

## RESTRICTED WORDS

**ASBESTOS ABATEMENT CONTRACTOR – CAUTION.** An asbestos abatement contractor shall not engage in any activity involving the demolition, renovation, or encapsulation of friable asbestos materials without first receiving a license from the department of labor and economic growth. This requirement does not apply if a business entity is engaged in asbestos abatement incidental to the primary trade licensed under another act such as the Electrical Administrative Act or the Forbes Mechanical Contractors Act. See [MCL 338.3207](#).

**ACADEMY – RESTRICTED.** Approval by the Department of Education is required if corporation is an educational K-12 institution or by Career Development if it is a postsecondary institution. Approval is not required for public school academies incorporated pursuant to [MCL 450.2101 - 450.3192](#) and [MCL 380.502\(1\)](#). See General Corporation Act, [MCL 450.170-177](#).

**ACCOUNTANT – CAUTION.** See “[Certified Public Accountant](#).”

**ACUPUNCTURIST – RESTRICTED.** An individual who is not licensed or registered under the laws of the State of Michigan to engage in a particular health profession shall not use an insignia, title, or letter, or a word, letter, or phrase with or without qualifying words to induce the belief that the person is licensed or registered in Michigan. However, a physician licensed under [MCL 333.17001](#) or [MCL 333.17501](#) and an individual certified by the national acupuncture detoxification association are not subject to this restriction with regard to acupuncture. Any other individual may not use the words, titles, or letters “acupuncturist,” “certified acupuncturist,” or “registered acupuncturist” or any combination thereof unless he or she is registered under this part. Public Act 30 of 2006, effective as of July 1, 2006, provided for the licensure of acupuncturists; however, application for licensure is not estimated to begin until January 2008 subsequent to the development of administrative rules establishing the standards for licensure. See [MCL 333.16261](#), [MCL 333.16511](#) and Department of Community Health’s “[Acupuncturists to be Registered](#).”

**ADJUSTER – CAUTION.** A person shall not adjust loss or damage under a policy of insurance nor advertise, solicit business or hold himself out to the public as an adjuster unless licensed by the commissioner of insurance as an adjuster. There are a few exceptions to the licensing requirement such as employees of authorized insurers and persons permitted to practice law. See [MCL 500.1222](#).

**ADULT FOSTER CARE FACILITY – CAUTION.** A person, partnership, corporation, association, or a department or agency of the state, county, city, or other political subdivision shall not establish or maintain an adult foster care facility unless licensed by the family independence agency. An adult foster care facility shall not utilize a name or designation which implies, infers, or leads the

public to believe that the facility provides nursing care. See [MCL 400.704](#) and [MCL 400.726](#).

**AFIDS** – CAUTION. May be similar to a health maintenance organization (HMO) but cannot identify itself in a manner implying it is an HMO. See [MCL 500.3573](#).

**AGRICULTURAL FAIR SOCIETIES** – CAUTION. Must incorporate under a special act. See [MCL 450.1123](#)

**AIRCRAFT TRANSPORT OPERATION** – RESTRICTED. See “[Aircraft Transport Vehicle](#).”

**AIRCRAFT TRANSPORT VEHICLE** – RESTRICTED. A person shall not use the term “aircraft transport vehicle” or “aircraft transport operation” or a similar term to describe or refer to the person unless the person is licensed by the department of community health under section [MCL 333.20931](#). See [MCL 333.20933](#).

**ALTERNATIVE HEALTH CARE FINANCING AND DELIVERY SYSTEMS** – CAUTION. May be similar to a health maintenance organization (HMO). See [MCL 500.3573](#).

**ALTIUS** – PROHIBITED. See Citius Altius Fortius. ([36 USCS 220506](#)).

**AMBULANCE** – RESTRICTED. A person shall not use the terms “ambulance” or “ambulance operation” or a similar term to describe or refer to the person unless the person is licensed by the department of community health. See [MCL 333.20922](#).

**AMBULANCE OPERATION** – RESTRICTED. See “[Ambulance](#).”

**AMERICAN ESPIRITO SPORT FRATERNITE** – PROHIBITED. See Olympic ([36 USCS 220506](#)).

**AMERICAN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA LEAGUE** – PROHIBITED. Federal law prohibits, federally chartered organization has exclusive right to this name. ([36 USCS 22306](#)).

**ANIMAL TECHNICIAN** – RESTRICTED. See “[Veterinary](#).”

**ANIMAL TECHNOLOGIST** – RESTRICTED. See “[Veterinary](#).”

**APOTHECARY** – RESTRICTED. See “[Pharmacy](#).”

**ARCHITECT** – RESTRICTED. A person shall not engage in or attempt to engage in the practice of an occupation regulated by the laws of the State of Michigan or use a title designated in the Occupational Code unless the person

possesses a license or registration issued by the department for the occupation. See [MCL 339.601](#) and [MCL 339.2014](#).

**ARCHITECTURE - RESTRICTED.** A person may not use the words architecture or a similar term in a firm name unless at least 2/3 of the principals of that firm are licensed by the department of labor and economic growth as architects. See [MCL 339.601](#), [MCL 339.2014](#) and [MCL 339.2010](#).

**A.T. – RESTRICTED.** See “[Athletic Trainer](#).”

**A.T.C. – RESTRICTED.** See “[Athletic Trainer](#).”

**ATHLETIC TRAINER – RESTRICTED.** An individual who is not licensed or registered under the laws of the State of Michigan to engage in a particular health profession shall not use an insignia, title, or letter, or a word, letter, or phrase with or without qualifying words to induce the belief that the person is licensed or registered in Michigan. Public Act 54 of 2006, effective as of December 31, 2006, provided for the licensure of athletic trainers; however, application for licensure is not estimated to begin until January 2008 subsequent to the development of administrative rules establishing the standards for licensure. See [MCL 333.16261](#) and [333.17902](#).

**ATHLETIC TRAINER CERTIFIED – RESTRICTED.** See “[Athletic Trainer](#).”

**A.T.L. – RESTRICTED.** See “[Athletic Trainer](#).”

**ATTORNEY – CAUTION.** See “[Lawyer](#).”

**AUDIOLOGIST – RESTRICTED.** See “[Audiometrist](#).”

**AUDIOMETRIST – RESTRICTED.** An individual who is not licensed or registered under the laws of the State of Michigan to engage in a particular health profession shall not use an insignia, title, or letter, or a word, letter, or phrase with or without qualifying words to induce the belief that the person is licensed or registered in Michigan. See [MCL 333.16261](#) and [MCL 333.16803](#).

**AUTHORITY – CAUTION.** May imply it is a governmental entity. A governmental entity cannot incorporate, without specific statutory authority, pursuant to any corporation statute administered by the Bureau of Commercial Services.

**BAIL BOND – CAUTION.** May require licensing with the Insurance Bureau. Name cannot imply it is the risk bearer. However, if it is acting on its own behalf as the risk bearer, it may be a surety and required to form under the Insurance Code of 1956 ([MCL 500.100 – 500.8302](#)) and be licensed by the [Office of Insurance and Financial Services](#). An insurance company is precluded from forming under Business Corporation Act, [MCL 450.1123](#).

**BAIL BONDS** – CAUTION. See [Bail Bond](#).

**BANC** – RESTRICTED. Implies bank or banking. See MCL [450.1213](#); [450.2213](#); and [487.11106](#). May be used in the name of a bank holding company. See [Policy Statement C-20](#).

**BANCORP** – RESTRICTED. Implies bank or banking. See MCL [450.1213](#); [450.2213](#); and [487.11106](#). May be used in the name of a bank holding company. See [Policy Statement C-20](#).

**BANK** – RESTRICTED. A corporation subject to the Business Corporation Act or the Nonprofit Corporation Act, other than a bank holding company, shall not assume a name which implies that it is a banking corporation; an insurance or surety company; or a trust company unless from the other words in the name, it is clear the business conducted does not include the business of banking. See MCL [450.1213](#) ; [450.2213](#); and [487.11106](#). May be used in the name of a bank holding company. See [Policy Statement C-20](#).

**BANK HOLDING COMPANY** – RESTRICTED. May be used only in the name of a bank holding company. See MCL [450.1213](#); [450.2213](#); and [487.11106](#). See [Policy Statement C-20](#).

**BANKING** – RESTRICTED. May be used in the name of a bank holding company. See MCL [450.1213](#); [450.2213](#); [487.11106](#) and [Policy Statement C-20](#).

**BANQUE** – RESTRICTED. May be used in the name of a bank holding company. See MCL [450.1213](#); [450.2213](#); and [487.11106](#) and [Policy Statement C-20](#).

**BARBER** – RESTRICTED. A person shall not engage in or attempt to engage in the practice of an occupation regulated by the laws of the State of Michigan or use a title designated in the Occupational Code unless the person possesses a license or registration issued by the department for the occupation. Nor shall a person use the word “barber” in the name of an establishment unless the person is properly licensed under the Occupational Code. See [MCL 339.601](#) and [MCL 339.1104](#).

**BONDING** – RESTRICTED. The name, as a whole, cannot infer it is a bank, an insurance company, or a trust company. See [MCL 450.1213](#).

**BOXER** – CAUTION. A person shall not engage in or attempt to engage in a boxing contest or exhibition unless the person possesses a license issued by the department of labor and economic growth, there are a few exceptions to the general license requirement such as participation in amateur or professional wrestling and amateur martial arts, and contests conducted by the United States or a school, college, or university. See [MCL 338.3630](#).

**BOXING PROMOTER** – CAUTION. A boxing contest or exhibition shall not be held or conducted in this state except under a promoter's license issued by the department of labor and economic growth. See [MCL 338.3632](#).

**BRIDGE** – CAUTION. Must incorporate under [Railroad Code of 1993](#) if it is a bridge company. See [MCL 462.201](#) and [MCL 450.1123](#).

**BROKER-DEALER** – CAUTION. A person shall not transact business in this state as a broker-dealer unless registered pursuant to the Uniform Securities Act. A broker-dealer is any person engaged in the business of effecting transactions in securities for the account of others or for his or her own account however, there are types of institutions and transactions not included in the definition and certain activities in which mortgage brokers and dealers may engage that are not subject to the registration requirement. See [MCL 451.801](#) and [MCL 451.601](#).

**BRINE PIPELINE** – CAUTION. Must incorporate under a special act. See [MCL 450.1123](#).

**BUILDER** – CAUTION. See “[Residential Builder](#).”

**BUILDING AND LOAN** – RESTRICTED. May only be used in name of a savings and loan institution under [Public Act 307 of 1980](#) or federal law. See [MCL 491.322](#). The name, as a whole, cannot infer it is a bank, an insurance company, or a trust company. See [MCL 450.1213](#).

**BUREAU OF MICHIGAN** – PROHIBITED. Indicates or implies purpose other than permitted purpose: Implies a governmental agency. See MCL [450.1212\(1\)\(a\)](#); [450.2212\(1\)\(a\)](#); [450.4204\(2\)\(a\)](#); and [449.1102\(3\)](#).

**BURIAL** – CAUTION. Must incorporate under a special act if it is a cemetery, a burial, or cremation association. See [MCL 450.1123](#).

**C.A.** – RESTRICTED. See “[Certified Public Accountant](#).”

**CANAL IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION** – CAUTION. Must incorporate under a special act if it is a Canal, River, or Harbor Improvement Association. See [MCL 450.1123](#).

**CARNIVAL-AMUSEMENT RIDE OPERATOR** – CAUTION. No person shall operate a carnival-amusement ride without a permit issued by the department of labor and economic growth. A permit to operate is issued after an inspector has determined that the carnival-amusement ride complies with the rules and regulations. [MCL 408.660](#) and [MCL 408.661](#).

**C.A.T. – RESTRICTED.** See “[Athletic Trainer.](#)”

**CEMETERY – CAUTION.** Must incorporate under a special act if it owns or operates a cemetery. See [MCL 450.1123](#). An ecclesiastical corporation formed under the General Corporation Act, however, may own a church cemetery. [MCL 450.183](#).

