Procedure: A process of reducing the numbers of micro-organisms on cleaned surfaces and equipment to a safe level as judged by public health standards and which has been approved by the Board of Health.

Sanitary: Clean and free of agents of infection or disease.

Sanitized: The effective disinfectant treatment by a process using intermediate disinfectants for enough time to reduce the bacteria count including pathogens to a safe level on semi-critical or non-critical equipment.

Scarification: Altering skin texture by cutting the skin and controlling the body's healing process in order to produce wounds, which result in permanently raised wheals or bumps known as keloids.

Sharps: Any objects (sterile or contaminated) that may purposefully or accidentally cut or penetrate the skin or mucosa, including, but not limited to, needle devices, lancets, scalpel blades, razor blades and broken glass.

Sharps Container: A puncture-resistant, leak-proof container that can be closed for handling, storage, transportation and disposal and that is labeled with the International Biohazard Symbol.

Single Use: Products or items that are intended for one-time, one-person use and are disposed of after each use on each client, including, but not limited to, cotton swabs or balls, tissues or paper products, paper or plastic cups, gauze and sanitary coverings, razors, piercing needles, scalpel blades, stencils, ink cups and protective gloves.

Sterilize: The use of a physical or chemical procedure to destroy all microbial life including highly resistant bacterial endospores.

Tattoo: The indelible mark, figure or decorative design introduced by insertion of dyes or pigments into or under the subcutaneous portion of the skin.

Tattooing: Any method of placing ink or other pigment into or under the skin or mucosa by the aid of needles or other instruments used to puncture the skin, resulting in permanent coloration of the skin or mucosa. This term includes all forms of cosmetic tattooing.

Temporary Body Art Establishment: The same as Mobile Body Art Establishment.

Universal Precautions: A set of guidelines and controls, published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as "Guidelines for Prevention of Transmission of Human Immunodeficiency Virus and Hepatitis B Virus to Health-Care and Public-Safety Workers" in Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMW), June 23, 1989, Vol. 38 No. S-6, and as "Recommendations for Preventing Transmission of Human Immunodeficiency Virus and Hepatitis B Virus to Patients During Exposure-Prone Invasive Procedures" in MMWR July 12, 1991, Vol. 40, No. RR-8. This method of infection control requires the employer and the employee to assume that all human blood and specified human body fluids are infectious for HIV, HBV and other blood pathogens. Precautions include hand-washing, gloving, personal protective equipment, injury prevention and proper handling and disposal of needles, other sharp instruments and blood and body fluid contaminated products.

Section V - Exemptions

- A. Physicians licensed in accordance with M.G.L. c 112, § 2 who perform Body Art procedures as part of patient treatment are exempt from these regulations.
- B. Individuals who pierce only the lobe of the ear with a pre-sterilized, single-use, stud-and-clasp ear piercing system are exempt from these regulations.

Section VI – Restrictions

- A. No tattooing, piercing of genitalia, braiding, branding or scarification shall be performed on a person under the age of 18 regardless of parental or guardian consent.
- B. Body piercing, other than piercing of genitalia, may be performed on a person under the age of 18 provided that the person is accompanied by a properly identified parent, legal custodial parent or legal guardian, who has signed a form consenting to such procedure. Properly identified shall mean a valid photo identification of the adult and a birth certificate of the minor.

- C. No Body Art shall be performed upon an animal.
- D. The following body piercings are hereby prohibited: piercing of the uvula, piercing of the tracheal area, piercing of the neck, piercing of the ankle, piercing between the ribs or vertebrae, piercing of the web of the hand or foot, piercing of the lingual frenulum (tongue web), piercing of the clitoris, any form of chest or deep muscle piercings, excluding the nipple, piercing of the anus, piercing of an eyelid, whether top or bottom, piercing of the gums, piercing or skewering of a testicle, so called "deep" piercing of the penis - meaning piercing through the shaft of the penis, or "trans-penis" piercing in any area from the corona glandis to the pubic bone, so called "deep" piercing of the scrotum - meaning piercing through the scrotum, or Tran scrotal piercing; so called "deep" piercing of the vagina.
- E. The following practices are hereby prohibited unless performed by a medical doctor licensed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts: tongue splitting; three dimensional/beading/implementation tooth filing/fracturing removal/tattooing; cartilage modification; amputation; genital modification; introduction of saline or other liquids.
- F. Any establishment or individual found to be in violation of any of the above restrictions will be subject to a fine of \$100.00 per offense and further remedies contained in Section 19 of these Regulations.

