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Department of Human Services

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Dear Mobile Food Vendor:

Any person or operation that intends to serve food to the public is required by state law to have an approval from the local health department prior to operating. This applies to fixed as well as mobile operations and approval is necessary regardless of whether there is a charge for the food. A Mobile Retail Food Establishment is defined in N.J.A.C. 8:24-1.5 as *“any movable restaurant, truck, van, trailer, cart, bicycle, watercraft, or other movable unit including hand carried, portable containers in or on which food or beverage is transported, stored, or prepared for retail sale or given away at temporary locations”*. This includes “table tops”.

In addition, a “Servicing Area” is defined as *“an operating base location to which a mobile retail food establishment or transportation vehicle returns regularly for such things as vehicle and equipment cleaning, discharging liquid or solid wastes, refilling water tanks and ice bins, and boarding food”*. **NO FOOD PREPARED FROM A HOME KITCHEN IS ALLOWED TO BE SERVED TO THE PUBLIC.**

Please note the following:

- If you will be vending in a municipality, participating in a special event, or have a servicing area in Atlantic County, you must submit a “Mobile Retail Food Establishment Application” prior to operating.
- The application must be signed by both you, as the Mobile Food Vendor, and the Servicing Area Owner.
- The Servicing Area owner must have a current inspection and possess a “Satisfactory” rating. Mobile unit inspections are conducted at the servicing location. If your servicing area is not located in Atlantic County, you must contact the health department with jurisdiction in that county.
- The “Mobile Retail Food Application Amendment” must be submitted for each additional special event you will be participating in once your initial “Mobile Retail Food Establishment Application” has been approved.

If you need assistance or have any questions, please contact Jill Miles at 609-645-5971 extension 4367 or Mark Vetter at extension 4382. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.



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