**CENTRAL LIQUIDITY – PROHIBITED.** See [Central Liquidity Facility](#). ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**CENTRAL LIQUIDITY FACILITY – PROHIBITED.** Any combination or variation of these words reasonably calculated to convey the false impression that such business has some connection with the National Credit Union Administration is strictly prohibited except as permitted by the laws of the United States. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANT – RESTRICTED.** See “[Certified Public Accountant.](#)”

**CERTIFIED ACUPUNCTURIST – RESTRICTED.** See “[Acupuncturist.](#)”

**CERTIFIED ATHLETIC TRAINER – RESTRICTED.** See “[Athletic Trainer.](#)”

**CERTIFIED GENERAL REAL ESTATE APPRAISER – RESTRICTED.** A person shall not engage in or attempt to engage in the practice of an occupation regulated by the laws of the State of Michigan or use a title designated in the Occupational Code unless the person possesses a license or registration issued by the department for the occupation. See [MCL 339.601](#) and [MCL 339.2607](#).

**CERTIFIED OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST – RESTRICTED.** See “[Occupational Therapist.](#)”

**CERTIFIED OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT – RESTRICTED.** See “[Occupational Therapist.](#)”

**CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT – RESTRICTED.** A person shall not engage in or attempt to engage in the practice of an occupation regulated by the laws of the State of Michigan or use a title designated in the Occupational Code unless the person possesses a license or registration issued by the department for the occupation. See [MCL 339.601](#) and [MCL 339.723](#).

**CERTIFIED RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE APPRAISER – RESTRICTED.** See “[Certified General Real Estate Appraiser.](#)”

**CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT – RESTRICTED.** See “[Certified Public Accountant.](#)”

**CHILD CARE ORGANIZATION – CAUTION.** A person, partnership, firm,

corporation, association, or nongovernmental organization shall not establish or maintain a child care organization unless licensed or registered by the department of human services. See [MCL 722.115](#).

**CHIROPODICAL** – RESTRICTED. See “[Chiropodist](#).”

**CHIROPODIST** – RESTRICTED. An individual who is not licensed or registered under the laws of the State of Michigan to engage in a particular health profession shall not use an insignia, title, or letter, or a word, letter, or phrase with or without qualifying words to induce the belief that the person is licensed or registered in Michigan. See [MCL 333.16261](#) and [MCL 333.18011](#).

**CHIROPODY** – RESTRICTED. See “[Chiropodist](#).”

**CHIROPRACTIC** – RESTRICTED. An individual who is not licensed or registered under the laws of the State of Michigan to engage in a particular health profession shall not use an insignia, title, or letter, or a word, letter, or phrase with or without qualifying words to induce the belief that the person is licensed or registered in Michigan. See [MCL 333.16261](#) and [MCL 333.16411](#).

**CHIROPRACTIC PHYSICIAN** – RESTRICTED. See “[Chiropractic](#).”

**CHIROPRACTOR** – RESTRICTED. See “[Chiropractic](#).”

**CITIUS** – PROHIBITED. See [Citius Altius Fortius](#). ([36 USCS 220506](#)).

**CITIUS ALTIUS FORTIUS** – PROHIBITED. Any combination of words tending to cause confusion, mistake or to falsely suggest a connection with the International Olympic Committee (IOC) are strictly prohibited without the consent of the IOC if used for the purpose of trade, to induce the sale of any goods or services, or to promote any theatrical exhibition, athletic performance, or competition. This restriction does not apply to any lawful use of these words used prior to September 21, 1950. ([36 USC 220506](#)).

**CITIZENS DISTRICT COUNCIL** – CAUTION. This is a municipal function, which cannot incorporate under Acts administered by the Bureau. See [MCL 125.71](#).

**CITY OF** – CAUTION. The name, as a whole, cannot infer a municipal function.

**CIVIL AIR PATROL** – PROHIBITED. Federal law prohibits exclusive right to this name. ([36 USCS 40306](#)).

**CLF** – PROHIBITED. See Central Liquidity Facility. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**CLINICAL AUDIOLOGIST** – RESTRICTED. See “[Audiometrist](#).”



**COLLECTION AGENCY – CAUTION.** A person shall not engage in or attempt to engage in the practice of an occupation regulated by the laws of the State of Michigan or use a title designated in the Occupational Code unless the person possesses a license or registration issued by the department for the occupation. See [MCL 339.601](#) and [MCL 339.904](#).

**COLLEGE – RESTRICTED.** Every educational corporation including the word “college” in its name, before being authorized to file its articles, shall be required to present to the Bureau an approval in writing from the State Board of Education. See [MCL 450.171](#). This restriction applies only to educational corporations. If the purposes are other than educational, the word may be used in a corporation name.

**RELIGIOUS COLLEGE – CAUTION.** Pursuant to Public Act 420 of 2006, an ecclesiastical corporation properly incorporated before January 1, 2007 in a county with greater than 17,000 and fewer than 23,500 residents in the year 2000 that began operating a religious college before January 1, 2007 may use the title Religious College for the organization provided the Religious College is not separately incorporated. In addition, the ecclesiastical corporation must clearly and prominently indicate following the name of the religious college that it is a division of the ecclesiastical corporation. (The five counties with the specified population are as follows; Ogemaw, Osceola, Otsego, Antrim, and Leelanau). See [MCL 450.184a](#).

**COMMODITY CREDIT – PROHIBITED.** Any combination of these words is strictly prohibited. ([15 USCS 714m\(f\)](#)).

**COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION – PROHIBITED.** Any combination of these words is strictly prohibited. ([15 USCS 714m\(f\)](#)).

**COMMUNITY FOUNDATION – CAUTION.** Must be in compliance with [MCL 450.2212\(3\)](#). Filing as a corporation will not give them the tax treatment they may be attempting to obtain as provided for in the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.

**COMMUNITY PLANNER – RESTRICTED.** A person shall not engage in or attempt to engage in the practice of an occupation regulated by the laws of the State of Michigan or use a title designated in the Occupational Code unless the person possesses a license or registration issued by the department for the occupation. . See [MCL 339.601](#) and [MCL 339.2303](#).

**CONSULTING PSYCHOLOGIST – RESTRICTED.** An individual who is not licensed or registered under the laws of the State of Michigan to engage in a particular health profession shall not use an insignia, title, or letter, or a word, letter, or phrase with or without qualifying words to induce the belief that the



person is licensed or registered in Michigan. See [MCL 333.16261](#) and [MCL 333.18211](#).

**CONVALESCENT CENTER** – RESTRICTED. See “[Nursing Home](#).”

**CO-OP** – RESTRICTED. Limited to certain types of entities only. See MCL [450.3123](#), [450.99](#) and [Act 310 of 1984](#).

**COOPERATIVE** – RESTRICTED. Limited to certain types of entities only. See MCL [450.3123](#), [450.99](#) and [Act 310 of 1984](#).

**CORP.** – CAUTION. May not be used in the name of a limited partnership or a limited liability company. See [MCL 449.1102\(5\)](#) and [MCL 450.4204\(2\)\(b\)](#).

**CORPORATION** – CAUTION. May not be used in the name of a limited partnership or a limited liability company. See [MCL 449.1102\(5\)](#) and [MCL 450.4204\(2\)\(b\)](#).

**COSMETOLOGIST** – RESTRICTED. A person shall not engage in or attempt to engage in the practice of an occupation regulated by the laws of the State of Michigan or use a title designated in the Occupational Code unless the person possesses a license or registration issued by the department for the occupation. A cosmetologist may render hair care services, skin services, natural hair cultivation, and manicuring services as part of the practice of cosmetology. However, an individual licensed as a manicurist, natural hair culturist, or esthetician shall only render that particular service and shall not render any other cosmetology service without being licensed for that service. In addition, a cosmetologist shall not render electrology without being licensed as an electrologist. See [MCL 339.601](#) and [MCL 339.1203a](#).

**COSMETOLOGY** – CAUTION. A person shall not conduct or operate a cosmetology establishment or school of cosmetology without a school or establishment license issued under this article. See [MCL 339.1203b](#).

**C.O.T.** – RESTRICTED. See “[Occupational Therapist](#).”

**C.O.T.A.** – RESTRICTED. See “[Occupational Therapist](#).”

**COUNTY OF** – CAUTION. The name, as a whole, cannot infer a municipal function.

**COUNSELOR** – CAUTION. See “[Lawyer](#).”

**CREDIT COMMODITY** – PROHIBITED. Any combination of these words is strictly prohibited. ([15 USCS 714m\(f\)](#)).

**CREDIT COMMODITY CORPORATION** – PROHIBITED. Any combination of these words is strictly prohibited. ([15 USCS 714m\(f\)](#)).

**CREDIT LIFE – RESTRICTED.** If not used in connection with the word “agency”, the Insurance Bureau considers these words to denote an insurance company. Insurance companies are prohibited from filing under the Business Corporation Act. See [MCL 450.1123](#).

**CREDIT UNION – PROHIBITED.** The words “credit union” may not be used in the name of any association, partnership or corporation unless it is a credit union, credit union trade association, or credit union service organization; or is owned by one or more of the above. The words “corporate” or “corporate central” may not be used immediately before the words “credit union” in its name unless it is a corporate credit union organized under the Credit Union Act, the laws of another state or territory of the United States, or the law of the United States. See [MCL 490.104](#).

**CREDIT UNION SERVICE ORGANIZATION – CAUTION.** Not subject to the banking code. Can be incorporated as a business or nonprofit corporation.

**CREMATION – CAUTION.** Must incorporate under a special act if it is a cremation association. See [MCL 450.1123](#) and [Act 58, P.A. 1915](#).

**CREMATORY – CAUTION.** Must incorporate under a special act if it is a crematory. See [MCL 450.1123](#) and [Act 58, P.A. 1915](#).

**CUSO – CAUTION.** Not subject to the banking code. Can be incorporated as a business or nonprofit corporation.

**DAY CARE CENTER – CAUTION.** See “[Child Care Organization](#).”

**D.C. – RESTRICTED.** See “[Chiropractic](#).”

**D.D.S. – RESTRICTED.** See “[Dentist](#).”

**DEA – PROHIBITED.** Written permission from the Drug Enforcement Administration must be obtained prior to use of these initials. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**DEBT MANAGEMENT – CAUTION.** A person engaged in the business of debt management is rendering a financial planning service and must obtain a license under the Debt Management Act. This requirement does not apply to certain professionals such as attorneys-at-law and certified public accountants in that debt management may be an incidental part of their primary trade, please see [MCL 451.413\(2\)](#) for a list of exceptions to the licensing requirement. See [MCL 451.413](#).

**DENTAL ASSISTANT – RESTRICTED.** See “[Dentist](#).”

**DENTAL HYGIENIST – RESTRICTED.** See “[Dentist.](#)”

**DENTIST – RESTRICTED.** An individual who is not licensed or registered under the laws of the State of Michigan to engage in a particular health profession shall not use an insignia, title, or letter, or a word, letter, or phrase with or without qualifying words to induce the belief that the person is licensed or registered in Michigan. See [MCL 333.16261](#) and [MCL 333.16611](#).

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES – PROHIBITED.** Strictly prohibited without written authorization from the Commissioner of Social Security. ([42 USCS 1320b-10](#)).

**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT – PROHIBITED.** Any combination of these words or letters reasonably calculated to convey the false impression that such name or business has some connection with or authorization from the federal government is prohibited. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN – PROHIBITED.** Implies a governmental agency. (Bureau policy).

**DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY – PROHIBITED.** Any combination of these words or letters reasonably calculated to convey the false impression that such name or business has some connection with or authorization from the federal government is prohibited. ([31 USCS 333](#)).

**DEPOSIT** (Includes safe deposit and safety deposit) – RESTRICTED. A corporation subject to the Business Corporation Act or the Nonprofit Corporation Act (other than a bank holding company) shall not assume a name which implies that it is a banking corporation; insurance or surety company; or a trust company unless from the other words in the name, it is clear the business conducted does not include the business of banking. See MCL [450.1213](#) and [450.2213](#).

