

**Orders for Regulation of Outdoor Lighting  
In Culberson County, Texas**

**1. DEFINITIONS**

**1.1 In these orders:**

**Outdoor lighting** “means any type of lighting, fixed or movable, designed or used for outdoor illumination of building or homes, including lighting for billboards, streetlights, searchlights used for advertising purposes, externally or internally illuminated on or off-site advertising signs, and area-type lighting. It does not include lighting equipment, required by law to be installed on motor vehicles or lighting required for the safe take-off and landing of aircraft.

- a) “Installed” means the initial installation or replacement of outdoor lighting as defined herein made subsequent to the enactment of these orders and shall not pertain or apply to outdoor lighting existing at the time of enactment of these orders.
- b) “Fully shielded” means that those fixtures shall be shielded in such a manner that light rays emitted by the fixture, either directly from the lamp or indirectly from the fixture, are projected below the horizontal plane running through the lowest point on the fixture where light is emitted.
- c) “Partially shielded” means that those fixtures shall be shielded in such a manner that the bottom edge of the shield is below the plane centerline of the light source (lamp), minimizing light above the horizontal.
- d) “Spot light” means a light fixture having a narrow beam.
- e) “Flood light” shall mean a light fixture having a wide beam.

**2. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

- 2.1 **New lighting installations:** All outdoor lighting fixtures installed after 03/12/01 shall be fully shielded, except incandescent fixtures of less than one hundred fifty watts or and other sources of less than seventy watts which shall be partially shielded.
- 2.2 **Recreational facilities:** No outdoor public recreational facility shall be illuminated by nonconforming means after midnight except to conclude a specific recreational activity in progress.

- 2.3 Outdoor building or landscaping illumination: The unshielded outdoor illumination of any building, landscaping or signing is prohibited except with incandescent spot lights of less than 150 watts which shall be partially shielded to prevent light from being emitted away from the target of illumination.
- 2.4 Existing fixtures: Except for spotlights and floodlights, outdoor lighting fixtures existing and legally installed prior to the effective date of the orders, are not subject to these orders.
- 2.5 Replacement fixtures: When existing lighting fixtures become unrepairable, their replacements are subject to all the provisions of these orders.
- 2.6 Spot lights and flood lights: For spotlights and floodlights mounted overhead on poles and used for area lighting, the axis of illumination shall be adjusted to an angle not more than 20 degrees from the vertical line between the fixture and the ground (see Exhibits 1 and 2). "For spotlights and floodlights fitted with glare shields preventing direct up light, the axis of illumination shall be adjusted to an angle not more than 45 degrees from the vertical line between the fixture and the ground (see Exhibits 3 and 4).
- 2.7 Mercury vapor: The installation of mercury vapor fixtures is prohibited effective 90 days after the adoption of these orders.
- 2.8 Searchlights: The operation of searchlights for advertising purposes is prohibited.

### 3. EXEMPTIONS

- 3.1 Any individual may submit a written request to the County Judge for a temporary exemption from the requirements of these orders: The request for the exemption shall contain as a minimum the following information:
  - a) Proposed use of outdoor light involved.
  - b) Type of lamp to be used, including manufacturer's model number.
  - c) Type of light fixture used, including manufacturer's model number.
  - d) Total wattage of lamp or lamps.
  - e) Proposed location of outdoor light.
  - f) Beginning and ending date of proposed exemption.

### 4. ENFORCEMENT

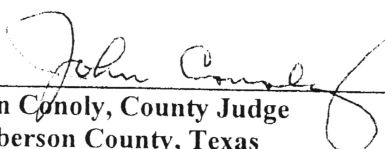
A law enforcement officer of the State of Texas, the Sheriff, or any other officer of Culberson County shall make enforcement of these orders.

**5. PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION**

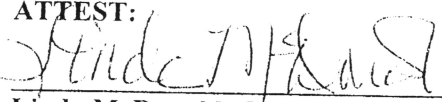
An individual adjudged guilty of violation of this act shall be punished by a fine not to exceed \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

**6. EFFECTIVE DATE:**

The effective date of this act shall be March 12, 2001.