Section VII - General Provisions

Unless otherwise ordered or approved by the Board, each Body Art establishment must be constructed, operated and maintained to meet the following minimum requirements:

- A. Physical Plant
 - 1) All walls, floors, ceilings and procedure surfaces within the Body Art establishment shall be smooth, free of open holes or cracks, light- colored, washable and in good repair. Walls, floors and ceiling shall be maintained in a clean condition. All procedure surfaces, including client chair/benches, shall be of such construction as to be easily cleaned and sanitized after each client.
 - 2) All Body Art establishments shall be completely separated by solid partitions or by walls extending from floor to ceiling, from any room used for human habitation, any food establishment or room where food is prepared, any hair salon, any retail sales or any other such activity that may cause potential contamination of work surfaces.
 - 3) Effective measures shall be taken by the Body Art operator to protect against entrance into the establishment and against the breeding or presence on the premises of insects, vermin and rodents. Insects, vermin and rodents shall not be present in any part of the establishment or adjacent structure.

- 4) There shall be a minimum of 80 square feet of floor space for each practitioner in the establishment. Each establishment shall have an area that may be screened from public view for clients requesting privacy. Multiple Body Art stations shall be separated by dividers, curtains or partitions, at a minimum.
- 5) The establishment shall be well-ventilated and provided with an artificial light source equivalent to at least 20 foot candles 3 feet off the floor, except that at least 100 foot candles shall be provided at the level where the Body Art procedure is being performed and where instruments and sharps are assembled.
- 6) A separate, readily accessible hand-sink with hot and cold running water, equipped with wrist or foot-operated controls and supplied with liquid soap and disposable paper towels shall be readily accessible within the Body Art establishment. One hand-sink shall serve no more than one practitioner. Hand-sink must be installed according to local plumbing code. A separate mop sink must be provided for cleanup of the establishment.
- 7) There shall be a minimum of one lavatory, excluding any service sinks and one working toilet in a Body Art establishment.
- 8) At least one covered waste receptacle shall be provided in each operator area and each toilet room. Receptacles in the operator area shall be emptied daily and solid waste shall be removed from the premises at least weekly. All refuse containers shall be lidded, cleanable and kept clean.
- 9) All instruments and supplies shall be stored in clean, dry and covered containers.
- 10) Practitioners who use ear-piercing systems must conform to the manufacturer's directions for use and applicable U.S. Food and Drug Administration requirements.
- 11) Reusable cloth items shall be mechanically washed with detergent and dried after each use. The cloth items shall be stored in a dry, clean environment until used.
- 12) No animals of any kind shall be allowed in a Body Art establishment except service animals used by persons with disabilities (e.g. Seeing Eye Dogs). Fish aquariums shall be allowed in waiting rooms and non-procedural areas.

B. Information to be Kept on File

The following information shall be kept on file on the premises of a Body Art establishment and available for inspection by the Board:

- 1) Employee information
 - a) Full names and exact duties
 - b) Date of Birth
 - c) Home Address
 - d) Home / Work Phone Numbers
 - e) Identification Photos of All Body Art Practitioners
 - f) Establishment Information
 - g) Establishment Name
 - h) Hours of Operation
 - i) Owner's Name & Address
 - 2) A complete description of all Body Art "procedures performed"
 - 3) An inventory of all instruments and body jewelry, all sharps and all inks used for any and all Body Art procedures, including names of manufacturers and serial or lot numbers, if applicable. Invoices or orders shall satisfy this requirement.
 - 4) Current contract of contaminated Waste Hauler (permitted by The Town of Rockland)
 - 5) Copy of these regulations
- C. It shall be unlawful for any person to perform Body Art procedures unless such procedures are performed in a Body Art establishment with a current permit.
- D. Each Body Art practitioner shall perform all Body Art procedures in accordance with Universal Precautions set forth by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- E. Each Body Art practitioner must be a minimum of 18 years of age.
- F. Jewelry is any personal ornament inserted into a newly pierced area, which must be made of surgical implant-grade stainless steel, solid 14k or 18k white or yellow gold, niobium, titanium or platinum, or a dense, low-porosity plastic, which is free of nicks, scratches, or irregular surfaces and has been properly sterilized prior to use.