**DEPOSIT INSURANCE – PROHIBITED.** As part of the business or firm name of an entity engaged in the banking, loan, building and loan, brokerage, factorage, insurance, indemnity, savings or trust business except as permitted by the laws of the United States. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**DETECTIVE AGENCY – CAUTION.** See “[Private Detective.](#)”

**DHHS – PROHIBITED.** Strictly prohibited without written authorization from the Commissioner of Social Security. ([42 USCS 1320b-10\(a\)\(1\)\(A\)](#)).

**DIETITIAN- CAUTION.** Effective July 1, 2007 an individual shall not use the titles “registered dietitian”, “licensed dietitian”, “dietitian”, “licensed nutritionist”, “nutritionist”, “r.d.”, “l.d.”, or “l.n” unless the individual is licensed as a dietitian or nutritionist. See [MCL 333.18353](#).

**DIPLOMATE IN OSTEOPATHY – RESTRICTED.** See “[Osteopath.](#)”

**D.M.D. – RESTRICTED.** See “[Dentist.](#)”

**D.O. – RESTRICTED.** See “[Osteopath.](#)”

**DOCTOR (AND DR.) – RESTRICTED.** An individual licensed to engage in the practice of chiropractic; dentistry; medicine; optometry; osteopathic medicine and surgery; podiatric medicine and surgery; psychology; and veterinary medicine shall not use the terms ‘doctor’ or ‘dr.’ in any written or printed matter or display without adding of chiropractic; of dentistry; of medicine; or optometry; of osteopathic medicine and surgery; of podiatric medicine and surgery; of psychology; of veterinary medicine or a similar term, respectively. See [MCL 333.16265](#).

A person not licensed or registered under Occupations Article of the [Public Health Code, MCL 333.1101 - 333.25211](#), shall not use an insignia, title, or letter, or a word, letter, or phrase singly or in combination, with or without qualifying words, letters and phrases, under a circumstance to induce the belief that the person is licensed or registered in the practice of a profession regulated by the Occupations Article. Example: A shoe store named “The Shoe Doctor” would be allowed while a shoe store named the “The Foot Doctor” would not.

As a general rule, any medical title should be questioned, particularly if misleading.

**DOCTOR OF CHIROPRACTIC – RESTRICTED.** See “[Chiropractic.](#)”

**DOCTOR OF DENTAL SURGERY – RESTRICTED.** See “[Dentist.](#)”

**DOCTOR OF MEDICINE – RESTRICTED.** An individual who is not licensed or registered under the laws of the State of Michigan to engage in a particular health profession shall not use an insignia, title, or letter, or a word, letter, or phrase with or without qualifying words to induce the belief that the person is licensed or registered in Michigan. An individual shall not engage in the practice of medicine unless licensed or otherwise authorized. The words, titles, or letter or combination thereof “doctor of medicine” and “m.d.” may not be used unless authorized. See [MCL 333.16261](#) and [MCL 333.17011](#).

**DOCTOR OF OPTOMETRY – RESTRICTED.** An individual who is not licensed or registered under the laws of the State of Michigan to engage in a particular health profession shall not use an insignia, title, or letter, or a word, letter, or phrase with or without qualifying words to induce the belief that the person is licensed or registered in Michigan. See [MCL 333.16261](#) and [MCL 333.17411](#).

**DOCTOR OF OSTEOPATHY – RESTRICTED.** See “[Osteopath.](#)”

**DOCTOR OF PODIATRIC MEDICINE – RESTRICTED.** See “[Chiropodist.](#)”

**DOCTOR OF VETERINARY MEDICINE – RESTRICTED.** See “[Veterinary.](#)”

**D.P.M. – RESTRICTED.** See “[Chiropodist.](#)”

**DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION – PROHIBITED.** Written permission from the Drug Enforcement Administration must be obtained prior to use of these words. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**DRUGGIST – RESTRICTED.** See “[Pharmacy.](#)”

**DRUGSTORE – RESTRICTED.** See “[Pharmacy.](#)”

**D.V.M. – RESTRICTED.** See “[Veterinary.](#)”

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – RESTRICTED.** These words are permissible in corporate names. However, if the corporation is formed pursuant to the [Economic Development Corporations Act, MCL 125.1631 et seq.](#), the filing must be made with the [Secretary of State](#).

**EDUCATIONAL AUDIOLOGIST – RESTRICTED.** See “[Audiometrist.](#)”

**ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR – CAUTION.** Except as otherwise provided in this act or in [MCL 338.887\(3\)](#), a person, firm, or corporation shall not engage in the business of electrical contracting unless the person, firm, or corporation has received from the board or from the appropriate municipality an electrical contractor's license. See [MCL 338.887](#).

**ELECTRICIAN – CAUTION.** A person, firm, or corporation shall not install any electric wiring, devices, appliances, or appurtenances for the generation, distribution, and utilization of electrical energy, within or on any building, structures, or properties, without being licensed. The statute does not restrict the use of this term as there are exceptions to the general requirement for licensure. The exceptions are listed in [MCL 338.887](#). See [MCL 338.885](#).

**ELECTROLOGIST – RESTRICTED.** See “[Cosmetologist.](#)”

**ELEVATOR CONTRACTOR – CAUTION.** A person, firm, or corporation shall not install or alter an elevator without first having obtained a permit from the department. A permit shall be issued only to a person, firm, or corporation licensed by the director as an elevator contractor. [MCL 408.815](#).

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES INSTRUCTOR** – CAUTION. See [“Emergency Medical Technician.”](#)

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN** – CAUTION. An individual shall not practice or advertise to practice as a medical first responder, emergency medical technician, emergency medical technician specialist, paramedic, or emergency medical services instructor-coordinator unless licensed to do so by the department of community health. See [MCL 333.20950](#).

**EMIGRANT AGENT** – CAUTION. No person shall engage in the business of emigrant agent without first having obtained a license therefore from the director. An emigrant agent is a person engaged in recruiting, hiring, soliciting or enticing laborers by any means whatsoever in this state to be employed beyond the limits of this state in farm labor. See [MCL 286.653](#).

**EMPLOYMENT AGENT** – CAUTION. An individual shall not operate as an employment agent or consulting agent in this state without first obtaining the appropriate license from the department. In addition, an employment agent or a consulting agent shall not operate independently of a type A personnel agency or a type B personnel agency, as is appropriate. See [MCL 339.1004](#).

**EMPOWERMENT ZONE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION** – CAUTION. An area designated as an empowerment zone by the United States department of Housing and Urban Development and may be incorporated only by resolution of the governing body of the municipality upon application and after a public hearing. See [MCL 125.2563](#) and [MCL 125.2567](#).

**E.M.S.** – CAUTION. See [“Emergency Medical Technician.”](#)

**E.M.T.** – CAUTION. See [“Emergency Medical Technician.”](#)

**ENDODONTIST** – RESTRICTED. See [“Dentist.”](#)

**ENGINEER** – CAUTION. Although ‘engineer’ is not a restricted word, statute prohibits the use of words similar to professional titles protected under the Occupational Code unless the person is properly licensed. See [“Professional Engineer.”](#)

**ENTERPRISE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT** – CAUTION. These words are permissible in corporate names. However, if the corporation is formed pursuant to the Enterprise Community Development Act, [MCL 125.2601 et seq.](#), incorporation is allowed after adoption of a resolution by the governing body of a municipality subsequent to a public hearing.

**ESTHETICIAN** – RESTRICTED. See [“Cosmetologist.”](#)

**EXTENDED CARE FACILITY** – RESTRICTED. See [“Nursing Home.”](#)

**FAMILY ADVISOR – RESTRICTED.** See “[Marriage Advisor.](#)”

**FAMILY CONSULTANT – RESTRICTED.** See “[Marriage Advisor.](#)”

**FAMILY COUNSELOR – RESTRICTED.** See “[Marriage Advisor.](#)”

**FAMILY GUIDANCE ADVISOR – RESTRICTED.** See “[Marriage Advisor.](#)”

**FAMILY GUIDANCE CONSULTANT – RESTRICTED.** See “[Marriage Advisor.](#)”

**FAMILY GUIDANCE COUNSELOR – RESTRICTED.** See “[Marriage Advisor.](#)”

**FAMILY RELATIONS COUNSELOR – RESTRICTED.** See “[Marriage Advisor.](#)”

**FAMILY THERAPIST – RESTRICTED.** See “[Marriage Advisor.](#)”

**FARM CREDIT SYSTEM INSURANCE CORPORATION – PROHIBITED.**

Federal law prohibits use of these words or any combination of these words. ([12 USCS 2277a-14\(a\)\(1\)](#)).

**FBI – PROHIBITED.** See Federal Bureau of Investigation. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**FEDERAL – RESTRICTED.** Prohibited as part of the business or firm name of an entity engaged in the banking, loan, building and loan, brokerage, factorage, insurance, indemnity, savings or trust business except as permitted by the laws of the United States. ([18 USCS 709](#) and [12 USCS 1457](#)).

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION – PROHIBITED.** Or any combination of these words or letters reasonably calculated to convey the false impression that such name or business has some connection with or authorization from the federal government. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**FEDERAL DEPOSIT – PROHIBITED.** Prohibited except as expressly authorized by federal law. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE – PROHIBITED.** Prohibited except as expressly authorized by federal law. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION – PROHIBITED.** Prohibited except as expressly authorized by federal law. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK – PROHIBITED.** Any combination of these words is prohibited if used to convey the impression that it is a member of this federal corporation. ([18 USCS 709](#)).



**FEDERAL HOME LOAN MORTGAGE CORPORATION – PROHIBITED.** Any combination of these words is strictly prohibited, except as expressly authorized by statute of the United States. This restriction does not apply to any name under which business was being done on July 24, 1970. ([12 USCS 1457](#)).

**FEDERAL HOUSING ADMINISTRATION – PROHIBITED.** Any combination of these words or letters reasonably calculated to convey the false impression that such name or business has some connection with or authorization from the federal government is prohibited. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**FEDERAL INTERMEDIATE CREDIT BANK – PROHIBITED.** Prohibited as part of the name or any entity not organized under the laws of the United States as an intermediate credit bank. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION – PROHIBITED.** Any combination of such words is strictly prohibited. ([12 USCS 1723a\(e\)](#)).

**FHA – PROHIBITED.** See Federal Housing Administration. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**FIDUCIARY – CAUTION.** A corporation cannot act as a fiduciary. See [MCL 487.11105](#). Exceptions may include broker-dealers and/or court-appointed or -approved professional guardians or conservators. See [MCL 700.5106\(7\)](#).

**FIRE ALARM TECHNICIAN – CAUTION.** A person, firm, or corporation shall not erect, install, alter, repair, service, or maintain fire alarm system wiring, devices, appliances, or equipment within a building or structure without being licensed. The statute does not restrict the use of this term as there are exceptions to the general requirement for licensure. The exceptions are listed in [MCL 338.887](#). See [MCL 338.885](#).

**FOOT SPECIALIST – RESTRICTED.** See “[Chiropodist](#).”

**FORTIUS – PROHIBITED.** See Citius Altius Fortius. ([36 USCS 220506](#)).

**FOUNDATION – RESTRICTED.** May be used by nonprofit corporations incorporated for “the purpose of receiving and administering funds for perpetuation of the memory of persons, preservation of objects of historical or natural interest, educational, charitable, or religious purposes, or public welfare”. See [MCL 450.2212\(3\)](#).

**FRATERNAL BENEFIT SOCIETIES – CAUTION.** Must incorporate under a special act if it is a Fraternal or Secret Society. See [MCL 450.1123](#) and [MCL 450.133](#).

**FREE STANDING SURGICAL OUTPATIENT FACILITY – RESTRICTED.** “Free Standing Surgical Outpatient Facility” or a similar term or abbreviation shall not be used to describe or refer to a health facility or agency unless licensed by the

department of community health pursuant to the Public Health Code. See [MCL 333.20811](#).

