

## PENALTIES

Person or Employer who willfully violates the law are subject to the following penalties:

Each violation will be subject to fines.

### Smoking violations:

#### **Smoking in a prohibited area:**

- ⊗ **First violation:** Penalties of not less than \$100 and not more than \$1,000.
- ⊗ **Subsequent violation:** Penalties of not less than \$200 and not more than \$1,000.

#### **Failure to notify person observed to be smoking to stop the activity:**

Penalty of \$500; each day violation continues is a separate offense.

### Signage violations:

#### **Obscuring, defacing a sign:**

Penalty of \$500.

**Failure to post a sign:** Penalty of \$500; each day violation continues is a separate offense.

## WHERE CAN I GET INFORMATION ON QUITTING?

If you or your employees smoke and want to quit call 1-800-QUIT NOW (1-800-784-8669).

District of Columbia

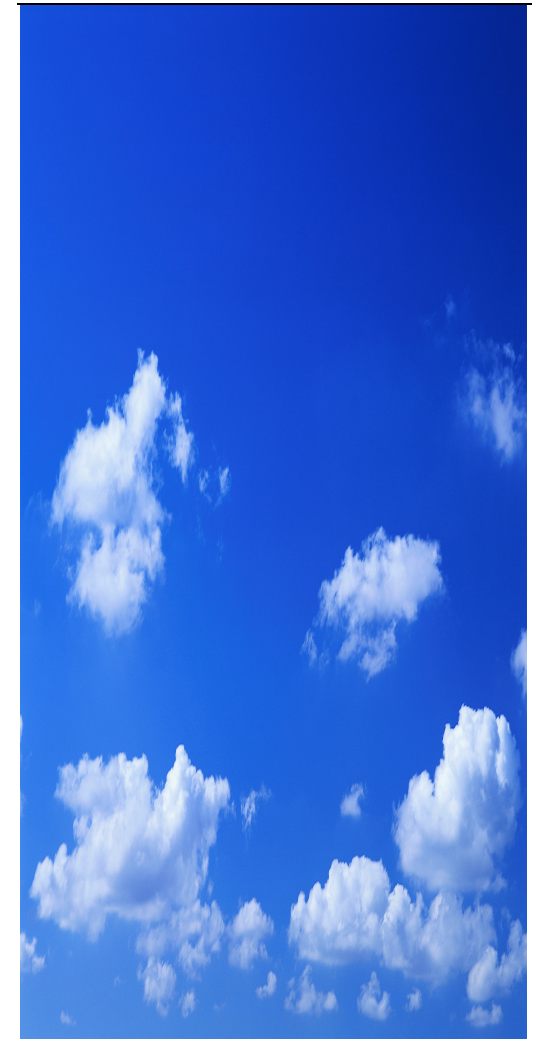


Department of Health

825 N. Capitol St, NE  
Washington, DC 20002  
Phone (202) 671-5000  
Fax (202) 442-4825  
[www.doh.dc.gov](http://www.doh.dc.gov)



## A GUIDE TO THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA SMOKE-FREE WORKPLACES LAW



*Secondhand smoke is a proven health hazard. The Department of Health Functions Clarification Amendment Act of 2006 prohibits smoking in most public places. This law is effective April 4, 2006. It is a violation of District law for any person to smoke in an area where it is prohibited. It is also a violation for an employer, owner, manager, or person in authority to permit smoking in prohibited areas or fail to post "No Smoking" signs.*

*For more information, or to order free "No Smoking" signs, contact the District of Columbia Tobacco Control Program at (202) 671-5000 or visit the Department of Health website at [www.doh.dc.gov](http://www.doh.dc.gov).*

## PUBLIC PLACES

According to the law, smoking is prohibited in all enclosed public places in the District of Columbia, including but not limited to:

- ☒ Banks
- ☒ Educational facilities
- ☒ Health care facilities
- ☒ Laundromats
- ☒ Public transportation facilities
- ☒ Reception areas
- ☒ Restaurants
- ☒ Retail food production and marketing establishments
- ☒ Retail service establishments
- ☒ Retail stores
- ☒ Shopping malls
- ☒ Sports arenas
- ☒ Theaters
- ☒ Waiting rooms

\* The law allows smoking in the bar areas of restaurants, taverns, nightclubs, brew pub, and clubs until **January 1, 2007**.

## WORKPLACES

The law requires that virtually all establishments and businesses with employees be smoke-free. This includes work areas, employee lounges, restrooms, conference rooms, classrooms, employee cafeterias, hallways, and vehicles owned by a private employer. Private residences are exempt unless used as a childcare, adult day care or health care facility.

*Effective January 2, 2007, smoking will be prohibited in all places of employment and indoor public places at all times.*

## HOW TO COMPLY WITH THE NEW LAW

- ☒ **Update workplace smoking policies** to reflect the new law.
- ☒ **Post "no smoking" signs** at all entrances as required including bathrooms, stairwells on each floor, bulletin boards, and in other prominent places.

☒ **Talk with customers and employees** about the law and methods to comply with the law.

☒ **Remove all ashtrays** from the premises.

☒ **Contact the Department of Health Tobacco Control Program** for additional information and for compliance support at **202 671-5000**.

☒ In addition, you can access the Department's website at [www.doh.dc.gov](http://www.doh.dc.gov).

## ENFORCEMENT

The District of Columbia Department of Health Bureau of Community Hygiene staff is responsible for enforcement of the law. Staff conducts routine and complaint-driven inspections to determine compliance with the Smoke-Free Workplaces Law.

## HOW TO REGISTER A COMPLAINT

If you would like to register a complaint, you may contact the Department of Health at **(202) 671-5000**, or visit the **Department of Health website** at [www.doh.dc.gov](http://www.doh.dc.gov).