



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

Attention: Modified Special Event Permit Applicants

Effective March 1, 2014

The City of San Diego will no longer issue Modified Special Event Permits, which were previously issued to authorize the use of alcohol at private events held in Mission Bay Park where the use of alcohol is otherwise prohibited without a Special Event Permit. Applicants who previously applied for a Modified Special Event Permit, must now apply for a Special Event Permit and shall be required to comply with the standard terms and conditions for alcohol management described in the Special Events Planning Guide, which is attached to this notice (Attachment A SDPD Alcohol Management Permit Conditions). You are receiving this notice because our records indicate that you or a representative of your organization has obtained a Modified Special Event Permit within the past two years. All applications received prior to March 1, 2014 will be reviewed and acted upon based on the applicant’s compliance with the terms and conditions for the issuance of a Modified Special Event Permit. Modified Special Event Permits that have already been issued for an event date that has not yet occurred will remain valid for that event.

Background

On November 4, 2008, the citizens of San Diego passed Proposition D amending the San Diego Municipal Code to prohibit alcohol consumption at City beaches, Mission Bay Park, and coastal parks except when authorized by a Special Event Permit. To assist in the transition after the passage of Proposition D, modifications to the standard permit conditions for alcohol management at a Special Event were developed through the temporary establishment of a Modified Special Event Permit. These temporary modifications to the standard permit requirements for alcohol management at Special Events are not grandfathered rights and applied only to private events held at specific locations in Mission Bay Park on those specific event dates for which a Modified Special Event Permit had been issued.

Commitment to Public Safety

The San Diego Police Department has established procedures to manage the use of alcohol throughout the City of San Diego to ensure public safety at Special Events and surrounding neighborhoods. These alcohol management requirements are intended to strike an appropriate balance by allowing the consumption of alcohol at Special Events in certain limited circumstances, while at the same time, allowing the police department to adequately ensure public safety, which is of paramount importance.

Summary of Key Changes

The following is a summary of key changes to the alcohol management requirements:

Event Component	Special Event Permit Alcohol Management Conditions	Modified Special Event Permit (No longer issued)
Beer Garden Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6’ free-standing fence; or • Two 4’ free-standing fences placed 6’ apart to create a moat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3’ foot free standing fence
Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21 years and older only 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All ages
Bring Your Own Alcohol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not Allowed • Alcohol must be controlled by the event organizer • Alcohol can only be sold or provided free of charge by designated, trained event staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allowed • No sales of alcohol allowed • Alcohol can be provided by anyone 21 years or older