**FUNERAL DIRECTOR** – CAUTION. See “[Funeral Establishment](#).”

**FUNERAL ESTABLISHMENT** – CAUTION. If a funeral establishment is a corporation or partnership, each active member of the corporation or partnership, together with each individual whose name appears or is used in connection with the name of the corporation or partnership, shall be the holder of a license for the practice of mortuary science. The practice of mortuary science shall be at a fixed place and a person shall not open or maintain a place for practice, or hold itself out as engaging in the practice of mortuary science, unless an establishment license is granted by the department of labor and economic growth. See [MCL 339.601](#), [MCL 339.1804](#) and [MCL 339.1806](#).

**GIVE A HOOT, DON’T POLLUTE** – PROHIBITED. Prohibited except as authorized under rules and regulations issued by the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture. ([18 USCS 711a](#)).

**GOVERNMENT** – PROHIBITED. If it implies it is a governmental agency. (Bureau policy).

**GOVERNMENT NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION** – PROHIBITED. Any combination of such words is strictly prohibited. ([18 USCS 709](#) and [12 USCS 1723a\(e\)](#)).

**GRAIN DEALER** – CAUTION. A person shall not act or offer to act as a grain dealer in this state without a license from the department of agriculture issued under the Graindealers Act. A grain dealer shall not process or store farm produce, issue a warehouse receipt, charge or collect a fee for storage of farm produce, issue a price later agreement, or issue an acknowledgment of receipt for delivery of farm produce except in compliance with the act. See [MCL 285.63](#).

**GUARDIAN** – CAUTION. If purposes are fiduciary in nature, the corporation must comply with the banking code which states that a corporation shall not act as fiduciary, other than as escrow agent, unless it is a trust company or a bank with trust powers or a nonbanking corporation to the extent it is specifically authorized to act in that capacity by another statute of this state. See [MCL 487.11105](#).

**GUARDIANSHIP** – CAUTION. If purposes are fiduciary in nature, the corporation must comply with the banking code which states that a corporation shall not act as fiduciary, other than as escrow agent, unless it is a trust company or a bank with trust powers or a non-banking corporation to the extent it is specifically authorized to act in that capacity by another statute of this state. See [MCL 487.11105](#).

**HARBOR IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION** – CAUTION. Must incorporate under a special act if it is a Canal, River, or Harbor Improvement Association. See [MCL 450.1123](#).

**HCFA** – RESTRICTED. These words may not be used if, when read as a whole, the name conveys the impression it has some connection with or is approved, endorsed, or authorized by the Social Security Administration, the Health Care Financing Administration, or the Department of Health and Human Services, all agencies of the federal government. ([42 USCS 1320b-10\(a\)\(1\)\(A\)](#)).

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** – RESTRICTED. These words may not be used if, when read as a whole, the name conveys the impression it has some connection with or is approved, endorsed, or authorized by the Social Security Administration, the Health Care Financing Administration, or the Department of Health and Human Services, all agencies of the federal government. ([42 USCS 1320b-10\(a\)\(1\)\(A\)](#)).

**HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION** – RESTRICTED. These words may not be used if, when read as a whole, the name conveys the impression it has some connection with or is approved, endorsed, or authorized by the Social Security Administration, the Health Care Financing Administration, or the Department of Health and Human Services, all agencies of the federal government. ([42 USCS 1320b-10\(a\)\(1\)\(A\)](#)).

**HEALTH CARE CENTER** – CAUTION. A nursing home may use the term “health center” or “health care center” or “rehabilitation center” or a term conveying a meaning substantially similar to these terms as long as the nursing home has physical therapy, occupational therapy or speech therapy services and the nursing home does not include in its name the name of a religious, fraternal, or charitable corporation, organization or association; unless the corporation, organization or association is an owner of the nursing home. See [MCL 333.21712](#). A profit corporation or limited liability company that is licensed or to be licensed as a nursing home under article 17 of the public health code, [MCL 333.20101 – 333.22260](#), may use the term “health center” or “health care center” or “rehabilitation center” in the name (MCL [450.1213\(3\)](#) and [450.4204a](#)).

**HEALTH CENTER** – CAUTION. See “[Health Care Center](#).”

**HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION** – RESTRICTED. [MCL 500.3505](#) restricts use to entities that have a certificate of authority from the [Office of Financial and Insurance Services](#) under Chapter 35 of the Insurance Code of 1956. [MCL 500.3513](#) requires an HMO to be formed as domestic profit corporation, domestic nonprofit corporation, or domestic limited liability company.

**HEARING AID AUDIOLOGIST – RESTRICTED.** See “[Audiometrist.](#)”

**HEARING AID DEALER – CAUTION.** A person shall not engage in or attempt to engage in the practice of an occupation regulated by the laws of the State of Michigan or use a title designated in the Occupational Code unless the person possesses a license or registration issued by the department for the occupation. However, Article 13 of the Occupation Code shall not prohibit a person from engaging in the business of selling or offering for sale a hearing aid at retail without a license, if the person employs only licensed hearing aid dealers and salespersons in the direct sale and fitting of the product. See [MCL 339.601](#) and [MCL 339.1302](#).

**HEARING AID SALESPERSON – CAUTION.** See “[Hearing Aid Dealer.](#)”

**HEARING AID TRAINEE – CAUTION.** See “[MCL 339.1307](#) and [Hearing Aid Dealer.](#)”

**HEARING THERAPIST – RESTRICTED.** See “[Audiometrist.](#)”

**HHS – RESTRICTED.** These words may not be used if, when read as a whole, the name conveys the impression it has some connection with or is approved, endorsed, or authorized by the Social Security Administration, the Health Care Financing Administration, or the Department of Health and Human Services, all agencies of the federal government. ([42 USCS 1320b-10\(a\)\(1\)\(A\)](#)).

**HMO – RESTRICTED.** [MCL 500.3505](#) restricts use to entities that have a certificate of authority from the [Office of Financial and Insurance Services](#) under Chapter 35 of the Insurance Code of 1956. [MCL 500.3513](#) requires an HMO to be formed as domestic profit corporation, domestic nonprofit corporation, or domestic limited liability company.

**HOME AND HOUSING FINANCE – PROHIBITED.** Any combination of these words or letters reasonably calculated to convey the false impression that such name or business has some connection with or authorization from the federal government is prohibited. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**HOME AND HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY – PROHIBITED.** Any combination of these words or letters reasonably calculated to convey the false impression that such name or business has some connection with or authorization from the federal government is prohibited. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**HOME FOR THE AGED – RESTRICTED.** “Home for the Aged” or a similar term shall not be used to describe or refer to a health facility or agency unless the health facility or agency is licensed as a home for the aged by the department of community health. See [MCL 333.21311](#).

**HOMELAND SAFETY -- CAUTION.** Any combination of these words or letters reasonably calculated to convey the false impression that such name or business has some connection with or authorization from the federal government is prohibited. ([18 USCS 712](#)).

**HOMELAND SECURITY – CAUTION.** Any combination of these words or letters reasonably calculated to convey the false impression that such name or business has some connection with or authorization from the federal government is prohibited. ([18 USCS 712](#)).

**HOME LOAN – PROHIBITED.** Any combination of these words is strictly prohibited, except as expressly authorized by statute of the United States. This restriction does not apply to any name under which business was being done on or before July 24, 1970. ([12 USCS 1457](#)).

**HORTICULTURAL FAIR SOCIETIES – CAUTION.** Must incorporate under a special act. See [MCL 450.1123](#)

**HOSPICE - RESTRICTED.** The term “hospice” shall not be used to describe or refer to a health program or agency unless that program or agency is licensed as a hospice by the department of community health. A hospice is exempt from licensure if the hospice provides services to less than 7 patients per month on a yearly average, does not charge or receive fees for the services provided, and does not receive third party reimbursement for goods or services provided. See [MCL 333.21411](#).

**HOSPITAL – RESTRICTED.** A domestic profit corporation may be incorporated to operate a hospital but the purposes must clearly state the corporation will not engage in the practice of medicine. If the purposes include providing one or more services of the ‘learned professions’, the corporation must comply with the [Professional Service Corporation Act \(Policy Statement C-10\)](#).

A nonprofit corporation may be incorporated to provide medical care through employed physicians and need not comply with the Professional Service Corporation Act ([AG. Opinion 6770](#)).

A nursing home shall not use the terms “hospital” or “sanitarium” or a term conveying a meaning that is substantially similar to those terms in the name of the nursing home. See [MCL 333.21712](#).

**HOSPITALS – RESTRICTED.** A domestic profit corporation may be incorporated to operate a hospital but the purposes must clearly state the corporation will not engage in the practice of medicine. If the purposes include providing of one or more services of the ‘learned professions’, the corporation must comply with the [Professional Service Corporation Act \(Policy Statement C-10\)](#).

A nonprofit corporation may be incorporated to provide medical care through employed physicians and need not comply with the Professional Service Corporation Act ([A.G. Opinion 6770](#)).

A nursing home shall not use the terms “hospital” or “sanitarium” or a term conveying a meaning that is substantially similar to those terms in the name of the nursing home. See [MCL 333.21712](#).

**HOUSING AND HOME FINANCE – PROHIBITED.** Any combination of these words or letters reasonably calculated to convey the false impression that such name or business has some connection with or authorization from the federal government is prohibited. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**HOUSING AND HOME FINANCE AGENCY – PROHIBITED.** Any combination of these words or letters reasonably calculated to convey the false impression that such name or business has some connection with or authorization from the federal government is prohibited. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**HUD – PROHIBITED.** Any combination of these words or letters reasonable calculated to convey the false impression that such name or business has some connection with or authorization from the federal government is prohibited. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**HVAC – CAUTION.** See “[Mechanical Contractor](#).”

**IMMIGRATION CLERICAL ASSISTANT – RESTRICTED.** An individual shall not provide services or offer to provide services, or act as an immigration clerical assistant, unless the individual is placed on the list established under [2004 P.A. 161](#) or unless the individual is exempted under 2004 P.A. 161 from placement on the list. See [MCL 338.3454](#).

**INC. – CAUTION.** May not be used in the name of a limited partnership or a limited liability company. See MCL [449.1102\(5\)](#) and [450.4204\(2\)\(b\)](#).

**INCORPORATED – CAUTION.** May not be used in the name of a limited partnership or a limited liability company. See MCL [449.1102\(5\)](#) and [450.4204\(2\)\(b\)](#).

**INDUSTRIAL AUDIOLOGIST – RESTRICTED.** See “[Audiometrist](#).”

**INDUSTRIAL BANK – RESTRICTED.** These words may not be used if, when read as a whole, the name infers it is a bank. See [MCL 450.1123](#).

**INSTITUTE – RESTRICTED.** Approval of the Department of Education is required if corporation is educational. See [MCL 450.171](#).

**INSURANCE – RESTRICTED.** A corporation subject to the Business Corporation Act or the Nonprofit Corporation Act (other than a bank holding company) shall not

assume a name which implies that it is a banking corporation; an insurance or surety company; or a trust company unless from the other words in the name, it is clear the business conducted does not include the business of an insurance or surety company. See MCL [450.1213](#) and [450.2213](#).

The word “insurance” may be used in the name of a corporate insurance agency, provided that the word “agency” is also included in the name, so as not to mislead the public or imply that the corporation is an insurance company ([Attorney General Opinion 5756](#)).

**INVESTMENT ADVISOR – CAUTION.** A corporation may not transact business in this state as an investment advisor unless registered pursuant to the Uniform Securities Act or is engaged in the limited activities permitted by [MCL 451.601\(c\)\(1\)-\(4\)](#). An investment advisor is any person who, for consideration, engages in the business of advising others as to the value of securities who, as a part of a regular business, issues analyses or reports concerning securities, or who acts as a finder in conjunction with the offer, sale, or purchase of a security. See [MCL 451.801](#) and [MCL 451.601](#).

**JOINT VENTURE – CAUTION.** A specific business undertaking in which two or more parties share profits, losses, and control. They are not filed with the Bureau. If two or more corporations, limited partnerships, limited liability companies or other entities use the same assumed name in a joint venture or partnership, each corporation may file the assumed name, limited partnership or limited liability company. See MCL [450.1217\(2\)](#); [450.2217](#); [449.1104](#); [450.4206\(5\)](#); Policy Statement [C-42](#)).

**LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT – RESTRICTED.** A person shall not engage in or attempt to engage in the practice of an occupation regulated by the laws of the State of Michigan or use a title designated in the Occupational Code unless the person possesses a license or registration issued by the department for the occupation. This article does not restrict the use of the titles “landscape gardener”, “landscape contractor”, “landscape designer”, or “landscape nursery man”. See [MCL 339.601](#) and [MCL 339.2211](#).

**LAND SURVEYOR – RESTRICTED.** A person shall not engage in or attempt to engage in the practice of an occupation regulated by the laws of the State of Michigan or use a title designated in the Occupational Code unless the person possesses a license or registration issued by the department for the occupation. See [MCL 339.601](#) and [MCL 339.2014](#).

**LAND SURVEYING – RESTRICTED.** A person may not use the words “architecture”, “professional engineering”, “land surveying”, “professional surveying”, or a similar term in a firm unless at least 2/3 of the principals of that firm are licensees in that respective occupation See [MCL 339.601](#), [MCL 339.2014](#) and [MCL 339.2010](#).



**LAWYER – CAUTION.** A person shall not practice law or engage in the law business or misled others to believe that they are authorized to practice law in this state unless the person is regularly licensed and authorized to practice law in this state. It shall be unlawful for any corporation to use or advertise a title that conveys the impression that it is entitled to practice law or to furnish legal advice, services, or counsel because a corporation may not practice law, furnish legal services or advice, or appear on behalf of any person other than itself in a court or before a judicial body in this state. See [MCL 450.381](#) and [MCL 600.916](#).

**L.B.S.W. – RESTRICTED.** See “[Social Worker](#).”

**L.D. – CAUTION.** See “[Dietitian](#).”

**LEIN – CAUTION.** Letters LEIN are used to identify Law Enforcement Information Network.

**LICENSED ATHLETIC TRAINER – RESTRICTED.** See “[Athletic Trainer](#).”

**LICENSED BACHELOR’S SOCIAL WORKER – RESTRICTED.** See “[Social Worker](#).”

**LICENSED COUNSELOR – RESTRICTED.** See “[Licensed Professional Counselor](#).”

**LICENSED DIETITIAN – CAUTION.** See “[Dietitian](#).”

**LICENSED HEARING AID DEALER – CAUTION.** See “[Hearing Aid Dealer](#).”

**LICENSED MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST – RESTRICTED.** See “[Marriage Advisor](#).”

**LICENSED MARRIAGE COUNSELOR – RESTRICTED.** See “[Marriage Advisor](#).”

**LICENSED MASTER’S SOCIAL WORKER – RESTRICTED.** See “[Social Worker](#).”

**LICENSED NUTRITIONIST – CAUTION.** See “[Dietitian](#).”

**LICENSED PHYSICAL THERAPIST – RESTRICTED.** See “[Physical Therapy](#).”

**LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE – RESTRICTED.** See “[Registered Professional Nurse](#).”

**LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR – CAUTION.** An individual who is not licensed or registered under the laws of the State of Michigan to engage in a particular health profession shall not use an insignia, title, or letter, or a word, letter, or phrase with or without qualifying words to induce the belief that the

person is licensed or registered in Michigan. The word “counselor” is not prohibited, unless it is used with “licensed” or “professional.” See [MCL 333.16261](#), [MCL 333.18105](#), and [MCL 333.18115](#).

**LICENSED PSYCHOLOGIST – RESTRICTED.** See “[Consulting Psychologist](#).”

**LICENSED RESPIRATORY CARE PRACTITIONER – RESTRICTED.** See “[Respiratory Therapist](#).”

**LICENSED RESPIRATORY THERAPIST – RESTRICTED.** See “[Respiratory Therapist](#).”

**LIEN- CAUTION.** Filed with the [Office of Secretary of State, Uniform Commercial Code Division](#).

**LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY – CAUTION.** Must be organized pursuant to [MCL 450.4101 - 450.5200](#).

**LIMITED LICENSED MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST – RESTRICTED.** See “[Marriage Advisor](#).”

**LIMITED LICENSED MARRIAGE COUNSELOR – RESTRICTED.** See “[Marriage Advisor](#).”

**LIMITED LICENSED PSYCHOLOGIST – RESTRICTED.** See “[Consulting Psychologist](#).”

**LIMITED REAL ESTATE APPRAISER – RESTRICTED.** See “[Certified General Real Estate Appraiser](#).”

**LITTLE LEAGUE – PROHIBITED.** Prohibited by federal law without approval from Little League Corporation created by [36 USCS 130501](#). ([36 USCS 130506](#)).

**LITTLE LEAGUER – PROHIBITED.** Prohibited by federal law without approval from Little League Corporation created by [36 USCS 130501](#). ([36 USCS 130506](#)).

**LIVESTOCK DEALER – CAUTION.** No dealer or broker shall engage in or carry on the business of buying, receiving, selling, exchanging, transporting, negotiating or soliciting the sale, resale, exchange, transportation or transfer of any animals within the state unless duly licensed and bonded as provided in the Licensing Livestock Dealer Act. See [MCL 287.122](#).

**L.M.F.T. – RESTRICTED.** See “[Marriage Advisor](#)”

**L.M.S.W. – RESTRICTED.** See “[Social Worker](#).”

**L.N.** – CAUTION. See “[Dietitian.](#)”

**LOAN** – RESTRICTED. A corporation subject to the Business Corporation Act or the Nonprofit Corporation Act (other than a bank holding company) shall not assume a name which implies that it is a banking corporation; an insurance or surety company; or a trust company unless from the other words in the name, it is clear the business conducted does not include the business of banking. See [MCL 450.1213](#) and [MCL 450.2213](#).

**LOTTERY** – CAUTION. Cannot incorporate as nonprofit.

**LOYAL ORDER OF MOOSE** – CAUTION. Must incorporate under a special Act and is subject to the Nonprofit Corporation Act. See [MCL.457.411](#), [MCL457.412](#) , [MCL457.413](#).

**L.P.C.** – RESTRICTED. See “[Licensed Professional Counselor.](#)”

**L.P.N.** – RESTRICTED. See “[Registered Professional Nurse.](#)”

**L.P.T.** – RESTRICTED. See “[Physical Therapy.](#)”

**L.R.C.P.** – RESTRICTED. See “[Respiratory Therapist.](#)”

**L.R.T.** – RESTRICTED. See “[Respiratory Therapist.](#)”

**MAINTENANCE AND ALTERATION CONTRACTOR** – CAUTION. See “[Residential Maintenance and Alteration Contractor](#)”

**MANICURIST** – RESTRICTED. See “[Cosmetologist.](#)”

**MARITAL COUNSELOR** – RESTRICTED. See “[Marriage Advisor.](#)”

**MARITAL THERAPIST** – RESTRICTED. See “[Marriage Advisor.](#)”

**MARRIAGE ADVISOR** – RESTRICTED. An individual who is not licensed or registered under the laws of the State of Michigan to engage in a particular health profession shall not use an insignia, title, or letter, or a word, letter or phrase with or without qualifying words to induce the belief that the person is licensed or registered in Michigan. See [MCL 333.16261](#) and [MCL 333.16903](#).

**MARRIAGE CONSULTANT** – RESTRICTED. See “[Marriage Advisor.](#)”

**MARRIAGE GUIDANCE ADVISOR** – RESTRICTED. See “[Marriage Advisor.](#)”

**MARRIAGE GUIDANCE CONSULTANT** – RESTRICTED. See “[Marriage Advisor.](#)”

**MARRIAGE GUIDANCE COUNSELOR – RESTRICTED.** See “[Marriage Advisor.](#)”

**MARRIAGE RELATIONS ADVISOR – RESTRICTED.** See “[Marriage Advisor.](#)”

**MARRIAGE RELATIONS CONSULTANT – RESTRICTED.** See “[Marriage Advisor.](#)”

**MARRIAGE RELATIONS COUNSELOR – RESTRICTED.** See “[Marriage Advisor.](#)”

**MAUSOLEUM – CAUTION.** Must incorporate under a special act if it is a burial place. See [MCL 450.1123](#).

**MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS – CAUTION.** An individual, partnership, association, corporation, governmental subdivision, college, or university shall not perform installations, alterations, or servicing of work classifications under section [MCL 338.976\(3\)](#) (including but not limited to hydronic heating and cooling and process piping, HVAC equipment, ductwork, refrigeration) unless the individual, or an employee of the individual, partnership, association, corporation, governmental subdivision, college, or university has received a contractor's license from the department of labor, which has not been revoked or suspended and the holder of the license has secured the appropriate permit from the enforcing agency charged with the responsibility of issuing permits. See [MCL 338.976](#) and [MCL 338.977](#).

**M.D. – RESTRICTED.** See “[Doctor of Medicine.](#)”

**MEDICAID – RESTRICTED.** These words may not be used if, when read as a whole, the name conveys the impression it has some connection with or is approved, endorsed, or authorized by the Social Security Administration, the Health Care Financing Administration, or the Department of Health and Human Services, all agencies of the federal government. ([42 USCS 1320b-10\(a\)\(1\)\(A\)](#)).

**MEDICAL FIRST RESPONSE SERVICE – CAUTION.** A person shall not establish, operate, or cause to be operated a medical first response service unless the service is licensed by the department of community health. See [MCL 333.20941](#).

**MEDICARE – RESTRICTED.** These words may not be used if, when read as a whole, the name conveys the impression it has some connection with or is approved, endorsed, or authorized by the Social Security Administration, the Health Care Financing Administration, or the Department of Health and Human Services, all agencies of the federal government. ([42 USCS 1320b-10\(a\)\(1\)\(A\)](#)).

**MEDICINE STORE – RESTRICTED.** See “[Pharmacy.](#)”

**MONTESSORI – CAUTION.** Approval of the Department of Education is required if corporation is educational. See [MCL 450.171](#).

**MORTGAGE – PROHIBITED.** Any combination of the words “Federal”, “Home Loan”, or “Mortgage” is strictly prohibited, except as expressly authorized by statute of the United States. This restriction does not apply to any name under which business was being done on July 24, 1970. ([12 USCS 1457](#)).

**MORTICIAN – CAUTION.** See “[Funeral Establishment](#).”

**MUTUAL – RESTRICTED.** A corporation subject to the Business Corporation Act or the Nonprofit Corporation Act (other than a bank holding company) shall not assume a name which implies that it is a banking corporation; an insurance or surety company; or a trust company unless from the other words in the name, it is clear the business conducted does not include the business of an insurance or surety company. See MCL [450.1213](#) and [450.2213](#).

**MORTUARY SCIENCE – CAUTION.** See “[Funeral Establishment](#).”

**NATIONAL – RESTRICTED.** Restricted as part of the business or firm name of an entity engaged in the banking, loan, building and loan, brokerage, factorage, insurance, indemnity, savings or trust business except as permitted by the laws of the United States. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL CREDIT CORPORATION – PROHIBITED.** Prohibited as the name of any entity not organized under federal law. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**NATIONAL CREDIT UNION – PROHIBITED.** Any combination or variation of these words reasonably calculated to convey the false impression that such business has some connection with the National Credit Union Administration is strictly prohibited except as permitted by the laws of the United States. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION – PROHIBITED.** Any combination or variation of these words reasonably calculated to convey the false impression that such business has some connection with the National Credit Union Administration is strictly prohibited except as permitted by the laws of the United States. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**NATIONAL CREDIT UNION BOARD – PROHIBITED.** Any combination or variation of these words reasonably calculated to convey the false impression that such business has some connection with the National Credit Union Administration is strictly prohibited except as permitted by the laws of the United States. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**NATIONAL CREDIT UNION SHARE INSURANCE FUND** – PROHIBITED. Any combination or variation of these words reasonably calculated to convey the false impression that such business has some connection with the National Credit Union Administration is strictly prohibited except as permitted by the laws of the United States. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**NATURAL HAIR CULTURIST** – RESTRICTED. See “[Cosmetologist](#).”

