

Quick Facts

- Any business in Raymore is allowed to sell or rent adult media or sexually oriented toys or novelties. It is only when the percentage of inventory of these items reaches an established threshold that City Code regulations take effect.
- Raymore City Council, after obtaining a legal opinion from the City Attorney and considering decisions from the U.S. Supreme Court and Missouri State Courts, established the regulations contained in the City Code.
- Regulations on businesses with adult media or inventory are based on the adverse secondary effects associated with adult businesses, such as increased crime, lower property values and deteriorating residential neighborhoods. The thresholds at which the various code requirements become effective were based on documented studies of the adverse secondary effects of established adult businesses. The threshold percentages utilized in the Raymore City Code have been upheld by various courts and are utilized by most communities attempting to regulate adult businesses.
- A single or incidental showing of an adult film does not classify a business as an adult business
- A bookstore, convenience store, etc. can sell adult media (video, magazines) without violating the ordinance
- Nude dancing is prohibited
- Video viewing booths are prohibited



100 Municipal Circle Raymore, MO 64083

Contact Numbers

City Hall Main: (816) 331-0488

Development Services: (816) 331-1803

Economic Development: (816) 331-5000

Police Department: (816) 331-0530

Codes Enforcement: (816) 331-1803

City Clerk: (816) 331-3324

Other Brochures

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Home Occupations

New Businesses

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December 2018

CITY OF RAYMORE

Regulations on Adult Businesses



Development
Services
Department

Three Classifications of Businesses with Adult Media or Content

1. *Business in which adult media constitutes 10% or less of its inventory or sales floor area to adult media; or a business in which sexually oriented toys or novelties constitute 5% or less of its inventory, sales floor area, or sales transactions:*

- Allowed anywhere in Raymore where retail sales are permitted.
- No restrictions on where media or inventory must be displayed
- No separation requirements from residential areas, schools, day care, churches, parks, etc.

2. *Business in which adult media constitutes more than 10% but less than 40% of its inventory or sales floor area to adult media; or a business in which sexually oriented toys or novelties constitute 5% of its inventory, sales floor area, or sales transactions:*

- Allowed anywhere in Raymore where retail sales are permitted.
- Media and inventory shall be physically and visually separate from the rest of the store by an 8' opaque wall
- Media and inventory shall not be open to any person under the age of 18
- Media and inventory shall be located so the entrance to the adult area is as far as is reasonably practicable from media or inventory in the store likely to be of particular interest to children
- Must comply with the provisions of Section 420.030 (B) of the City Code

3. *Business in which adult media constitutes more than 40% of its inventory or sales floor area to adult media; or a business that provides adult entertainment, such as an adult motion picture theater or adult entertainment cabaret:*

- Only permitted to locate in the C-2, C-3, BP, M-1 and M-2 zoning districts
- Businesses are classified as “adult business”
- Shall not locate within 500 feet of any school, church, licensed day care, park or property zoned for residential purposes
- Shall not located within 500 feet of any other adult business
- Must comply with the provisions of Section 420.030 (A) and (B) of the City Code
- Must comply with the licensing requirements of Chapter 650 of the City Code

Why can't Raymore ban adult businesses:

There is a presumption of First Amendment protection for all establishments that deal in “speech related” materials. The United States Supreme Court has ruled that sexually oriented dancing, movies and books are protected speech. Reasonable accommodation for adult businesses must be available within a community. Local governments have been allowed to establish buffer zones to protect adjacent neighborhoods from businesses licensed as an adult business, but land area must be available for an adult business to legally locate within a community.