

1 RCNY §9-02

CHAPTER 9 RIGGING OPERATIONS

§9-02 Supervisory Responsibilities of a Licensed Master or Special Sign Hanger.

(a) *Applicability.* In accordance with section 26-182 of the Administrative Code, all sign hanging work, other than work exempted under section 26-184 of such code, must be performed by or under the supervision of a licensed sign hanger. The rules in this section set forth the specific supervisory responsibilities of a licensed special or master sign hanger.

(b) *Definitions.*

Sign Hanging Foreman. “Sign Hanging Foreman” shall mean an individual, male or female, designated by a licensed master or special sign hanger in accordance with subdivision h of this section. Such person shall have the qualifications set forth in subdivision g of this section.

Critical Picks. “Critical Picks” shall mean sign hanging operations involving loads that:

- (i) are at or above 95% of approved rated capacity of the crane or rigging equipment,
- (ii) are asymmetrical or have a wind sail area exceeding 1500 square feet,
- (iii) may present a problem because of clearance, drift, or other interference,
- (iv) are fragile or of thin shell construction and are not provided with standard rigging ears,
- (v) require multiple cranes or derricks (tandem picks), or
- (vi) require out of the ordinary rigging equipment, methods or setup.

(c) *Planning.* The licensee must personally plan the equipment set-up and operation of all sign hanging operations. This responsibility may not be delegated.

(d) *Supervision of sign hanging operations other than critical picks.* Except as otherwise provided in subdivision e of this section, a licensee need not be personally on site during sign hanging operations provided that a sign hanging foreman designated by the licensee pursuant to subdivision h of this section is continuously on site and he or she performs and/or manages the work under the off-site supervision of the licensee as follows:

- (1) the licensee and the sign hanging foreman at the work site are in frequent and direct contact with each other during the course of the sign hanging operation,
- (2) for work involving the use of cranes, derricks, work platforms, suspension scaffolds or other rigging setup where the safe founding or support of such equipment is a cause of concern (i.e. over sidewalks, roadways or yards where vaults or other subsurface structures exist; or where hooks or clamps are used on parapet walls to support hanging scaffolds, etc.) the licensee personally visits the work site to inspect and approve the rigging equipment founding and setup prior to commencement of rigging operations and each time the founding or support changes, and
- (3) the licensee is readily available to provide on site supervision should the need arise, and
- (4) The sign hanging foreman has in his or her possession at the work site the “Certificate of License Record” of the licensee (tear off) issued by the Department, which shall be presented upon the demand of any authorized enforcement officer.

(e) *Supervision of critical picks.* The licensee must be continuously on site during critical picks and must personally perform or personally supervise all critical picks. Off site supervision of critical picks is not permitted.

(f) *Sign Hanging Crew.* All members of the sign hanging crew must be employees on the payroll of such licensee or, where the license is used by the holder thereof for or on behalf of a partnership, corporation or other business association as provided for in section 26-138(b) of the Administrative Code, such members must be employees on the payroll of such partnership, corporation or business association. Except as provided for in section 26-138(b) of the Administrative Code, the licensee and/or a sign hanging foreman designated by a licensee may not perform or supervise sign hanging work for another person, corporation, partnership or business association.

(g) *Qualifications for designation as a sign hanging foreman.*

(1) An individual designated as a sign hanging foreman by a licensed special or master sign hanger shall:

- (i) be an employee on the payroll of and covered by the worker compensation insurance of the licensee or the business association of the licensee,
 - (ii) be at least 18 years of age,
 - (iii) be able to read and write English,
 - (iv) be able to identify critical picks,
 - (v) be familiar with the relevant sections of the Building Code, OSHA safety standards and industry safety practices,
 - (vi) have been trained to react properly to mechanical malfunctions or adverse weather,
 - (i) be able to evaluate the fitness of the sign hanging crew, including where applicable, the issuance of a certificate of fitness pursuant section 9-03 of this chapter,
 - (viii) be able to read plans and specifications relating to sign construction and erection, including supporting framework and other supports,
 - (xi) have a knowledge of the problems and practices of sign construction and hanging, and
 - (xii) be familiar with the equipment and tools used in sign installations.
- (2) An individual designated as a sign hanging foreman by a licensed special sign hanger shall, in addition to the qualifications set

forth in paragraph one of this subdivision, have at least 3 years practical experience in sign hanging work,

(3) An individual designated as a sign hanging foreman by a licensed master sign hanger shall, in addition to the qualifications set forth paragraph one of this subdivision, have at least 5 years practical experience in sign hanging work,

(h) *Designation of a Sign Hanging Foreman.* Designation shall consist of the filing of written notification with the Department's Licensing Division of the following information:

(1) A list of all sign hanging foreman employed by the licensee or by the business association of the licensee. Each sign hanging foreman's full name, home address, and home phone number shall be included on the list.

(2) The notification shall be signed by the licensee, shall contain his or her license number and shall be on the business letterhead of the licensee or of the business association of the licensee. The notification shall contain a representation by the licensee that all of the sign hanging foreman designated by him or her have the qualifications specified in subdivision g of this section.

(3) The list must be updated within two weeks of any change in the reported information relating to designated individuals or within two weeks of the termination of a designation by the filing of a new notification listing all sign hanging foremen designated by such licensee. The new notification shall be filed in the manner and shall contain the information set forth in items (1) and (2) above. The new list will supersede any earlier filed notification.

(i) *Photo Identification Card.* The licensee shall issue a photo identification card (see Exhibit 1) to each individual designated by him or her as a sign hanging foreman with the licensee's signature affixed thereto. Such card shall be carried by the sign hanging foremen at all times while he or she is engaged in any of the duties requiring such designation and shall be presented upon the demand of any authorized enforcement officer of the city. It shall be the responsibility of the licensee to retrieve the identification card when such designation is terminated. A designation shall be terminated by the licensee if (1) the person leaves the employ of the licensee or business association of the licensee, (2) the licensee finds that the designee is not competently performing his or her duties or, (3) the licensee finds that the designee has acted in an unsafe or irresponsible manner in performing his or her duties.

(j) *Responsibility.* The designation of one or more sign hanging foremen shall not affect the licensee's and/or business association's responsibility or liability for all aspects [sic] of sign hanging safety including but not limited to the actions of sign hanging foremen and sign hanging crews.

(k) *Failure to comply with rules.* If these rules are not complied with the Department may order that sign hanging operations stop, commence disciplinary action against the licensee and/or commence proceedings for the imposition of fines or civil penalties.