**NAVAL SEA CADET CORPS** – PROHIBITED. Prohibited by federal law without approval from Naval Sea Cadet Corps Corporation created by [36 USCS 154101](#). ([36 USCS 154106](#)).

**NCUA** – PROHIBITED. Any combination or variation of these words reasonably calculated to convey the false impression that such business has some connection with the National Credit Union Administration is strictly prohibited except as permitted by the laws of the United States. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**NCUSIF** – PROHIBITED. Any combination or variation of these words reasonably calculated to convey the false impression that such business has some connection with the National Credit Union Administration is strictly prohibited except as permitted by the laws of the United States. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**NONPROFIT HOUSING** – CAUTION. Approval of the Michigan State Housing Development Authority is required if corporation is formed under [MCL 125.1401 - 125.1499c](#) and the [Business Corporation Act](#) or [Nonprofit Corporation Act](#).

**NONPROFIT HOUSING COOPERATIVE** – CAUTION. Approval of the Michigan State Housing Development Authority is required if corporation is formed under [MCL 125.1401 - 125.1499c](#) and the [Business Corporation Act](#) or [Nonprofit Corporation Act](#).

**NONTRANSPORT PREHOSPITAL LIFE SUPPORT OPERATION** – RESTRICTED. A person shall not use the term “nontransport prehospital life support vehicle” or “nontransport prehospital life support operation” or a similar term to describe or refer to the person unless the person is licensed by the department of community health pursuant to [MCL 333.20926](#) to engage in such an operation. See [MCL 333.20928](#).

**NONTRANSPORT PREHOSPITAL LIFE SUPPORT VEHICLE** – RESTRICTED. See “[Nontransport Prehospital Life Support Operation](#).”

**NURSE ANESTHETIST** – RESTRICTED. See “[Registered Professional Nurse](#).”

**NURSE MIDWIFE** – RESTRICTED. See “[Registered Professional Nurse](#).”

**NURSE PRACTITIONER** – RESTRICTED. See “[Registered Professional Nurse](#).”

**NURSERY – CAUTION.** A person, firm, partnership, association, or corporation growing or desiring to sell nursery stock in this state shall, on or before October 31 of each year, apply to the director of agriculture for a license. A dealer engaged in the buying and selling of nursery stock in this state, shall secure a license and certificate from the director of agriculture. See [MCL 286.209](#) and [MCL 286.210](#).

**NURSING CENTER – RESTRICTED.** See “[Nursing Home](#).”

**NURSING HOME – RESTRICTED.** “Nursing home”, “nursing center”, “convalescent center”, “extended care facility”, or a similar term or abbreviation shall not be used to describe or refer to a health facility or agency unless the health facility or agency is licensed as a nursing home by the department of community health under article 17 of the Public Health Code. In addition, a nursing home may use the term ‘health care center’, ‘health center’, or ‘rehabilitation center’ in certain circumstances, See “[Health Care Center](#).” See [MCL 333.21711](#).

**NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATOR – RESTRICTED.** An individual who is not licensed or registered under the laws of the State of Michigan to engage in a particular health profession shall not use an insignia, title, or letter, or a word, letter, or phrase with or without qualifying words to induce the belief that the person is licensed or registered in Michigan. See [MCL 333.16261](#) and [MCL 333.17303](#).

**NUTRITIONIST – CAUTION.** See “[Dietitian](#).”

**OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST – RESTRICTED.** An individual who is not licensed or registered under the laws of the State of Michigan to engage in a particular health profession shall not use an insignia, title, or letter, or a word, letter, or phrase with or without qualifying words to induce the belief that the person is licensed or registered in Michigan. See [MCL 333.16261](#) and [MCL 333.18303](#).

**OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST REGISTERED – RESTRICTED.** See “[Occupational Therapist](#).”

**OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT – RESTRICTED.** See “[Occupational Therapist](#).”

**OCULARIST – CAUTION.** A person shall not engage in or attempt to engage in the practice of an occupation regulated under this act or use a title designated in this act unless the person possesses a license or registration issued by the department of labor and economic growth. See [MCL 339.601](#) and [MCL 339.2705](#).

**O.D. – RESTRICTED.** See “[Doctor of Optometry](#).”



**OLYMPIAD – WARNING.** Any combination of words tending to cause confusion, mistake or to falsely suggest a connection with the International Olympic Committee (IOC) is strictly prohibited without the consent of the IOC if used for the purpose of trade, to induce the sale of any goods or services, or to promote any theatrical exhibition, athletic performance or competition. Corporations may USE AT THEIR OWN RISK. This restriction does not apply to any lawful use of this word used prior to September 21, 1950. ([36 USCS 220506](#)).

**OLYMPIAN – WARNING.** United States Olympic Committee has a federal trademark on “Olympian” as a simulation of the word “[Olympic](#)” that falsely suggests an association with the United States Olympic Committee. Corporations may USE AT THEIR OWN RISK.

**OLYMPIC - PROHIBITED.** Any combination of words tending to cause confusion, mistake or to falsely suggest a connection with the International Olympic Committee (IOC) is strictly prohibited without the consent of the IOC if used for the purpose of trade, to induce the sale of any goods or services, or to promote any theatrical exhibition, athletic performance or competition. Corporations may USE AT THEIR OWN RISK. This restriction does not apply to any lawful use of this word used prior to September 21, 1950. ([36 USCS 220506](#)).

**OPIC – PROHIBITED.** Any combination of these words or letters reasonably calculated to convey the false impression that such name or business has some connection with or authorization from the federal government is prohibited. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**OPTOMETRIST – RESTRICTED.** See “[Doctor of Optometry](#).”

**ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGEON – RESTRICTED.** See “[Dentist](#).”

**ORAL PATHOLOGIST – RESTRICTED.** See “[Dentist](#).”

**ORTHODONTIST – RESTRICTED.** See “[Dentist](#).”

**OSTEOPATH – RESTRICTED.** An individual who is not licensed or registered under the laws of the State of Michigan to engage in a particular health profession shall not use an insignia, title, or letter, or a word, letter, or phrase with or without qualifying words to induce the belief that the person is licensed or registered in Michigan. A person shall not engage in the practice of osteopathic medicine and surgery or practice as a physician’s assistant unless licensed or otherwise authorized. See [MCL 333.16261](#) and [MCL 333.17511](#).

**OSTEOPATHIC PRACTITIONER – RESTRICTED.** See “[Osteopath](#).”

**OSTEOPATHY – RESTRICTED.** See “[Osteopath](#).”

**O.T. – RESTRICTED.** See “[Occupational Therapist](#).”

**O.T.R. – RESTRICTED.** See “[Occupational Therapist.](#)”

**OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT – PROHIBITED.** Or any combination of these words or letters reasonably calculated to convey the false impression that such name or business has some connection with or authorization from the federal government. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION – PROHIBITED.** Any combination of these words or letters reasonably calculated to convey the false impression that such name or business has some connection with or authorization from the federal government is prohibited. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**P.A. – RESTRICTED.** See “[Physician’s Assistant.](#)” And “[Certified Public Accountant.](#)”

**PAN-AMERICAN -- PROHIBITED.** See “[Olympic.](#)”

**PARALYMPIAD and PARALYMPIC – PROHIBITED.** United States Olympic Committee has a federal trademark on the words “Paralympiad” and “Paralympic” therefore any use or simulation of these words that falsely suggests an association with the United States Olympic Committee is prohibited. See “[Olympic.](#)”

**PARAMEDIC – CAUTION.** See “[Emergency Medical Technician.](#)”

**PARTNERSHIP ASSOCIATION LIMITED – CAUTION.** Must incorporate under [MCL 449.301 - 449.316](#). Foreign may qualify pursuant to [MCL 450.2062\(7\)](#).

**PAWNBROKER – CAUTION.** A person, corporation, or firm shall not conduct business as a pawnbroker in any of the governmental units of this state without having first obtained from the chief executive officer of that governmental unit a license under the Pawnbrokers Act that authorizes that person, corporation, or firm to conduct that business. This does not apply to an internet-drop off store that complies with the Act. See [MCL 446.201](#).

**PEDIATRIC DENTIST – RESTRICTED.** See “[Dentist.](#)”

**PERIODONTIST – RESTRICTED.** See “[Dentist.](#)”

**PERSONNEL AGENCY – CAUTION.** A person shall not open, operate, or maintain a personnel agency in this state without first obtaining the appropriate license from the department. A person may not apply for or obtain both Type A and Type B personnel agency licenses under the same name or a similar name. The department may disapprove a name similar to that of the Michigan employment security commission, a name likely to be confused with a free placement bureau, an existing licensed personnel agency, or a name the department determines to be

likely to mislead the public. Pursuant to [MCL 339.1003](#) there are exceptions to the licensing requirements such as agencies employing individuals to render part-time or temporary services, i.e. Kelly Services or Manpower. See [MCL 339.1003](#) and [MCL 339.1005](#).

**PHA – PROHIBITED.** Any combination of these words or letters reasonably calculated to convey the false impression that such name or business has some connection with or authorization from the federal government is prohibited. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**PHARMACIST – RESTRICTED.** See “[Pharmacy](#).”

**PHARMACY – RESTRICTED.** An individual who is not licensed or registered under the laws of the State of Michigan to engage in a particular health profession shall not use an insignia, title, or letter, or a word, letter, or phrase with or without qualifying words to induce the belief that the person is licensed or registered in Michigan. A person shall not engage in the practice of pharmacy unless licensed. See [MCL 333.16261](#) and [MCL 333.17711](#).

**PHYSICAL THERAPIST – RESTRICTED.** See “[Physical Therapy](#).”

**PHYSICAL THERAPY – RESTRICTED.** An individual who is not licensed or registered under the laws of the State of Michigan to engage in a particular health profession shall not use an insignia, title, or letter, or a word, letter, or phrase with or without qualifying words to induce the belief that the person is licensed or registered in Michigan. See [MCL 333.16261](#) and [MCL 333.17820](#).

**PHYSICAL THERAPY TECHNICIAN – RESTRICTED.** See “[Physical Therapy](#).”

**PHYSICIAN’S ASSISTANT – RESTRICTED.** An individual who is not licensed or registered under the laws of the State of Michigan to engage in a particular health profession shall not use an insignia, title, or letter, or a word, letter, or phrase with or without qualifying words to induce the belief that the person is licensed or registered in Michigan. See [MCL 333.16261](#) and [MCL 333.17011](#).

**PHYSIOTHERAPIST – RESTRICTED.** See “[Physical Therapy](#).”

**PLUMBER – CAUTION.** A person shall not engage in or work at the business of a plumbing contractor, master plumber, journey plumber, or apprentice plumber unless licensed or registered by the department of consumer and industry services. However, there are exceptions to the license requirements for minor repair work, activities that are within the scope of other licensure or registration acts, and other events of pipe installation that may be regulated by permit and supervision requirements. [MCL 338.3525](#).

**PLUMBING CONTRACTOR – CAUTION.** See “[Plumber](#).”

**PODIATRIC – RESTRICTED.** See “[Chiropodist.](#)”

**PODIATRIC PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON – RESTRICTED.** See “[Chiropodist.](#)”

**PODIATRIST – RESTRICTED.** See “[Chiropodist.](#)”

**PODIATRY – RESTRICTED.** See “[Chiropodist.](#)”

**POLICE – RESTRICTED.** Private security guard corporations shall not use any name, which has not been first approved by the Department of State Police, nor shall such corporation use any name which implies any association with any municipal, county, or state government; or the federal government or agency thereof. See [MCL 338.1073](#).

**POLYGRAPH EXAMINER – CAUTION.** A person, including city, county or state employees, shall not use or attempt to use any instrumentation or mechanical device for the purpose of detecting deception, verifying truthfulness or reporting a diagnostic opinion regarding either of these without first securing a license from the department of labor and economic growth licensing division. See [MCL 338.1708](#).

