

**RULES OF
GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH**

**111-8
HEALTHCARE FACILITY REGULATION DIVISION**

**111-8-91
RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR LASER RADIATION**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

111-8-91-.01 Definitions
111-8-91-.02 Registration
111-8-91-.03 Injury Reporting
111-8-91-.04 Report of Discontinuance
111-8-91-.05 Laser System Exempt from Registration
111-8-91-.06 Enforcement

111-8-91-.01. Definitions

For the purpose of these rules, the term:

(a) "Department" means the Department of Community Health of the State of Georgia;

(b) "Injury" means any discernible, unintentional damage to tissue (such as eye or skin), resulting from exposure to laser radiation; or untoward biologic effects due to air contamination produced as a result of laser radiation; or electrical shock or burns sustained as a result of operation of a laser;

(c) "Laser radiation" means any electromagnetic radiation emitted from a laser system and includes all reflected radiation and any secondary radiation, or other forms of energy resulting from the primary laser beam;

(d) "Laser System" means any device, machine, apparatus, or other facility, that applies a source of energy to a gas, liquid, crystal, or other solid substances or combination thereof in a manner that electromagnetic radiations of a relatively uniform wave length are amplified and emitted in a coherent beam, including but not limited to electromagnetic waves in the range of visible, infrared or ultraviolet light, capable of transmitting the energy thus generated in a manner that may be harmful to living tissues;

(e) "Person" means the State or any agency or institution thereof, any municipality, political subdivision, public or private corporation, individual, partnership, association, or other entity, and includes any officer or governing or managing body of any municipality, political subdivision or public or private corporation.

Authority: Ga. L. 1964, p. 499 et seq., as amended, and O.C.G.A. § 31-13-5.

111-8-91-.02. Registration

(1) No person may possess or operate a laser system without first registering, in writing, with the Department within thirty (30) days after the effective date of these regulations, the laser system, except as provided in paragraph (2) of this rule.

(2) Any person acquiring a laser system after the effective date of these rules and regulations shall register, in writing, with the Department the laser system within thirty (30) days after the date of acquisition.

(3) Any person possessing or operating a registered laser system may be required by the Department to re-register the system at intervals considered necessary by the Department to maintain a current inventory of the laser system.

(4) If any person possessing or operating a laser system considers the registration of each source of laser radiation by type or strength to be impractical, he may apply, in writing, to the Department for blanket registration of the laser system. The Department may approve blanket registration of the laser system after considering the information submitted in the application and determining that registration of each source of laser radiation by type or strength is impractical.

(5) All applications for any registration shall be in writing, on forms provided by the Department. Applications for any registration shall provide the following information:

(a) name and address of person possessing or operating the laser system;

(b) identification and type of the laser system;

(c) location of the laser system;

(d) for continuous-wave lasers, the maximum power level at which the laser can be operated;

(e) for pulse lasers, the maximum energy per pulse, pulse duration, and the maximum pulse repetition rate at which the laser can be operated;

(f) the wavelength at which laser can be operated; and

(g) other pertinent information that may be required by the Department to ascertain the identification, type, location, and operational characteristics of the laser system.

Authority: Ga. L. 1964, p. 499 et seq., as amended and O.C.G.A. § 31-13-5.

111-8-91-.03. Injury Reporting

Any person possessing or operating a laser system shall report, in writing, to the Department within fifteen (15) days of detection of any injury to an individual, regardless of severity or extent, in the course of operating, handling, servicing, or manufacturing a laser system. Information as the Department might require concerning the injury shall be made available to the Department.

Authority: Ga. L. 1964, p. 499 et seq., as amended, and O.C.G.A. § 31-13-5.

111-8-91-.04. Report of Discontinuance

Every person who has registered a laser system and who permanently discontinues the operation of, or permanently disposes of, his laser system shall notify the Department, in writing, within thirty (30) days of such action.

Authority: Ga. L. 1964, p. 499 et seq., as amended, and O.C.G.A. § 31-13-5.

111-8-91-.05. Laser System Exempt from Registration

No person may be required to register a laser system which cannot be energized or which is in transit.

Authority: Ga. L. 1964, p. 499 et seq., as amended, and O.C.G.A. § 31-13-5.

111-8-91-.06. Enforcement

The administration and enforcement of these rules and regulations shall be in accordance with Code of Georgia Annotated § 31-13-10.

Authority: Ga. L. 1964, pp. 499, 518, and O.C.G.A. §§ 31-13-10 and 31-13-5.