- G. Smoking, eating or drinking is prohibited in the area where Body Art is performed.
- H. Operators / Practitioners shall refuse service to any person who, in the opinion of the Operator /Practitioner, is under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- I. The practitioner shall maintain a high degree of personal cleanliness, conform to hygienic practices and wear clean clothes when performing Body Art procedures. Before performing Body Art procedures, the practitioner must thoroughly wash their hands in hot running water with liquid soap, then rinse hands and dry with disposable paper towels. This shall be done as often as necessary to remove contaminants.
- J. In performing Body Art procedures, the practitioner shall wear disposable, single-use non-latex gloves. Gloves must be changed if they become contaminated by contact with any unclean surfaces or objects or by contact with a third person. The gloves shall be discarded, at a minimum after the completion of each procedure on an individual client, and hands shall be washed before the next set of gloves is donned. Under no circumstances shall a single pair of gloves be used on more than one person. The use of disposable, single-use gloves does not preclude or substitute for handwashing procedures as part of a good personal hygiene program.
- K. If, while performing a Body Art procedure, the practitioners glove is pierced, torn or otherwise contaminated, the procedure delineated in Section (I) shall be repeated immediately. The contaminated gloves shall be immediately discarded, and the hands washed thoroughly before a fresh pair of gloves is applied. Any item or instrument used for Body Art that is contaminated during the procedure shall be discarded and replaced immediately with a new disposable item or new sterilized instrument or item before the procedure resumes.
- L. Contaminated waste, as defined in this code, that may release liquid blood or body fluids when compressed or may release dried blood or body fluids when handled must be placed in an approved "red" bag marked with the International Biohazard Symbol. It must then be disposed in accordance with 105 CMR 480.00: Storage and Disposal of Infectious or Physically Dangerous Medical or Biological Waste, State Sanitary Code, Chapter VIII, or at a minimum, in compliance with 29 CFR Part 1910-1030, "Occupational Exposure to Blood-borne Pathogens". Used sharps, ready for disposal, shall be disposed of in approved sharps containers. Contaminated waste that does not release liquid blood or body fluids when compressed or does not release dried blood or body fluids when handled may be placed in a covered receptacle and disposed of through normal, approved disposal methods. Storage of contaminated waste on site shall not exceed thirty (30) days as specified in 39 CFR Part 1910.1030.
- M. No practitioner shall perform any Body Art procedure upon a client under the age of 18 years without the presence, written consent and proper identification of a parent, legal custodial parent or legal guardian. Nothing in this section shall require a practitioner to perform any Body Art procedure on a person under 18 years of age regardless of parental or guardian consent.

- N. Any skin or mucosa surface to receive a Body Art procedure shall be free of rash or any visible infection.
- O. The skin of the practitioner shall be free of rash or infection. No person or operator affected with boils, infected wounds, open sores, abrasions, weeping dermatological lesions or acute respiratory infection shall work in any area of a Body Art establishment in any capacity in which there is a likelihood that that person could contaminate Body Art equipment, supplies or working surfaces with body substances or pathogenic organisms.
- P. Proof shall be provided, upon request of the Board, that all practitioners have either completed or were offered and declined, in writing, the hepatitis B vaccination series. This offering shall be included as a pre-employment requirement.
- Q. No person shall establish or operate a Mobile or Temporary Body Art Establishment.