**POLYGRAPHER – CAUTION.** See “[Polygraph Examiner.](#)”

**PRESCRIPTIONS – RESTRICTED.** See “[Pharmacy.](#)”

**PRIVATE DETECTIVE – CAUTION.** A person shall not engage in the business of private detective or investigator for hire, fee or reward, and shall not advertise his or her business to be that of detective or of a detective agency without first obtaining a license from the department of labor and economic growth. [MCL 338.823](#).

**PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR – CAUTION.** See “[Private Detective.](#)”

**PRIVATE OVERSEAS INVESTMENT – PROHIBITED.** See Overseas Private Investment Corporation. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**PRIVATE SECURITY GUARD – CAUTION.** See “[Security Alarm System Contractor.](#)”

**PRIVATE SECURITY POLICE – CAUTION.** See “[Security Alarm System Contractor.](#)”

**PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR – RESTRICTED.** See “[Licensed Professional Counselor.](#)”

**PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER – RESTRICTED.** A person shall not engage in or

attempt to engage in the practice of an occupation regulated by the laws of the State of Michigan or use a title designated in the Occupational Code unless the person possesses a license or registration issued by the department for the occupation. See [MCL 339.601](#) and [MCL 339.2014](#).

**PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING – RESTRICTED.** A person may not use the words “architecture”, “professional engineering”, “land surveying”, “professional surveying”, or a similar term in a firm unless at least 2/3 of the principals of that firm are licensees in that respective occupation See [MCL 339.601](#), [MCL 339.2014](#) and [MCL 339.2010](#).

**PROFESSIONAL SURVEYOR – RESTRICTED.** A person shall not engage in or attempt to engage in the practice of an occupation regulated by the laws of the State of Michigan or use a title designated in the Occupational Code unless the person possesses a license or registration issued by the department for the occupation. See [MCL 339.601](#) and [MCL 339.2014](#).

**PROFESSIONAL SURVEYING – RESTRICTED.** A person may not use the words “architecture”, “professional engineering”, “land surveying”, “professional surveying”, or a similar term in a firm unless at least 2/3 of the principals of that firm are licensees in that respective occupation See [MCL 339.601](#), [MCL 339.2014](#) and [MCL 339.2010](#).

**PROSTHODONTIST – RESTRICTED.** See “[Dentist](#).”

**PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSISTANT – RESTRICTED.** See “[Consulting Psychologist](#).”

**PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINER – RESTRICTED.** See “[Consulting Psychologist](#).”

**PSYCHOLOGIST – RESTRICTED.** See “[Consulting Psychologist](#).”

**P.T. – RESTRICTED.** See “[Physical Therapy](#).”

**P.T.T. – RESTRICTED.** See “[Physical Therapy](#).”

**PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT – RESTRICTED.** See “[Certified Public Accountant](#).”

**PUBLIC HOUSING – PROHIBITED.** See Public Housing Administration. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**PUBLIC HOUSING ADMINISTRATION – PROHIBITED.** Any combination of these words or letters reasonably calculated to convey the false impression that such name or business has some connection with or authorization from the federal government is prohibited. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**R.A. – RESTRICTED.** See “[Certified Public Accountant](#).”

**RAILROAD or RAILWAY – RESTRICTED.** Corporations formed to construct, operate and maintain a railroad, railroad bridge, or railroad tunnel must incorporate pursuant to [MCL 462.101 - 462.451](#). The name of all other entities utilizing this word in its name must be such that it does not infer a corporation subject to [MCL 462.101 - 462.451](#).

**R.C.P. – RESTRICTED.** See “[Respiratory Therapist.](#)”

**R.D. – CAUTION.** See “[Dietitian](#)”

**R.D.A. – RESTRICTED.** See “[Dentist.](#)”

**R.D.H. – RESTRICTED.** See “[Dentist.](#)”

**REAL ESTATE BROKER – CAUTION.** A person shall not engage in or attempt to engage in the practice of an occupation regulated under this act or use a title designated in this act unless the person possesses a license or registration issued by the department for the occupation. A real estate broker's license issued to a partnership, association, corporation, common law trust, or a combination of those entities shall entitle those individuals designated as principals to perform acts regulated by [Article 25](#) of Public Act 299 of 1980. See [MCL 339.601](#) and [MCL 339.2508](#).

**REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST – CAUTION.** A corporation which seeks tax treatment under the Internal Revenue Code and which meets certain criteria under that code for special tax treatment. They are not a trust or a banking or insurance company.

**REAL ESTATE SALESPERSON – CAUTION.** See “[Real Estate Broker.](#)”

**REAL ESTATE VALUATION SPECIALIST – RESTRICTED.** See “[Certified General Real Estate Appraiser.](#)”

**RECONSTRUCTION FINANCE – PROHIBITED.** See Reconstruction Finance Corporation. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**RECONSTRUCTION FINANCE CORPORATION – PROHIBITED.** Any combination of these words or letters reasonably calculated to convey the false impression that such name or business has some connection with or authorization from the federal government is prohibited. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**REDEVELOPMENT – RESTRICTED.** No corporation shall have a name containing the word “redevelopment” as a part thereof unless and until such corporation becomes a redevelopment corporation pursuant to the Urban Redevelopment Corporations Law. See [MCL 125.906\(4\)](#).

**REFRIGERATION – CAUTION.** See “[Mechanical Contractor.](#)”

**REGISTERED ACCOUNTANT – RESTRICTED.** See “[Certified Public Accountant.](#)”

**REGISTERED ACUPUNCTURIST – RESTRICTED.** See “[Acupuncturist.](#)”

**REGISTERED AUCTIONEER – RESTRICTED.** A person shall not use the title “registered auctioneer” unless the person is registered under the Occupational Code. See MCL [339.601](#) and [MCL 339.2905](#).

**REGISTERED DENTAL ASSISTANT – RESTRICTED.** See “[Dentist.](#)”

**REGISTERED DENTAL HYGIENIST – RESTRICTED.** See “[Dentist.](#)”

**REGISTERED DIETITIAN – CAUTION.** See “[Dietitian.](#)”

**REGISTERED FORESTER – RESTRICTED.** A person shall not engage in or attempt to engage in the practice of an occupation regulated by the laws of the State of Michigan or use a title designated in the Occupational Code unless the person possesses a license or registration issued by the department for the occupation. See [MCL 339.601](#) and [MCL 339.2108](#).

**REGISTERED NURSE – RESTRICTED.** See “[Registered Professional Nurse.](#)”

**REGISTERED PHYSICAL THERAPIST – RESTRICTED.** See “[Physical Therapy.](#)”

**REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL NURSE – RESTRICTED.** An individual who is not licensed or registered under the laws of the State of Michigan to engage in a particular health profession shall not use an insignia, title, or letter, or a word, letter, or phrase with or without qualifying words to induce the belief that the person is licensed or registered in Michigan. See [MCL 333.16261](#) and [MCL 333.17211](#).

**REGISTERED SANITARIAN – RESTRICTED.** See “[Sanitarian.](#)”

**REGISTERED SOCIAL SERVICE TECHNICIAN – RESTRICTED.** See “[Social Worker.](#)”

**REHABILITATION CENTER – CAUTION.** See “[Health Care Center.](#)”

**REIT – CAUTION.** See “[Real Estate Investment Trust.](#)”

**RESERVE – PROHIBITED.** Prohibited as part of the business or firm name of an entity



engaged in the banking, loan, building and loan, brokerage, factorage, insurance, indemnity, savings or trust business except as permitted by the laws of the United States. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**RESIDENTIAL BUILDER – CAUTION.** A person shall not engage in or attempt to engage in the practice of an occupation regulated under this act or use a title designated in this act unless the person possesses a license or registration issued by the department for the occupation. A person may engage in the business of residential builder or residence maintenance and alteration contractor without a license only if that person is exempt from licensing under a provision listed in [MCL 339.2403](#). See, [MCL 339.2403](#), and [MCL 339.2405](#).

**RESIDENTIAL MAINTENANCE AND ALTERATION CONTRACTOR – CAUTION.** A person shall not engage in or attempt to engage in the practice of an occupation regulated under this act or use a title designated in this act unless the person possesses a license or registration issued by the department for the occupation. The license shall state the crafts or trades for which a residential maintenance and alteration contractor is qualified, such as; carpentry, concrete, pool installation, waterproofing basements, excavation, insulation, masonry, painting, roofing, siding and gutters, screen or storm sash installation, tile and marble work, and house wrecking. See [MCL 3390.2404\(3\)](#).

**RESPIRATORY CARE PRACTITIONER – RESTRICTED.** See “[Respiratory Therapist](#).”

**RESPIRATORY THERAPIST – RESTRICTED.** An individual who is not licensed or registered under the laws of the State of Michigan to engage in a particular health profession shall not use an insignia, title, or letter, or a word, letter, or phrase with or without qualifying words to induce the belief that the person is licensed or registered in Michigan. See [MCL 333.16261](#) and [MCL 333.18703](#).

**RIDING STABLE - CAUTION.** A person, firm, or corporation shall not own or operate a riding stable or sales barn without first having obtained a license under the Horse Riding Stables and Sales Barn Act. See [MCL 287.112](#).

**RIVER IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION – CAUTION.** Must incorporate under a special act if it is a Canal, River, or Harbor Improvement Association. See [MCL 450.1123](#).

**R.N. – RESTRICTED.** See “[Registered Professional Nurse](#).”

**R.PH. – RESTRICTED.** See “[Pharmacy](#).”

**R.P.T. – RESTRICTED.** See “[Physical Therapy](#).”

**R.S. – RESTRICTED.** See “[Sanitarian](#).”

**R.S.S.T. – RESTRICTED.** See “[Social Worker.](#)”

**R.T. – RESTRICTED.** See “[Respiratory Therapist.](#)”

**RURAL COMMUNITY HOSPITAL – RESTRICTED.** The term “rural community hospital” shall not be used to describe or refer to a health facility or agency unless the health facility or agency is designated as a rural community hospital by the department of community health. [MCL 333.21561.](#)

**SAFETY AND COLLATERAL DEPOSIT – CAUTION.** Must incorporate under a special act. See [MCL 450.1123.](#)

**SANITARIAN – RESTRICTED.** An individual who is not licensed or registered under the laws of the State of Michigan to engage in a particular health profession shall not use an insignia, title, or letter, or a word, letter, or phrase with or without qualifying words to induce the belief that the person is licensed or registered in Michigan. See [MCL 333.16261](#) and [MCL 333.18411.](#)

**SANITARIUM – CAUTION.** A nursing home shall not use the terms “hospital” or “sanitarium” or a term conveying a meaning that is substantially similar to those terms in the name of the nursing home. See [MCL 333.21712.](#)

**SAVINGS – CAUTION.** The name, as a whole, cannot infer it is engaged in a banking business. See [MCL 450.1123.](#)

**SAVINGS AND LOAN – CAUTION.** The name, as a whole, cannot infer it is engaged in a banking or savings and loan business. See [MCL 450.1123.](#)

**SCHOOL – CAUTION.** Approval by the Department of Education is required if corporation is an educational K-12 institution or by Career Development if it is a postsecondary institution. Approval is not required for public school academies incorporated pursuant to [MCL 450.2101 - 450.3192](#) and [MCL 380.502\(1\)](#). See [General Corporation Act, MCL 450.170-177.](#)

**SECONDHAND DEALER – CAUTION.** A person, corporation, co-partnership, or firm shall not carry on the business of dealer in second hand goods or junk dealer in any of the cities or villages of this state having a population of 1,000 located in counties of 25,000 or over without having first obtained, from the mayor of the city or the president of the village where such business is to be carried on, a license under the Secondhand Dealers and Junk Dealers Act. A license is not required for an Internet drop-off store. See [MCL 445.401.](#)

**SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY – PROHIBITED.** Any combination of these words or letters reasonably calculated to convey the false impression that such

name or business has some connection with or authorization from the federal government is prohibited. ([31 USCS 333](#)).

**SECRET SERVICE – PROHIBITED.** Except with written permission of the Director of the United States Secret Service. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**SECRET SERVICE UNIFORMED DIVISION – PROHIBITED.** Except with written permission of the Director of the United States Secret Service. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**SECRET SOCIETY – CAUTION.** Must incorporate under a special act if it is a Fraternal or Secret Society. See [MCL 450.1123](#) and [MCL 450.133](#).

