

# HANDS OFF OUR NAME

## Massage Is Therapy

# LANDLORDS TOOLKIT

## Overview

Landlords, Realtors, Property Managers and Owners unknowingly are renting offices to **Sexually Oriented Businesses Disguised as Massage Businesses**. Renting a space to such a business could mean that you are assisting criminals in committing crimes of prostitution, money laundering, racketeering and other offenses.

In most states, law-abiding massage therapists are licensed by the state which means they have attended and passed an approved massage school program, taken a test with the state and passed a background check. Many states have laws that require licensed massage therapists to have their license number on advertising and they may be required to hang their massage license on the wall of the office. States also have a massage license verification system on the state board of massage websites.

You can find a list of the states on the website [www.lookbeforeyoubookamassage.com](http://www.lookbeforeyoubookamassage.com) to find your state requirements and verification systems.

Sexually Oriented Businesses are often disguised as Asian Massage, Foot Massage, Thai Massage and Spas so it is important that you learn some of the warning signs and also learn to build relationships with your local law enforcement agencies to ensure that you are renting to law abiding, licensed massage therapists. Asian Massage is probably the most common disguise that is used by these businesses. There are very legitimate forms of Asian Massage and the massage therapists that are trained in types of massage from Asia use their exact names like (taken from the American Organization for Bodywork Therapies of Asia®).

- Acupressure
- Jin Shin Do®Bodymind Acupressure®
- Amma
- Amma Therapy®
- Chi Nei Tsang
- Jin Shou Tuina™
- Nuad Bo 'Rarn (Traditional Thai)
- Tuina
- Medical Qigong
- Five Element Shiatsu

- Integrative Eclectic Shiatsu
- Japanese Shiatsu
- Macrobiotic Shiatsu
- Shiatsu Anma Therapy
- Zen Shiatsu
- Shiatsu

SOB's will also have some of these signs:

- Open 24/7 or open very early and very late
- Cash only
- Neon signs
- Windows/doors covered so you can't see into the business from the sidewalk or street
- Websites without massage licenses and with scantily clad females

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The words Massage and Massage Therapy are constantly being used as a cover for these illegal activities. The Media and others will inaccurately refer to these places as Illicit Massage Businesses or Massage Parlors. They are NOT Massage anything. They are Sexually Oriented Businesses Disguised as Massage Businesses (SOBs).

Correcting the use of language and calling them what they are will go a long way in bringing awareness to your community and help everyone to realize that this is a societal issue. The many men who frequent these places make it a very lucrative business for the people who own them.

## Verify Massage Therapy Licenses



[www.lookbeforeyoubookamassage.com](http://www.lookbeforeyoubookamassage.com)