

# Chapter 8: Business, § 8-2-7 Permits; Fees Fortune Tellers & Palmists

City of Apache Junction  
City Council  
May 6, 2025





# AJCC, Vol. I, Chapter 8: Business Existing Code

- § 8-1-1 DEFINITIONS: FORTUNE TELLER. A person who purports to have the ability to predict a person's future by palmistry, using a crystal ball or cards, or similar methods.
- § 8-2-7 PERMITS; FEES: The Business Code of the City has a specific requirement that fortune tellers require an additional permit to operate, involving an additional \$1200 fee to be annually renewed and requiring approval from Public Safety.

| <i>Type of Permit</i>   | <i>Initial Fee</i> | <i>Renewal Fee</i> |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|
| Fortuneteller, palmist (with approval of the director of public safety) | \$1,200.00         | \$1,200.00         |

- There is nothing in the zoning code specific to treating fortune tellers any differently from another private office uses.



# Recommended Direction to Staff

- A proposed amendment to the Apache Junction City Code, Vol. I, Chapter 8: Business to remove regulations pertaining to Fortune Telling.



# Questions?





# Comparison

| <u>City</u>            | <u>Business Code Policy</u>  |
|------------------------|--|
| <u>Apache Junction</u> | Unique Permit Fee (\$1200 per year) & Approval of Public Safety  |
| <u>Mesa</u>            | Unique Fee (\$300 per year, up from \$25), Background check & specific regulations   |
| <u>Chandler</u>        | Nothing in their city code regarding fortune telling, psychics, or palm reading.   |
| <u>Tempe</u>           | Most businesses do not require a general license, but Fortune Telling/Palm Readers do, with a unique fee (\$250 new, \$100 per year), Background check & additional regulations, Approval of Chief of Police   |
| <u>Gilbert</u>         | Nothing in their town code regarding fortune telling, psychics, or palm reading.   |
| <u>Phoenix</u>         | The City of Phoenix does not have or issue a general business license. Only certain activities are regulated and require a license or require a recommendation/ approval from the City. Nothing in their city code regarding fortune telling, psychics, or palm reading. |
| <u>Scottsdale</u>      | Unique Fee (\$100 per year), Background check/fingerprints & specific regulations  |
| <u>Maricopa</u>        | The city used to have additional requirements for “magic arts,” but repealed them from the code in 2018.   |
| <u>Tucson</u>          | Additional Unique Fee (\$100 upon application) Background check & specific regulations, Approval of Chief of Police  |
| <u>Avondale</u>        | “Any person engaging in the practice of fortunetelling, palm-reading, or palmistry, and accepting therefor any form of compensation whatsoever, direct or indirect, whether by way of fee or donation is guilty of a misdemeanor.” -Total Ban                            |
| <u>Florence</u>        | Nothing in their town code regarding fortune telling, psychics, or palm reading.   |