



# COUNTY OF IMPERIAL

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## PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

### *DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH*

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*Director*

STEPHEN W. MUNDAY, M.D., M.S.  
*Health Officer*

June 18, 2012

Body Art Facility Owners and Practitioners

SUBJECT: Requirements of the Safe Body Art Act

Dear Facility Owner and Practitioner:

In October of 2011, the State of California enacted new legislation (AB 300) also known as the *Safe Body Art Act* which provides statewide standards for the regulation of persons engaged in the business of tattooing, body piercing, the application of permanent cosmetics, and branding in California. The Safe Body Art Act requires practitioners performing body art to register annually with the local health department and comply with specific requirements including completion of bloodborne pathogen training, evidence of vaccination, and have previous related experience. In addition, owners of tattoo and body piercing facilities are required to obtain a permit to operate from the local health department and to maintain the body art facility in a specified manner.

In accordance with the Safe Body Art Act, body art practitioners and facility owners have until July 1, 2012 to become registered and obtain a permit to operate. For practitioners and facility owners who have not complied with the July 1<sup>st</sup> deadline will be given an extension until **August 1, 2012** to submit a completed Body Art Application, photocopies of all required documentation, and appropriate fees.

Please note the following:

- **Body Art Practitioner Annual Registration**- The Safe Body Art Act requires all practitioners of "body arts", including tattooing, branding, body piercing, and application of permanent cosmetics, to register with the local health department and renew their registration on an annually basis. The Tattoo and Body Art Practitioner Registration Annual fee will be \$72.00.

- **Body Art Facility Annual Health Permit-** The Safe Body Art Act requires all business practicing body art, including tattooing, branding, body piercing, and application of permanent cosmetics, to apply for and obtain an annual health permit. The Tattoo and Body Art Annual Health Permit will be \$163.00.
- **Exemptions-**The Safe Body Art Act exempt from the definition of body art the piercing of an ear with a disposable, single-use, presterilized stud or solid needle that is applied using a mechanical device to force the needle or stud through the ear, but would impose specified requirements on that practice. The bill authorizes a local enforcement agency to require facilities performing ear piercing in that jurisdiction to submit a notification form, as provided, with the local enforcement agency.

**Please note:** *Environmental Health will not require the submittal of a notification form for facilities that fall within the exemption status at this time.*

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and we look forward to assisting you with meeting the requirements of the Safe Body Art Act.

If you have questions, please contact Carina Zolorzano at (760)336-8530.

Respectfully,



Jeff Lamoure, Deputy Director