

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

City of Apache Junction
City Council
April 134, 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.



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	The city used to have additional requirements for “magic arts,” but repealed them from the code in 2018.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.

Proposed Text Amendment Options

- **Option 1:** No change to existing code.
- **Option 2:** A proposed amendment to the Apache Junction City Code, Vol. I, Chapter 8: Business to remove regulations pertaining to Fortune Telling.
- **Option 3:** A proposed amendment to AJCC, Vol. I, Ch. 8 to lower the Fortune Telling fee comparable to other cities.
- **Option 4:** Any other direction the council would like to pursue.



Questions?

