How to Comply with the San Francisco Deemed Approved Uses Ordinance

What is the Deemed Approved Uses Ordinance?
The Deemed Approved Uses Ordinance (DAO) legislation was passed into law in January 2006. The DAO was designed to create a stronger working relationship among merchants, neighbors, and city government. The DAO is a partnership between the following city government agencies: the San Francisco Department of Public Health, the San Francisco Police Department, the Office of the Treasurer and Tax Collector, and the City Attorney.

The ordinance is directed to all Deemed Approved Off-Sale Alcohol Uses, retailers holding type 20 or type 21 (off-sale) licenses with the California Department of Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC), relevant business associations, residential and commercial property owners and tenants of the City and County of San Francisco.

What are the requirements of the Deemed Approved Uses Ordinance?
Follow the DAO Performance Standards including:

Pay an annual “Uses” fee of $272 on time or a portion thereof based on the fiscal year. When you pay your fee you will receive a certificate/license and a certified copy of the DAO Performance Standards.

Post the official DAO Performance Standards on the premises in clear site for public view.

If you don’t have a physical store (ie. internet sales only), please keep the Performance Standards for your records.

You or your employees or agents must not participate or assist in any illegal activities in or around the premises. To do so may result in penalties and or suspension or revocation of your license.

Report any nuisance activities in or around your store to the Police Department.

To ensure the safety of yourself, your employees and patrons, always keep at least two-thirds of the doors and windows free of advertisements or signs of any sort so that the view from the street is clear and unobstructed.

What if I don’t comply with the Deemed Approved Uses Ordinance?
Failure to comply may result in penalties and the suspension or even revocation of your license.

For general questions regarding the DAO, call 628-206-7697 or email H73.DAO@sfdph.org.

For vendors with questions related to billing, certification and licensing, call the Office of the Treasurer and Tax Collector at 311.

For more information go to the DAO website at: www.sfdph.org/DAO