

RAFFLE LAW

Synopsis: Authorization of Raffles. Allows only non-profit, tax-exempt churches, schools, civic organizations, qualified under Section 501 (c) of the IRS or bona fide non-profit organization approved by the Sheriff to become properly licensed to conduct raffles.

License Requirements: No qualified organization will be permitted to operate a raffle until the Sheriff issues a license to the organization authorizing it to do so. If the organization operates in more than one county, only one (1) license is required from the county in which the state headquarters is located.

How to get a license? : The organization shall make application to the Sheriff on forms prescribed by the Sheriff and shall pay an annual fee of \$100.00. No license will be issued unless the organization has been in existence at least 24-months. This license expires on December 31st of each year.

Exceptions to license requirements: Any organization that operates raffles for residents and patients of a retirement or nursing home or hospital, at which gross receipts are less than \$100.00 and prizes are valued at less than \$100.00, none of the applicants have are required to submit fingerprints or photographs as a condition of being granted a license. (SEE LEGISLATION – THERE IS NOT REQUIREMENT FOR FINGERPRINTING AND PHOTOGRAPHING OF ANY OF THE LICENSEE.)

If a non-profit organization only operates up to three (3) raffles during a calendar year and each raffle does not exceed 30-days, the Sheriff can issue a special license and charge NO fee.

Sheriff's Authority:

- *Suspend or revoke any license for any violation of this law.*
- *Allows the Sheriff to come upon the premises of any licensee or upon the premises on which any licensee is conducting a raffle for purpose of examining the accounts and records.*
- *Promulgate rules and regulations which the Sheriff deems necessary for the proper administration and enforcement of this code section. These cannot be in conflict with any of the provisions of this code section.*

Requirements of Licensees:

- *On or before April 15th, every licensee operating raffles shall file a report with the Sheriff disclosing all receipts and expenditures relating to the previous year.*
- *Maintain the following records for at least three (3) years from the date on which the raffle is conducted:*
 - a. *Itemized list of the gross receipts for each raffle*
 - b. *Itemized list of all expense other than prizes that are incurred in the conducting of the raffle as well as the name of each person to whom the expenses are paid and a receipt for all of the expenses,*
 - c. *List of all prizes awarded and name and address of all person(s) who are winners of prizes of the \$50.00 or more,*
 - d. *An itemized list of the recipients other than the licensee of any proceeds of the raffle,*
 - e. *A record of the number of person(s) who participate in any raffle conducted by the licensee.*

The Licensee shall also:

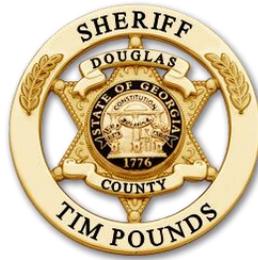
- *Own all the equipment used to conduct a raffle or lease equipment from an organization that is licensed to conduct a raffle.*
- *Display its raffle license conspicuously at the location of the raffle.*
- *Conduct raffles only as specified in the licensee's application.*
- *Not conduct more than one (1) raffle during any one (1) calendar day.*

Penalties:

Operating a raffle without a license is commercial gambling under SS 16-12-22 and punished accordingly – felony conviction – One (1) to Five (5) years and a fine of no more than \$ 20,000.00.

Violation of any other provision of this code section is a misdemeanor of a high and aggravated nature. A second offense is a felony – One (1) to Five (5) years and a fine of no more than \$ 10,000.00.

THIS IS ONLY A SYNOPSIS OF THE LAW – PLEASE REVIEW THIS LEGISLATION BEFORE YOU IMPLEMENT ANY OF ITS PROVISIONS.



APPLICATION FORM FOR LICENSE TO OPERATE RAFFLES

1. Name and home address of applicant. (OR) If the applicant is a corporation, association, or other similar legal entity:
 - a. The names and home addresses of each other officers of the organization, and
 - b. The names and home addresses of the directors, or other persons similarly situated of the organization.
2. The names and home addresses of each of the persons who will be operating, advertising, or promoting the raffle.
3. The names and home addresses of any persons, organizations, or other legal entities that will act as surety for the applicant or to which the applicant is financially indebted or to which any financial obligation is owed by the applicant.
4. Convictions, if any, for criminal offenses other than minor traffic offenses of each of the persons listed in numbers 1, 2 and 3 of this application.
5. Status of the organization. Must be one of the following:
 - non-profit, tax-exempt church, school, civic organization or related support group; or
 - non-profit organization qualified under Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended; or
 - bona-fide non-profit organization approved by the Sheriff.
6. Length of time and dates the organization has been in existence. Must be 24-months immediately prior to the issuance of the license.
7. The location at which the applicant will conduct the raffles. If the premises on which the raffles are to be conducted is to be leased, a copy of the lease or rental agreement should be provided.
8. List the certified or registered public accountant and the organization responsible for filing the disclosure report of operation expenditures and receipts relating to the operation of raffles in the previous years.

DOUGLAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

APPLICATION FOR LICENSE TO OPERATE RAFFLES

1. Name of Applicant: _____

2. Address: _____

If corporation, association, or other legal entity; names and home addresses of each officer(s) of the organization and names and addresses of the director(s) or other persons holding similar positions.

Name: _____ Title: _____
Address: _____

Name: _____ Title: _____
Address: _____

3. Names and home addresses of each person(s) who will operate, advertise, or promote the raffle:

Name: _____ Title: _____
Address: _____

Name: _____ Title: _____
Address: _____

4. The names and home addresses of any person, organizations, or other legal entities that will act as surety for the applicant, or to which the applicant is financially indebted, or to which any financial obligations owed by the applicant:

Name: _____ Title: _____
Address: _____

Name: _____ Title: _____
Address: _____

5. List convictions, if any, for criminal offenses other than minor traffic offenses of each of the person(s) listed in numbers 1, 2 and 3 of this application.

Name: _____ Title: _____
Address: _____

Name: _____ Title: _____
Address: _____

6. Statute of the organization, must be one of the following:
- a. Non-profit, tax-exempt church, school, civic organization or related support group; or
 - b. Non-profit organization qualified under Section 501 (c) of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended; or
 - c. Bona-fide non-profit organization approved by the Sheriff.

You must provide a determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service, certifying that the applicant is an organization exempt under Federal tax law. You must provide a letter from the Georgia Department of Revenue certifying that the applicant is exempt under the tax laws of the State of Georgia.

7. How long has the organization been in existence? : _____
Date of Origin*: _____ (*Must be 24-months immediately prior to issuance of license.)

8. Location at which applicant will conduct raffle: _____
If the premises are to be rented/leased, a copy of the lease/rental agreement must be attached.
[] Rented [] Leased

9. List certified or registered public accountant and organization responsible for filing disclosure report of operation expenditures and receipts relating to the operation of raffles in the previous year.

Name: _____ Title: _____
Address: _____

You may mail your completed application to: Douglas County Sheriff's Office
Attn: Joy Pounds for Sheriff Tim Pounds
8470 Earl D Lee Blvd
Douglasville, GA 30134

OR, you may fax your completed application to: Joy Pounds (770) 920-7135

OR, you may email your completed application to: jypounds@sheriff.douglas.ga.us

For questions, you may contact: Joy Pounds (770) 577-5104