Section VIII - Public Notification Requirements

- A. All establishments shall prominently display, and give to each client, a Disclosure Statement, provided by the Department of Public Health, which advises the public of risks and possible consequences of Body Art procedures
- B. Verbal and written instructions, provided by the Department of Public Health, for the aftercare of the Body Art procedure site shall be provided to the client by the operator/practitioner upon completion of the procedure.
 - 1) The written instructions shall advise the client:
 - a) On the proper cleansing of the area which received the Body Art procedure;
 - b) To consult a healthcare provider for:
 - 1. unexpected redness, tenderness or swelling at the site of the Body Art procedure;
 - 2. rash;
 - 3. drainage at or from the site of the Body Art procedure;
 - 4. fever within 24 hours of the Body Art procedure;
 - c) Address, phone number and business hours of the establishment;
 - d) These documents shall be signed and dated by both parties, with a copy given to the client and operator retaining the original with all other required records.
 - 2) The facility permit holder shall also post in public view the name, address and phone number of the Board of Health that has jurisdiction over this program and the procedure for filing a complaint.

Section IX - Client Records

Prior to performing any Body Art procedure, the Body Art practitioner shall request from the client, verbally and in writing, the following health history information:

- A. History of diabetes;
- B. History of hemophilia (bleeding);
- C. History of skin diseases, skin lesions, or skin sensitivities to soaps, disinfectants, etc.;
- D. History of allergies or adverse reactions to pigments, dyes or other sensitivities;
- E. History of epilepsy, seizures, fainting and/or narcolepsy;
- F. Use of medications such as anticoagulants, which thin the blood and/or interfere with blood clotting;
- G. Hepatitis and/or any other chronic conditions (cellulitis);
- H. History or suspicion of adverse reaction to latex or products containing latex.

The practitioner shall have the client sign a Release Form confirming that the above information was obtained or that the practitioner attempted to obtain it.

The client should be asked to disclose any other information that would aid the practitioner in evaluating the client's suitability for Body Art procedures.

Each operator shall keep records of all Body Art procedures administered, including date, time, identification and location of the Body Art procedures performed and practitioner's name. All client records shall be confidential and be retained for a minimum of three (3) years and made available to the Board of Health upon notification.

Nothing in this section shall be construed to require the practitioner to perform a Body Art procedure upon a client.

Section X - Injury Reports

A written report of any injury, infection, complication or disease to a client as a result of a Body Art procedure, or complaint of injury, infection complication or disease, shall be forwarded by the operator or practitioner to the Board of Health which issued the permit with a copy to the complainant or injured client within five (5) working days of its occurrence or knowledge thereof. The report shall include:

- A. The name of the affected client;
- B. The name and location of the Body Art establishment involved;

- C. The nature of the injury, infection, complication or disease;
- D. The name and address of the affected client's health care provider, if any;
- E. Any other information considered relevant to the situation.

Section XI - Records Retention

The Body Art establishment shall keep a record of all persons who have had Body Art procedures performed. The record shall include the name, date of birth and address of the client, the date of the procedure, the name of the practitioner who performed the procedure(s), type and location of procedure(s) performed, signature of client and, if the client is a minor, proof of parental or guardian presence and consent. Such records shall be retained for a minimum of three (3) years and shall be available to the Board of Health upon request. The Board of Health and the Body Art establishment shall keep such records confidential.

Section XII - Preparation and Care of the Body Art Area

- A. Before a Body Art procedure is performed, the immediate skin area and the areas of skin surrounding where the Body Art procedure is to be placed shall be washed with soap and water or an approved surgical skin preparation. If shaving is necessary, single-use disposable razors shall be used. Blades shall be discarded after each use and reusable holders shall be autoclaved after use. Following shaving, the skin and surrounding area shall be washed with soap and water. The washing pad shall be discarded after a single use.
- B. In the event of bleeding, all products used to stop the bleeding or to absorb blood shall be single use, discarded immediately after use in appropriate covered containers, and disposed of in accordance with 105 CMR 480.000.

Section XIII - Sanitation and Sterilization Procedures

- A. All non-single-use, non-disposable instruments used for Body Art shall be cleaned thoroughly after each use by scrubbing with an appropriate soap or disinfectant solution and hot water, a solution of household chlorine bleach as recommended by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) or by following the manufacturer's instructions to remove blood and tissue residue, and shall be placed in an ultrasonic unit operated in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.
- B. After being cleaned, non-disposable instruments used for Body Art shall be packed individually in peel-packs and subsequently sterilized. All peel-packs shall contain either a sterilizer indicator or internal temperature indicator. Peel packs must be dated with an expiration date not to exceed six (6) months.

