



GUIDELINES & STANDARDS

GUIDELINE A.14 – Fire Performances

A.14.1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this guideline is to provide minimum requirements for the protection of the viewing audience, performers, operators, support personnel, and property where flame effects are used in the City of Newport Beach.

A.14.2 SCOPE

This guideline shall apply to live flame effects for both indoor and outdoor fire performances before an audience.

A.14.3 Definitions

Fuel Station: An area where performers frequently apply fuel to their fire tools during a performance.

Performance Area: The area or stage where the fire dancer conducts a performance for the audience.

Spinout Zone: An area where performers “spin off” excess fuel from their fire tool after refueling at a fuel station.

A.14.4 Procedure

To obtain an event permit, complete the online Special Event Application and the 'Fire Performer Application.' Upload the completed Fire Performer Application along with a detailed plan to the online Special Event Application. The plan must include the performance area, fuel station, spinout area, required safe distances to the audience, and distances to combustibles. Submit the application to the Newport Beach Life Safety Services Division at least two weeks before the event.

- **Advance Walkthrough**: When performances are conducted indoors, Life Safety Services personnel must conduct a location walkthrough in advance of the show to determine such factors as clear, well-marked exits, ventilation, fire alarms and sprinkler systems, ceiling height, and other environmental and safety considerations, dependent upon an indoor or outdoor performance.



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- **Safe Distances:** The front edge of the performance area shall be at least 15 feet from the audience and the Fuel Station and Spinout Zone must be at least 15 feet from the stage.
- **Fuels:** Fuels with low flash points such as gasoline shall not be used. White gas, 99% pure lamp oil, or similar fuels shall be used.
- **Equipment:** Dip cans, drip pans, and other fueling equipment shall be metal.
- **Safety Team:** The performer shall provide a minimum of two safety team members. Additional performers may require additional safety designees. Each safety team member shall have a wet towel and a minimum 2:A-10:BC fire extinguisher with a current State Fire Marshal service tag attached and each member shall be trained in the proper use of fire extinguishers. Safety team personnel shall be solely responsible for performer assistance, audience control, evacuation procedures, be familiar with the location of all exits, keep unauthorized persons away from the fuel station and spinout zone, and have telephone communication readily available for the purpose of calling 9-1-1 in the event of an emergency.
- **Performer:** The performer(s) shall have the same training as the safety personnel. If the flame lasts longer than the presentation, safety personnel should assist with smothering the wicks. Costumes shall be made of non-flammable or fire resistant materials.
- **Indoor Performances:** When at all possible, place the fuel area outside of the building. Always maintain a clear path from the fuel area to the stage. Never move fire or wet wicks through the audience. If the venue is equipped with fire sprinklers or fire alarms, the performer shall contact the buildings engineer to ensure that these systems will not be compromised. The performance area shall be checked for combustibles, curtains, floorings, ceilings, and decorations. Any hazards noted shall be moved a minimum of 15 feet from the performance area.



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- **Outdoor Performances:** The area shall be cleared a minimum of 15 feet from all dry grass, weeds, trees or other combustible materials. Ensure the area overhead is clear of trees or other combustibles. Barricades or other audience control methods shall be in place. A wet towel and a minimum 2:A-10:BC fire extinguisher shall be readily available.
- **Fire Personnel Standby:** When required by the fire code official, the fire department shall provide a standby person for performances. The cost of standby personnel shall be the responsibility of the person/group requesting the permit.
- **Additional State License:** If the fire performance is planning to include pyrotechnics, please be aware that California law requires you to obtain a State Theatrical License. This license authorizes the use of special effects, blank cartridges, colored fire, flash paper, flash, smoke composition, sparklers and similar devices in theatrical performances. This license will be required to be provided as part of your submittal and disclosed in your special event permit.

*Fire Performances are not permitted to be conducted in designated Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone areas. Any activity conducted in these areas will be susceptible to penalty fees and legal consequences.

**Newport Beach Fire Department
Motion Picture & Entertainment Safety**

100 Civic Center Drive Bay D
Newport Beach, CA 92660
(949) 644-3106



FIRE PERFORMER APPLICATION

Permit Applicant

Business Name :			
Applicant 1: Last Name (Legal Name Required)	MI	First Name	Stage Name (If Applicable)
Applicant 2: Last Name (Legal Name Required)	MI	First Name	Stage Name (If Applicable)
<i>If additional applicants, please attach an additional page(s) with names listed.</i>			
Mailing Address	City	State	Zip Code
Country	Phone No. -- ext.		
Street Address (if different from above)	City	State	Zip Code
Email			

Event Sponsor/Promoter

Business Name:			
Contact Person : Last Name	MI	First Name	
Mailing Address	City	State	Zip Code
Phone No. 1 -- ext.	Email Address		
Phone No. 2 -- ext.	Date & Time of Fire Performance		

Venue Description

Venue Name:	On Site Contact Person:	On Site Contact Phone Number:	
Venue Street Address	City	Zip Code	Venue Phone No. --ext.
Event Description:	Describe the location of the hazard area within the venue:		

Is the Performance Indoors or Outdoors

Outdoors		Indoors	
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Stage/floor materials

	Concrete		Wood		Tile		Other
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Ceiling/overhead clearance

	7-10 Feet		10-15 Feet		15-20 Feet		20 + Feet
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Any additional site-specific information
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Performance Description

Duration of performance		Number of sets in performance		Approximate sq. footage of hazard area	
Number of Fire Performers		Number of Flame Effect Assistants			
Description of different Flame Effect Assistant roles (Fire Safety, Photographers, etc)					

Flame Effect Devices to be activated on stage. Please check all those that apply.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Fire Poi	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fire Hoop	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fire Knives/Swords	Other* (Please specify)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fire Staff	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fire Torches	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fire Breathing	

Fuel to be used. Please check all those that apply.

<input type="checkbox"/>	White Gas	<input type="checkbox"/>	Paraffin	Other (Please specify)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Kerosene	<input type="checkbox"/>	Isopropyl	

Insurance	YES	NO	Additional Information? (Optional)
Insurance			

Holding Area Description

Number of "No Smoking" Signs		Number of Fire Extinguishers	
Type of Fire Extinguishers		Description or Method of Extinguishing Flame Effect(s)	

Please check all those that apply. If "NO", please explain.

Holding Area Description	YES	NO	If "NO", please explain.
Fuel Station			
Spin Out Area			
Staging Area			

Certification

I certify that I am qualified by reason of training, knowledge, and field experience in safe storage, use and handling of flammable materials applicable to this permit. I further certify that the information provided on this permit is truthful to the best of my knowledge.

Applicant 1

Date:	Print Name:
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Signature:

Applicant 2

Date:	Print Name:
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Signature:
