



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES  
COMMISSIONER NICOLE "NIKKI" FRIED

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June 6, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

Multiple changes have taken place in both section 616.242, Florida Statutes, and in rule 5J-18, F.A.C., over the past few years. This letter is to recap some of those changes and to remind owners/operators that in order to operate in Florida, these laws and rules must be followed. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Bureau of Fair Rides Inspection at (850) 410-3838.

- The following items must be provided to the bureau when requesting a permit inspection. Once received, these documents will not need to be resubmitted each time you submit a request. Effective September 1, 2022, rides will not be permitted to operate without the following documents on file.
  - A manufacturer's manual, including all bulletins concerning safety, operation and maintenance.
  - Amusement ride operating document as specified in ASTM F770-18 section 5.1.
  - Maintenance checklist for each ride as specified in ASTM F770-18 section 5.1.
- Manufacturer safety bulletins, alerts or notifications must be provided to Bureau immediately for review.
- When applying for a permit; the owner/manager must designate competency by holding a valid NAARSO, AIMS or other professional organization certification. This individual or a designated representative meeting the requirements for certification must be present during installation in order to facilitate safe installation and operation.
- The request for inspection/reinspection must be submitted on the new department form and must be completed in its entirety. If an incomplete request is received, you will be notified, and the inspection will not be scheduled until a corrected form is received in the bureau office. Please note, late request fees will be imposed if you are outside of the allotted timeframe set forth by statute. Furthermore, all rides listed must be correct. The 10% variance listed in rule will be applied to include rides incorrectly listed on the request for inspection.

- Cancellations must be received by the bureau 3 working days prior to the scheduled date of inspection. Event location changes will also need to be received 3 working days prior to the scheduled date of inspection and will be granted based on staff availability in that region.
- An owner or designee must indicate that each amusement ride meets the requirements of section 616.242(11), F.S., and is ready for operation prior to inspection staff conducting their inspections. The owner or designee must be present during the inspection to address concerns by the inspector. The owner's daily inspections must be completed to include an RPM check of the devices prior to indicating the rides are ready for inspection. The only exception is for the following amusement rides, which will receive a pre-inspection in the "down position" prior to setup. All names associated with these devices are included in this list below, however, should more rides be added to this pre-inspection list, further notification will be made to the industry.
  - Wisdom – Gravitron/Starship and Sizzler
  - Larson or Hi Roller – Ring of Fire
  - ARM – Ali Baba/1001 Nights
- Additional fees will be assessed for return inspections on rides that were indicated by the owner or designee to be "ready for inspection." Please note re-inspections may not be possible due to inspector availability.
  - On-site return inspections - \$100 per ride. This will only result if inspectors are still on-site conducting inspections of other amusement devices and time permits to conduct such inspections.
  - Return inspections - \$500 per ride and must be scheduled on the request for reinspection and submitted to the bureau during working hours.
- All inspections will cease once the fair/event opens to the public.
- Re-inspections will not be conducted on weekends or state holidays.
- Mechanical, structural, or electrical defects or failures affecting patron safety for which the ride is closed to patron use must be reported to the department within 8 hours of closure. The ride must remain closed until release for operation is granted by the department.

Should you have any questions or need further clarification please feel free to contact the Bureau at 850-410-3838.

Sincerely,

*Michelle Faulk*

Michelle Faulk  
Bureau Chief