- C. All cleaned, non-disposable instruments used for Body Art shall be sterilized in a steam autoclave. The sterilizer shall be used, cleaned and maintained according to manufacturer's instruction. A copy of the manufacturer's recommended procedures for the operation of the sterilization unit must be available for inspection by the Board of Health.
- D. Sterile equipment may not be used if the package has been breached or after the expiration date without first re-packaging and re-sterilizing. Sterilizers shall be located away from workstations or areas frequented by the public. If the Body Art establishment uses only single-use, disposable instruments and products and uses sterile supplies, an autoclave shall not be required.
- E. Each holder of a permit to operate a Body Art establishment shall demonstrate that the sterilizer used is capable of attaining sterilization by monthly spore destruction tests. These tests shall be verified through an independent laboratory. The permit shall not be issued or renewed until documentation of the sterilizer's ability to destroy spores is received by the Board of Health. These test records shall be retained by the operator for a period of three (3) years and made available to the Board of Health upon request.
- F. All reusable needles used in Body Art procedures shall be cleaned and sterilized prior to use and stored in peel-packs. After sterilization, the instruments used in Body Art procedures shall be stored in a dry, clean cabinet or other tightly covered container reserved for the storage of such instruments.
- G. All instruments used for Body Art procedures shall remain stored in sterile packages until just prior to the performance of a Body Art procedure. When assembling instruments used for Body Art procedures, the operator shall wear disposable medical gloves and use medically recognized techniques to ensure that the instruments and gloves are not contaminated.
- H. All inks, dyes, pigments, needles and equipment shall be specifically manufactured for performing Body Art procedures and shall be used according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- I. The mixing of approved inks, dyes or pigments or their dilution with sterile water is acceptable. Immediately before a tattoo is applied, the quantity of the dye to be used shall be transferred from the dye bottle and placed into single-use paper cups or plastic cups. Upon completion of the tattoo, these single cups or caps and their contents shall be discarded.

Section XIV - Requirements for Single Use Items

- A. Single-use items shall not be used on more than one client for any reason. After use, all single-use sharps shall be immediately disposed of in approved sharps containers and in accordance with 105 CMR 480.00.
- B. All products applied to the skin, including Body Art stencils, shall be single use and disposable. Acetate stencils may be re-used if approved by the Board.

- C. Petroleum jellies, soaps and other products used in the application of stencils shall be dispensed and applied on the area to be tattooed with sterile gauze or other sterile applicator to prevent contamination of the original container and its contents. The applicator or gauze shall be used only once and then discarded.

Section XV - Permit Requirements

Body Art establishments shall submit a scale drawing and floor plan of the proposed establishment for a plan review by the Board as part of the permit application process.

A. Establishment Permit:

- 1) No person, firm, partnership, joint venture, association, business trust, corporation or organized group of persons may operate a Body Art establishment except with a Body Art establishment permit from the Board of Health. No license or permit shall be issued until after a public hearing has been held by the Board of Health; which shall be based on the satisfaction that said use is appropriate and that it will not create a nuisance or is not dangerous to the public health.
- 2) Any person operating a Body Art establishment shall obtain an annual permit from the Board of Health. The Board of Health shall set a reasonable fee for such permit.
- 3) A permit for a Body Art establishment shall not be transferable from one place or person to another.
- 4) A valid Body Art establishment permit shall be posted in a prominent and conspicuous area where clients may readily observe it.
- 5) The holder of a Body Art establishment permit must hire only practitioners who have complied with the practitioner permit requirements of this code.
- 6) All permits expire on December 31 of the year of issuance.

B. Body Art Practitioner Permit

- 1) No person shall practice Body Art procedures without first obtaining an operator permit from the Board of Health. The Board of Health shall set a reasonable fee for such permits.
- 2) The practitioner permit shall be valid from the date of issuance and shall automatically expire on December 31 of the year of issuance, unless sooner revoked by the Board of Health.

