Florida dbpr

Department of
BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

RON DESANTIS, *GOVERNOR* **MELANIE S. GRIFFIN, *SECRETARY***

February 10, 2025

Dear Mr. Sands,

Your letter to DBPR Secretary Griffin was forwarded to the DBPR Division of Hotels and Restaurants for response.

The division licenses and regulates the majority of public food service establishments in Florida. The division licenses, inspects and regulates public lodging and public food service establishments under Chapter 509, Florida Statutes and Chapter 61C, Florida Administrative Law. The division also adopts and enforces the 2017 Food & Drug Association (FDA) Food Code.

The only requirements under our agency regarding shoes is that employees' shoes (& clothing) should be in clean condition and effectively cover body hair. There is no specific language in our regulations that requires employees to wear shoes or to wear closed toe shoes. These are most likely a provision under the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). You can visit their website to submit questions or review requirements at https://www.osha.gov/.

Our agency's authority is limited to the sanitation and safety of public lodging and public food service establishments. We are unable to require that consumers/customers of a public lodging or public food service establishment meet a certain dress code. Florida law allows public lodging and public food service establishments to create rules to manage the establishment. These rules become part of a contract between the operator and each guest and control the responsibilities of all parties.

I hope this information helps. If you need help with other public lodging, public food service or elevator issues in Florida, you may contact us through our website https://www2.myfloridalicense.com/hotels-restaurants or through the department's Customer Contact Center at 850.487.1395, Monday through Friday.

Best regards,

Florida dbpr
Department of Business & Professional Regulation

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