**SECURITY – RESTRICTED.** A corporation subject to the Business Corporation Act or the Nonprofit Corporation Act (other than a bank holding company) shall not assume a name which implies that it is a banking corporation; an insurance or surety company, or a trust company unless from the other words in the name, it is clear the business conducted does not include a banking, insurance, or trust business. See MCL [450.1213](#) and [450.2213](#).

**SECURITY ALARM SYSTEM CONTRACTOR – CAUTION.** Unless licensed under Public Act 330 of 1968 which is found at [MCL 338.1051, et seq.](#), a sole proprietorship, firm, company, partnership, limited liability company, or corporation shall not engage in the business of security alarm system contractor, private security guard, private security police, patrol service, or an agency furnishing those services. This does not prevent a licensed private detective from performing the services of a private security guard or private police, although the private security guard or private police may not perform the services of a private detective or private investigator. In addition, a licensee may employ as many persons as necessary to assist, however they must meet qualifications specified in [MCL 338.1056](#). See [MCL 338.1053](#), [MCL 338.1054](#) and [MCL 338.1067](#).

**SECURITY GUARD AGENCY– CAUTION.** See “[Security Alarm System Contractor](#).”

**SHARE INSURANCE – PROHIBITED.** Any combination or variation of these words reasonably calculated to convey the false impression that such business has some connection with the National Credit Union Administration is strictly prohibited except as permitted by the laws of the United States. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**SKI LIFT OPERATOR – CAUTION.** No person shall operate a ski lift without a permit issued by the director of commerce or an authorized representative of the director. See [MCL 408.329](#).

**SMOKEY BEAR – PROHIBITED.** Strictly prohibited unless authorized under rules and regulations issued by the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture. ([18 USCS 711](#)).

**SOCIAL SECURITY – RESTRICTED.** These words may not be used if, when read as a whole, the name conveys the impression it has some connection with or is approved, endorsed, or authorized by the Social Security Administration, the Health Care Financing Administration, or the Department of Health and Human Services, all agencies of the Federal Government. ([42 USCS 1320b-10\(a\)\(1\)\(A\)](#)).

**SOCIAL SECURITY ACCOUNT – RESTRICTED.** The words may not be used if, when read as a whole, the name conveys the impression it has some connection with or is approved, endorsed, or authorized by the Social Security Administration, the Health Care Financing Administration, or the Department of Health and Human Services, all agencies of the Federal Government. ([42 USCS 1320b-10\(a\)\(1\)\(A\)](#)).

**SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION – RESTRICTED.** The words may not be used if, when read as a whole, the name conveys the impression it has some connection with or is approved, endorsed, or authorized by the Social Security Administration, the Health Care Financing Administration, or the Department of Health and Human Services, all agencies of the Federal Government. ([42 USCS 1320b-10\(a\)\(1\)\(A\)](#)).

**SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM – RESTRICTED.** The words may not be used if, when read as a whole, the name conveys the impression it has some connection with or is approved, endorsed, or authorized by the Social Security Administration, the Health Care Financing Administration, or the Department of Health and Human Services, all agencies of the Federal Government. ([42 USCS 1320b-10\(a\)\(1\)\(A\)](#)).

**SOCIAL SERVICE TECHNICIAN – RESTRICTED.** See “[Social Worker](#).”

**SOCIAL WORKER – RESTRICTED.** An individual who is not licensed or registered under the laws of the State of Michigan to engage in a particular health profession shall not use an insignia, title, or letter, or a word, letter, or phrase with or without qualifying words to induce the belief that the person is licensed or registered in Michigan. See [MCL 333.16261](#) and [MCL 333.18503](#).

**SSA – RESTRICTED.** The words may not be used if, when read as a whole, the name conveys the impression it has some connection with or is approved, endorsed, or authorized by the Social Security Administration, the Health Care Financing Administration, or the Department of Health and Human Services, all agencies of the Federal Government. ([42 USCS 1320b-10\(a\)\(1\)\(A\)](#)).

**SSI – RESTRICTED.** The words may not be used if, when read as a whole, the name conveys the impression it has some connection with or is approved, endorsed, or authorized by the Social Security Administration, the Health Care Financing Administration, or the Department of Health and Human Services, all agencies of the Federal Government. ([42 USCS 1320b-10\(a\)\(1\)\(A\)](#)).

**STATE OF MICHIGAN – PROHIBITED.** Implies a governmental agency. (Bureau Policy).

**STATE LICENSED REAL ESTATE APPRAISER – RESTRICTED.** See “[Certified General Real Estate Appraiser.](#)”

**SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES – CAUTION.** A person not otherwise licensed to provide psychological, medical, or social services shall not establish, conduct, or maintain a substance abuse service unless it is licensed under [Article 6](#) of the Public Health Code. This shall not apply to private, nonprofit organizations exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the internal revenue code which have been in existence for more than 13 years prior to the enactment of this code (1978) and whose major purpose is to provide residential services for the redirection and improvement of drug abusers and other character disordered individuals. See [MCL 333.6233](#).

**SUMMER RESORT – CAUTION.** Summer resort associations must incorporate under a special act. See [MCL 450.1123](#).

**SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME PROGRAM – RESTRICTED.** The words may not be used if, when read as a whole, the name conveys the impression it has some connection with or is approved, endorsed, or authorized by the Social Security Administration, the Health Care Financing Administration, or the Department of Health and Human Services, all agencies of the Federal Government. ([42 USC 1320b-10\(a\)\(1\)\(A\)](#)).

**SURETY – RESTRICTED.** A corporation subject to the Business Corporation Act or the Nonprofit Corporation Act (other than a bank holding company) shall not assume a name which implies that it is a banking corporation; an insurance or surety company; or a trust company unless from the other words in the name, it is clear the business conducted does not include the business of an insurance or surety company. See MCL [450.1213](#) and [450.2213](#).

**SURVEYOR – CAUTION.** Although ‘surveyor’ is not a restricted word, statute prohibits the use of words similar to professional titles protected under the Occupational Code unless the person is properly licensed. See “[Professional Surveyor.](#)”

**T.A. – RESTRICTED.** See “[Registered Professional Nurse.](#)”

**TELEPHONE – CAUTION.** Must incorporate under a special act. See [MCL 450.1123](#).

**TELEGRAPH – CAUTION.** Must incorporate under a special act. See [MCL 450.1123](#).

**TITLE – RESTRICTED.** The name of a corporation, limited liability company, or limited partnership cannot imply that the entity is a title insurance company. If the entity is a title insurance agency, the name may include “title” provided the word “agency” is also in the name. See [Attorney General opinion 5756, 8/19/1980.](#)

**TOWNSHIP OF – CAUTION.** The name as a whole cannot infer a governmental function.

**TRAINED ATTENDANT – RESTRICTED.** See “[Registered Professional Nurse.](#)”

**TRUST – RESTRICTED.** A corporation subject to the Business Corporation Act or the Nonprofit Corporation Act (other than bank holding company), or a foreign or domestic limited liability company subject to the Limited Liability Company Act shall not assume a name which implies that it is a banking corporation; an insurance or surety company; or a trust company unless from the other words in the name, it is clear the business conducted does not include the business of a trust company. See MCL [450.1213](#), [450.2213](#), and [450.4201](#). See also Michigan Banking Code of 1999, [MCL 487.11101 – 487.15105](#). The word is acceptable in the name of a corporation formed to operate as a real estate investment trust, a corporation that complies with provisions of the Internal Revenue Code to obtain special tax treatment.

**TRUSTEE – CAUTION.** Trustee corporations must incorporate under the [General Corporation Act](#). See [MCL 450.148 – 450.162](#).

**TUNNEL – CAUTION.** Must incorporate under a special act. See [MCL 450.1123](#).

**U.D. – PROHIBITED.** Except with written permission of the Director of the United States Secret Service. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**UNDERTAKER – CAUTION.** See “[Funeral Establishment.](#)”

**UNION DEPOT – CAUTION.** Must incorporate under a special act. See [MCL 450.1123](#).

**UNITED STATES – RESTRICTED.** Prohibited as part of a business or firm name of an entity engaged in the banking, loan, building and loan, brokerage, factorage, insurance, indemnity, savings or trust business except as permitted by the laws of the United States. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**UNITED STATES CAPITOL HISTORICAL SOCIETY – PROHIBITED.** Federal law prohibits use. ([36 USCS 220306](#)).

**UNITED STATES HOUSING AUTHORITY – PROHIBITED.** Any combination of these words or letters reasonably calculated to convey the false impression that

such name of business has some connection with or authorization from the federal government is prohibited. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**UNITED STATES MARSHALS SERVICE – PROHIBITED.** Any combination of these words or letters reasonably calculated to convey the false impression that such name of business has some connection with or authorization from the federal government is prohibited. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**UNITED STATES MINT – PROHIBITED.** Except with written permission of the Director of the United States Mint. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**UNITED STATES OLYMPIC COMMITTEE – PROHIBITED.** See [Olympic](#).

**UNITED STATES SAVINGS BOND – PROHIBITED.** Any combination of these words or letters reasonably calculated to convey the false impression that such name or business has some connection with or authorization from the federal government is prohibited. ([31 USCS 333](#)).

**UNIVERSITY – RESTRICTED.** Every educational corporation including the word “university” in its name, before being authorized to file its articles, shall be required to present to the Bureau an approval in writing from the State Board of Education. See [MCL 450.171](#). This restriction applies only to educational corporations. If the purposes are other than educational, the word may be used in a corporate name.

**U.S. – CAUTION.** See United States. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**USHA – PROHIBITED.** Any combination of these words or letters reasonably calculated to convey the false impression that such name of business has some connection with or authorization from the federal government is prohibited. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**U.S. MARSHAL - PROHIBITED.** Any combination of these words or letters reasonably calculated to convey the false impression that such name of business has some connection with or authorization from the federal government is prohibited. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**U.S. MARSHALS SERVICE – PROHIBITED.** Any combination of these words or letters reasonably calculated to convey the false impression that such name of business has some connection with or authorization from the federal government is prohibited. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**U.S. MINT – PROHIBITED.** Except with written permission of the Director of the United States Mint. ([18 USCS 709](#)).



**U.S.S.S. – PROHIBITED.** Except with written permission of the Director of the United States Secret Service. ([18 USCS 709](#)).

**VAULT – CAUTION.** Must incorporate under a special act if it is a cemetery, a burial, or cremation association. See [MCL 450.1123](#) and [MCL 456.251 – 456.253](#).

**VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT WARRANTOR – CAUTION.** A person may not act as a warrantor or represent to the public that the person is a warrantor unless the person files a notice with the department of labor and economic growth, on a form prescribed by that department. See [MCL 257.1247](#).

**VETERINARIAN – RESTRICTED.** See “[Veterinary.](#)”

**VETERINARY – RESTRICTED.** An individual who is not licensed or registered under the laws of the State of Michigan to engage in a particular health profession shall not use an insignia, title, or letter, or a word, letter, or phrase with or without qualifying words to induce the belief that the person is licensed or registered in Michigan. See MCL [333.16261](#) and [333.18811](#)

**VETERINARY DOCTOR – RESTRICTED.** See “[Veterinary.](#)”

**VETERINARY SURGEON – RESTRICTED.** See “[Veterinary.](#)”

**VILLAGE OF – CAUTION.** The name as a whole cannot infer a governmental function.

**V.M.D. – RESTRICTED.** See “[Veterinary.](#)”

**WARRANTOR – CAUTION.** See “[Vehicle Protection Product Warrantor.](#)”

**WATERSHED COUNCIL – RESTRICTED.** A watershed council organized under part 311 of Act 451, P.A. 1994 ([MCL 324.31101](#)) may not incorporate as a nonprofit corporation.

**WOODSEY OWL – PROHIBITED.** Strictly prohibited except as authorized under rules and regulations issued by the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture. ([18 USCS 711a](#)).