C. Application for a practitioner permit shall include:

- 1) name;
- 2) date of birth;
- 3) residence address;
- 4) mailing address;
- 5) phone number;
- 6) place(s) of employment as a practitioner;
- 7) training and/or experience:
 - a) evidence satisfactory to the Board of at least two year's actual experience in the practice of performing Body Art activities of the kind for which the applicant seeks a Body Art Practitioner License to perform, whether such experience was obtained within or outside the Commonwealth.
 - b) evidence of a minimum (12) month completed apprenticeship program as approved by the Board, with instruction in the kind of Body Art for which the applicant seeks a Body Art License to perform.
- 8) proof of attendance and a passing grade (C or better) at a blood borne pathogen training program (or equivalent) given or approved by the Board of Health.
 - a) The applicant shall provide documentation of attendance and passing grade (C or better) of courses approved by the Board, or completion of an examination, on the following subjects:
 1. anatomy & physiology
 2. skin diseases, disorders and conditions (including diabetes)
 3. infectious disease control, including waste disposal, handwashing, techniques, sterilization, equipment operation and methods, and sanitation/disinfection sterilization methods and techniques.
 - b) Examples of courses approved by the Board include courses such as "Preventing Disease Transmission", American Red Cross "Blood Borne Pathogen Training" and U.S. OSHA. Training courses provided by professional Body Art organizations or associations or by equipment manufacturers may also be submitted to the Board of Health for approval.
 - c) First aid/CPR

- 9) No permit shall be issued unless, following reasonable investigation by the Board of Health, the Body Art establishment or practitioner has demonstrated compliance with the provisions of this section and all other provisions of these regulations.
- 10) All permits shall be conditioned upon continued compliance with the provisions of this section, as well as, all applicable provisions of these regulations.
- 11) All permits shall be posted in a prominent and conspicuous area where clients may readily observe them.

Section XVI - Complaints

- A. The Board of Health shall investigate written complaints received about an establishment or practitioner's practices or acts, which may violate any provision of the Board's regulation.
- B. If the Board of Health finds that an investigation is not required because the alleged act or practice is not in violation of the Board's regulations, then the Board of Health shall notify the complainant of this finding and the reasons on which it is based.
- C. If the Board of Health finds that an investigation is required, because the alleged act or practice may be in violation of the Board's regulation, the Board shall investigate. If a finding is made that the act or practice is in violation of the Board's regulations, then the Board shall apply whatever enforcement action is appropriate to remedy the situation and shall notify the complainant of its action in this matter.
- D. Investigation of complaints may lead to enforcement actions including revocation, suspension, or refusal to renew a permit by the Board of Health.

Section XVII - Grounds for Denial of Permit

- A. The Board of Health may deny a permit on any of the following grounds:
 - 1) Failure to conform to the requirements of the Board 's regulations;
 - 2) Any actions or omissions which would indicate that the health or safety of the public would be at risk should a permit be approved;
 - 3) Any previous violation of the Board's regulations;
 - 4) Any attempt to practice or obtain a permit through fraud, deceit or misrepresentations;
 - 5) Criminal conduct which the Board determines to be of such a nature as to render the establishment or practitioner unfit to practice Body Art as evidenced by criminal proceedings resulting in a conviction, guilty plea or plea of nolo contendere or an admission of sufficient facts;

- 6) Other just and sufficient cause which the Board may determine would render the establishment or practitioner unfit to practice Body Art;
- 7) Practicing Body Art while the ability to practice is impaired by alcohol, drugs, physical disability or mental instability;
- 8) Being habitually drunk or being dependent on, or a habitual user of narcotics, barbiturates, amphetamines, hallucinogens or other drugs having similar effects;
- 9) Knowingly permitting, aiding or abetting an unauthorized person to perform activities requiring a permit; and,
- 10) Having been disciplined in another jurisdiction in any way by the proper permitting authority for reasons substantially the same as those set forth in the Board of Health regulations.

B. Applicants denied a permit may reapply any time after denial.

Section XVIII - Grounds for Suspension of Permit

The Board of Health may summarily suspend a permit pending a final hearing on the merits of the question of revocation if, based on the evidence before it, the Board determines that an establishment and/or a practitioner is an immediate and serious threat to the public health, safety or welfare. The suspension of a permit shall take effect immediately upon written notice of such suspension by the Board of Health.

