



City of Cleveland

Zoning Code Update

Effective Date: October 16, 2008

347.17 Check-Cashing and Pay-Day Lending Businesses

347.17 Check-Cashing and Pay-Day Lending Businesses

(a) *Purpose.* The regulations of this section are established to regulate the location of check-cashing businesses for the purpose of protecting neighborhoods from negative secondary effects created by the concentration or clustering of such businesses. Furthermore, the regulations are established to guard against market saturation which may lead to increased rates as an offset for lower business volume.

(b) *Definition.* "Check-cashing business" means a business that meets the definition of a "check-cashing business" in Section 1315.21 of the Revised Code and includes check-cashing businesses licensed to make loans under Sections 1315.35 to 1315.44 of the Revised Code, also known as pay-day lenders. Generally, a check-cashing business is a business, other than a bank or savings and loan or similar financial institution, that cashes checks for a fee as a principal business activity and may or may not also make loans as part of that business activity.

(c) *Spacing.* No check-cashing business shall be established on a lot or lots within 1,000 feet of another lot or lots containing an existing check-cashing business. No two check-cashing businesses shall be located in the same building or on the same lot.

(d) *Maximum Number.* There shall be no more than one check-cashing business located within the City of Cleveland for each 20,000 persons residing in the City as recorded in the most recent decennial U.S. Census. No additional check-cashing businesses shall be established if the current number of check-cashing businesses exceeds the maximum number permitted.

(e) *Exception.* This section shall not apply to any check-cashing business as defined above currently in operation prior to passage of this section.