  
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John Conoly, County Judge  
Culberson County, Texas

**ATTEST:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Linda McDonald, County Clerk  
Culberson County, Texas

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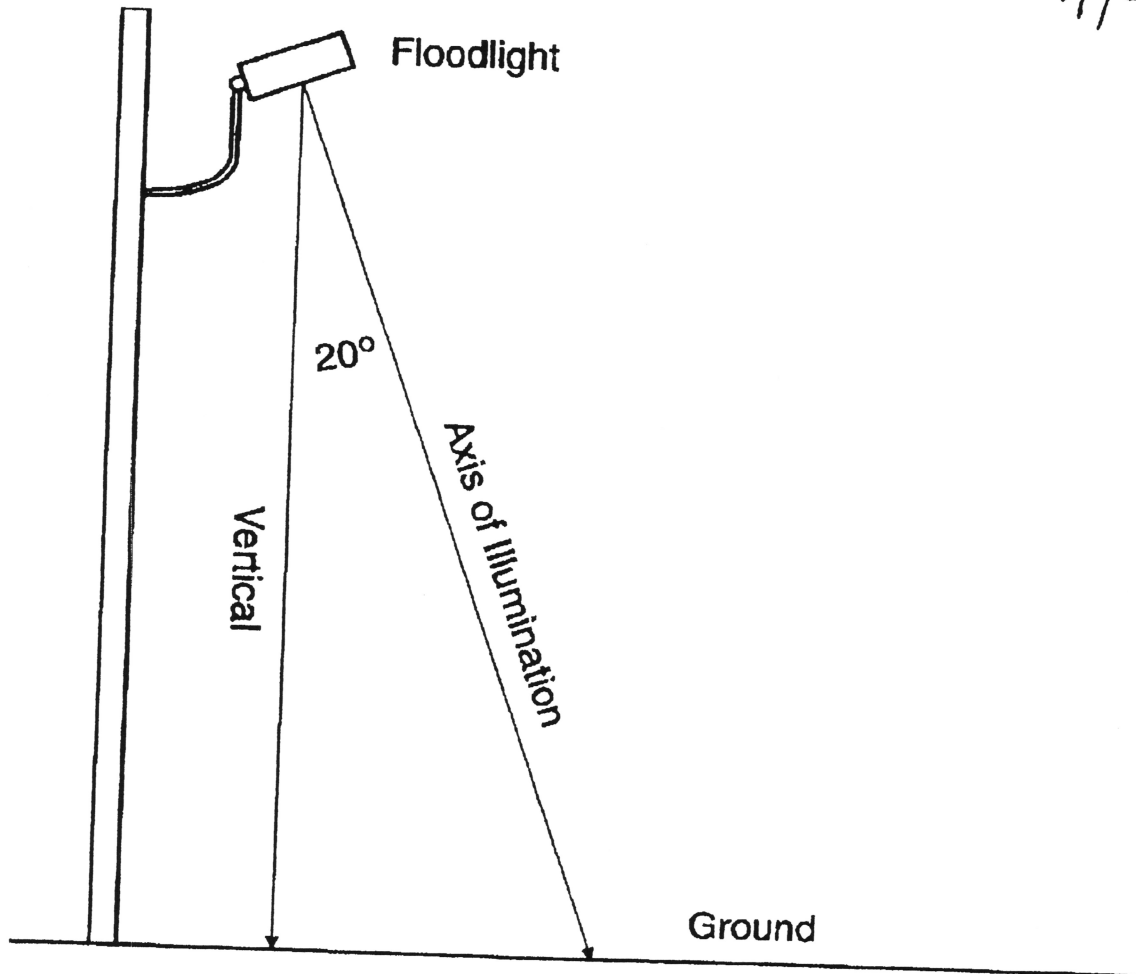


Exhibit 1. For spotlights and floodlights mounted overhead on poles and used for area lighting, the axis of illumination shall be adjusted to an angle not more than 20 degrees from the vertical line between the fixture and the ground.

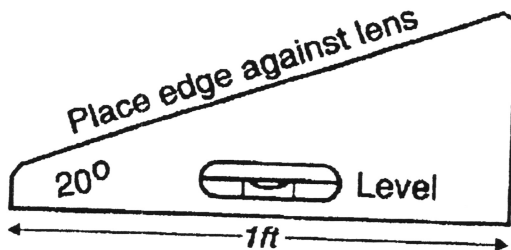


Exhibit 2. A tool for aiming lights as in Exhibit 1, above. Place the upper edge of the tool against the lens, and adjust the fixture so the bubble shows level.

