

Sound Rules and Regulations

Section 4-60-074 of the City of Chicago municipal code states:

No Riverwalk Venue license shall broadcast music, announcements, or other disruptive sounds or offer live music or entertainment between 8:30 P.M. and 11:00 A.M., or violate any limitation on noise or vibrations set forth in Chapter 11-4 of this code. Provided, however, that emergency broadcasts may be made.

Riverwalk Guideline: All broadcasts, live music and entertainment must be completed by 8:15 p.m.

Section 11-4-2805 Regulated entertainment businesses.

(a) No establishment holding a liquor license pursuant to Chapter 4-60 of this Code, or a public place of amusement license pursuant to Article III of Chapter 4-156 of this Code, shall operate or permit operation of any equipment or device that electronically amplifies sound so as to generate sound having a sound pressure level than 55 dB(A) when measured from within any dwelling unit; provided that, if the ambient noise level is great than 55 dB(A), then the applicable limitation is 10 dB(A) above the ambient noise level.

Riverwalk Guideline: Generated sound must not exceed 50 dB(A) when measured within the Location.

(b) In addition to the limitations contained in subsection (a) of this section, the limitations contained in section 11-4-2800 of this Code apply to any entity subject to this section.

See below.

(c) A business subject to this section shall cooperate with reasonable requests by enforcement personnel for the purpose of measuring sound pressure levels produced by equipment or devices that electronically amplify sound.

Riverwalk Guideline: Managers on duty should install a decibel reading app on their phones to maintain the limit of 50 dB(A) during programming.

(d) Where a business has been found liable for two violations of this section, and has been charged with a third violation, all within a one-year period, the commissioner of environment may recommend to the mayor or the commissioner of business affairs and consumer protection the suspension or revocation of the liquor license, the public place of amusement license, or both licenses. Such a recommendation shall be based on an evaluation of the severity of the violations, steps taken to remedy the violations, and the likelihood of successful remediation and continued compliance with this section.

Riverwalk Guideline: Please note, revocation of your license will be an event of Default.

Section 11-4-2800 of the City of Chicago Municipal Code states:

(a) No person on the public way shall employ any device or instrument that creates or amplifies sound, including but not limited to any loudspeaker, bullhorn, amplified, public address system, musical instrument, radio, or device that plays recorded music, to generate any sound, for the purpose of communication or entertainment, that is louder than average conversation level at a distance of 100 feet or more, measured vertically or horizontally, from the source.

Riverwalk Guideline: As an additional measure, during programming, managers on duty should periodically inspect 100 feet both vertically and if possible horizontally from the Location to insure the sound is average conversation level.