Section XIX - Grounds for Revocation of Permit or Refusal to Renew Permit

The Board of Health may revoke a permit or refuse to renew a permit on the following grounds, each of which, in and of itself, shall constitute full and adequate grounds for revocation or refusal to renew:

- A. Fraud or misrepresentation in obtaining a permit, or its renewal;
- B. Criminal conduct which the Board of Health determines to be of such a nature as to render the establishment or practitioner unfit to practice Body Art as evidenced by criminal proceedings resulting in a conviction, guilty plea or plea of nolo contendere or an admission of sufficient facts;
- C. Violation of any rule or regulation of the Board of Health governing the practice of Body Art;
- D. Other just and sufficient cause which the Board of Health may determine would render the establishment or practitioner unfit to practice Body Art;

- E. Practicing Body Art while the ability to practice is impaired by alcohol, drugs, physical disability or mental instability;
- F. Being habitually drunk or being dependent on, or a habitual use of, narcotics, barbiturates, amphetamines, hallucinogens, or other drugs having similar effects;
- G. Knowingly permitting, aiding or abetting an unauthorized person to perform activities requiring a permit;
- H. Continuing to practice when his/her permit is lapsed, suspended or revoked;
- I. Having been disciplined in another jurisdiction in any way by the proper permitting authority for reasons substantially the same as those set forth in the Board of Health regulations; and
- J. Refusing to practice Body Art on a person because of such person's race, creed, color, gender, age, disability, national origin or sexual orientation.

The Board shall notify an applicant, establishment or practitioner in writing of any violation of the Board's regulations, for which the Board intends to deny, revoke, or refuse to renew a permit. The applicant, establishment or practitioner shall have seven (7) days after receipt of such written notice in which to comply with the Board's regulations. The Board of Health may deny, revoke or refuse to renew a permit if the applicant, establishment or practitioner fails to comply after said seven (7) days.

Section XX - Procedure for Hearings

- A. Initial application for a permit shall require notice in the form of a public hearing. All cost to be the responsibility of the applicant.
- B. Suspension of a Permit:
 - 1) Upon written request to the Board of Health, the establishment or practitioner shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard concerning the suspension of the permit by the board;
 - 2) Such a hearing shall be initiated pursuant to 801 CMR. 1.00 et seq. (Standard Adjudicatory Rules of Practice and Procedure) no later than twenty-one (21) calendar days after the effective date of the suspension;
 - 3) In cases of suspension of a permit, the Board of Health shall determine by a preponderance of the evidence that there existed, immediately prior to or at the time of the suspension, an immediate and serious threat to the public health, safety or welfare. The Board of Health shall issue a written decision, which contains a summary of the testimony and evidence considered, and the reasons for the decision.

Section XXI - Denial, Revocation, or Renew a Permit

- A. A permit may be denied, revoked or refused renewal only after a hearing conducted by the Board of Health;
- B. If the Board determines that a permit shall be denied, revoked or not renewed pursuant to the Board's regulations, the Board shall initiate a hearing in accordance with 801 CMR 1.00 et seq.
- C. Following the hearing, the Hearing Officer shall issue a written decision that contains a summary of the testimony and evidence considered and the reasons for the decision.

Section XXII - Unauthorized Practice of Body Art

Any individual or establishment found to be practicing Body Art without a license and/or permit will be subject to the following fines:

First Offense: \$500.00

Second Offense: \$1,000.00

In the event of any further offense, the matter will be referred to the appropriate District Attorney, the Attorney General or other law enforcement agency for prosecution.

Section XXIII - Severability

If any rule or provision contained herein is found to be unconstitutional or invalid by a Court of competent jurisdiction, the validity of the remaining rules and provisions will not be so affected.

Section XXIV - Adoption

These regulations are adopted by a vote of the Rockland Board of Health at the meeting of March 13, 2001. The effective date is April 1, 2001.

Victoria Diebel, Chairperson
Stephen Nelson, Vice Chairman
Paul Mooney