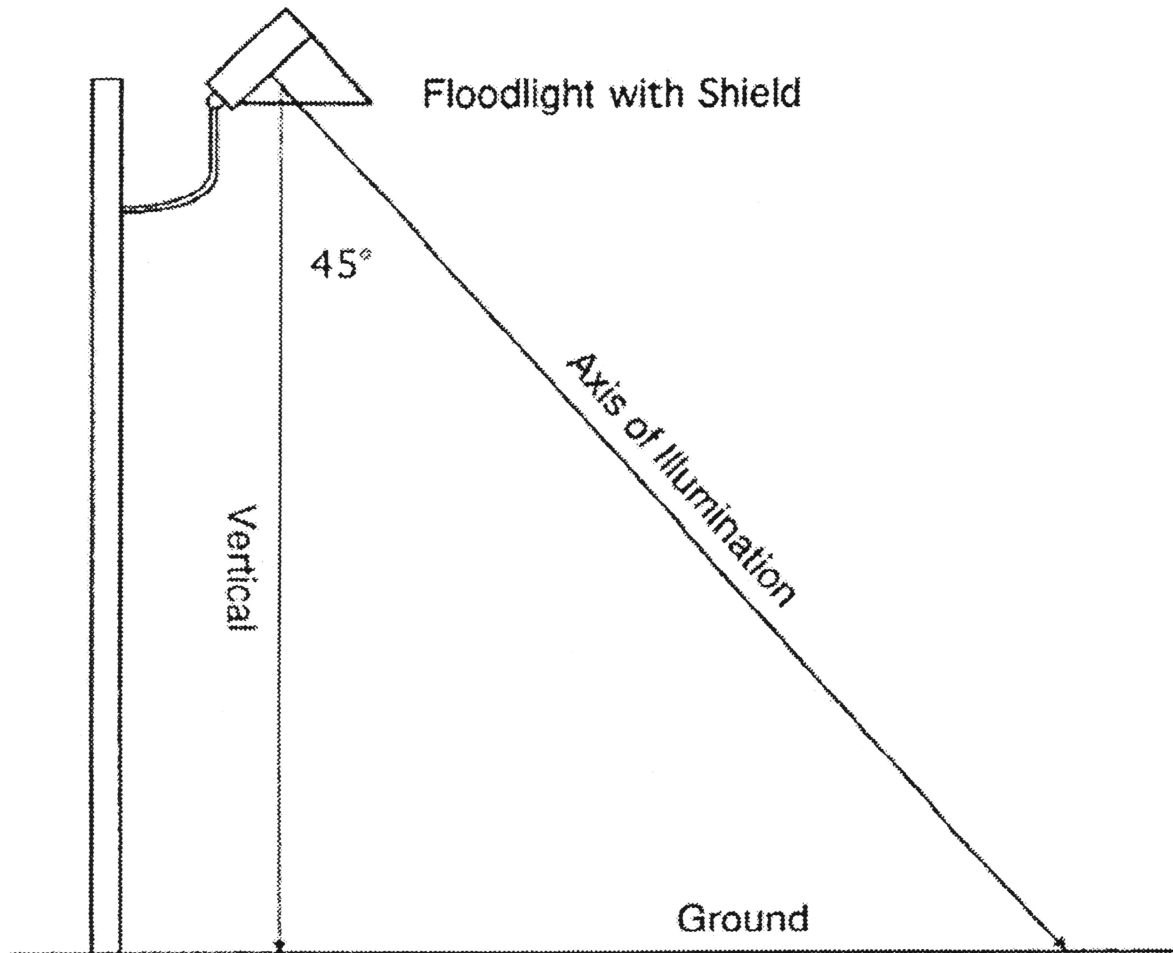


Exhibit 3. For spotlights and floodlights fitted with glare shields preventing all direct up light, the axis of illumination shall be adjusted to an angle not more than 45 degrees from the vertical line between the fixture and the ground.

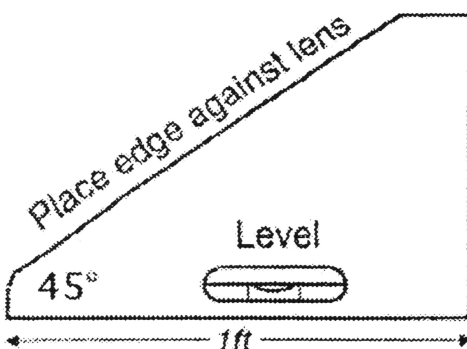


Exhibit 4. A tool for aiming lights as in Exhibit 1, above. Place the upper edge of the tool against the lens, and adjust the fixture so the bubble shows level.