

New York City Business Integrity Commission

The Business Integrity Commission (BIC) is a regulatory and law enforcement agency that oversees the sanitation industry and public wholesale markets in New York City.

BIC's Mission

The mission of BIC is to eliminate organized crime and other forms of corruption and criminality from the industries it regulates. BIC's goals are numerous: to ensure that the regulated businesses are able to compete fairly; that the marketplaces remain free from violence, fraud, rackets, and threats; that the customers receive fair a treatment; and that the businesses which are allowed to operate in these industries always conduct their affairs with honesty and integrity.

What Does BIC Do?

- License and register businesses in the private sanitation industry and the public wholesale markets
- Conduct criminal investigations
- Issue violations for regulatory infractions
- Respond to inquiries
- Resolve complaints
- Make recommendations to the Department of Sanitation concerning the fitness of applicants seeking to operate transfer stations

Private Sanitation Industry

Commercial establishment in New York City is required by law to have its waste removed by a licensed private carting company.

A business using a carter must prominently display a sticker (provided by the carter free of charge) indentifying the carter.

If a commercial establishment does not want private carter services and wishes to remove its own waste and dispose of it at private transfer stations, it must apply for a self-hauler registration.

There are carting companies registered by BIC that can only collect waste materials resulting from building demolition, construction, alteration, or excavation.

Customer Bill of Rights

As a carting customer, you have the right to:

- Receive service from a carter of your choice, free from intimidation or reprisal;
- A competitive price for waste removal that is at or below the maximum rate set by BIC;
- A written survey of your waste stream if you and the carter agree to be charged on a flat fee billing method;
- A waste removal contract that does not commit you to a particular carter, or price, for more than two years;
- A written contract that clearly describes the agreement you negotiated with your carter;
- Receive service on the days and at the times agreed to by your carter in the contract;
- Written bills that confirm to the rate in your contract and comply with the maximum rate set by BIC.

Maximum Rates

BIC sets maximum rates that private carters can charge for waste removal services. A customer cannot be charged above the maximum rate, but the customer and the carter can negotiate a rate below the maximum rate. The maximum rates apply to putrescible or regular waste and recyclables, but not for the removal of medical waste, construction and demolition debris, electronic waste, grease trap waste and waste produced from document shredding.

The maximum rates that carters are permitted to charge is either \$18.27 per cubic yard of loose refuse (rate by volume) or \$11.98 per 100 pounds of refuse (rate by weight).

How Do I Find a Carter?

You can visit our website at www.nyc.gov/bic for lists of carters that haul putrescible waste as well as construction and demolition debris. You can find out which carters service your neighborhood by looking at the carting stickers on store-fronts. Finally, you can consult public directories, such as the Yellow Pages. Before choosing a licensed or registered carter, BIC recommends that you get prices quotes from at least four companies.

Do I have to Have a Written Contract with a Carter?

No. Carters must offer you a written contract, but can't demand that you sign one. You can:

- i) Sign the contract offered to you;
- ii) Choose not to have a written contract, or;
- iii) Propose changes to the contract offered to you; or
- iv) Propose that the carter sign a different contract of your choosing.

The advantages to signing a contract are that the carter is bound by the agreed-upon rate and must pick up at the agreed-upon days and times. Written contracts cannot be longer than two years.

When Can I Terminate a Carter?

If you signed a written contract, you will only be able to cancel if there is a cancellation clause written into the contract. If you don't have a written contract with a carter, you can terminate service at any time.

When Can a Carter Terminate My Service?

If you signed a written contract, a carter may only cancel if there is a cancellation clause written into the contract. Even if you do not have a written contract, the carter must give you at least 14 days written notice before terminating service or raising your rate.

What is a Trade Waste Broker?

Trade waste brokers charge fees to broker arrangements between businesses and carters, or analyze waste streams, and must be registered by BIC. Visit our website at www.nyc.gov/bic for a list of registered brokers.

Do I Have to Separate Recyclable Material From My Trash?

Yes, it's the law. All commercial businesses are required to recycle certain materials. Please visit the New York City Department of Sanitation website at http://www.nyc.gov/html/nycwasteless/html/recycling/recycling_businesses.shtml for applicable rules and regulations.

Public Wholesale Markets

BIC currently regulates five public wholesale markets: the Gansvoort Meat Market, the New York City Terminal Market (Hunts Point Produce Market), the Hunts Point Cooperative Market, Inc. (Hunts Point Meat Market), the New Fulton Fish Market at Hunts Point, the Brooklyn Wholesale Meat Market, and the area adjacent to the three Hunts Point wholesale markets. BIC may designate other public wholesale markets as subject to the registration requirement at later dates.

Wholesalers and businesses located or operating within these public wholesale markets must be registered with BIC. In addition, other types of businesses that provide services inside public wholesale markets must also obtain registrations from BIC. Owners and employees of wholesalers and businesses must have photo identification cards issued by BIC or BIC's designee.

Who Gets Licenses?

Loading businesses that, for a fee, provide loading services for a purchaser of seafood, including parking such purchaser's vehicle, moving such a vehicle when necessary for traffic control, loading seafood onto such vehicle, and ensuring the security of such vehicle and the seafood loaded in the vehicle.

Unloading businesses that unload seafood from a vehicle in which such seafood has been transported from suppliers and deliverers to wholesalers need a license.

Who Gets Registrations?

- Seafood, produce, and meat wholesalers
- Businesses operating in the designated public wholesale markets, such as security firms and ice suppliers
- Seafood deliverers
- Labor unions or labor organizations
- Wholesale trade associations

Know the Rules and Regulations

All businesses and individuals operating in the public wholesale markets must know the agency's rules and regulations governing the markets. A licensee, registrant, or photo identification holder who fails to comply with the agency's rules and regulations may be subject to administrative action including fines and penalties and/or suspension or revocation of the license, registration, or photo identification. For the rules and regulations governing the public wholesale markets, visit our website at www.nyc.gov/bic.

For Complaints:
311 or (212) 676-6300

For General Information:
(212)676-6219

To Make an Anonymous Tip:
(888)687-1188



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www.nyc.gov/bic
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Monday - Friday

BIC Accepts Credit and Debit Cards



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