



# PIMA COUNTY, ARIZONA BOARD OF SUPERVISORS POLICY

<b><u>Subject:</u></b> Tobacco-Free Environment	<b>Policy Number</b>	<b>Page</b>
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## **Purpose:**

Smoking and the use of tobacco related products are a major cause of preventable disease and death. As a leading employer and health proponent Pima County is committed to the promotion of health, wellness, and the prevention / treatment of diseases. Pima County also serves as a model for the public influencing attitudes about smoking and the dangers of tobacco products. The purpose of this tobacco-free policy is to create tobacco-free environments for all Pima County facilities, public buildings and adjacent properties, to provide Pima County employees and the public with guidelines for managing and supporting this policy, and to encourage a healthy lifestyle for all personnel and visitors.

## **Background:**

As a major entity involved in the promotion of public health and safety within Pima County, the Board of Supervisors promotes and encourages the establishment of a tobacco-free zone on County facilities, public buildings and adjacent properties. The Board of Supervisors has previously established wellness as a priority for all County employees, by the adoption of the long-range Sustainability Program and employee incentives in the way of premium discounts for health insurance benefits. The establishment of a tobacco-free policy is the natural continuance of those efforts.

## **Policy:**

It is the policy of the Board of Supervisors that to provide a safe and healthy environment for all employees, and the general public.

The Board of Supervisors prohibits the use of tobacco products at all times on County facilities, public buildings and adjacent properties, and in County vehicles. This prohibition applies to all employees, and to all visitors and other persons at any County sponsored activity or event conducted on County facilities, in public buildings or on adjacent properties.

## **Definitions:**

Tobacco Products include cigarettes, cigars, pipes, smokeless tobacco, water pipes, hookah, e-cigarettes, chewing tobacco, snuff and other products containing tobacco.

County Facilities, Public Buildings and Adjacent Properties including County owned or leased properties and a facility occupied or used by any County personnel, visitor, or vendor, and includes but is not limited to buildings, courtyards, walkways, breeze-ways, parking lots, parking structures, County vehicles (owned or leased), loading docks or construction sites.



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### **Compliance:**

County personnel are responsible for compliance with the policy.

Visitors and vendors observed to violate this policy shall be respectfully informed of the Tobacco-Free Environment Policy and asked to comply. If a visitor or vendor neglects to comply, that neglect to comply may be used as grounds for prohibiting access to premises or faculties by said visitor or vendor.

If any individual violating the policy appears agitated or otherwise confrontational regarding compliance, then County personnel shall immediately inform the staff responsible for the facility or security personnel if available and shall engage in no further intervention.

All vendors doing business with Pima County shall be notified of the Tobacco-Free policy and shall be expected to comply with the policy. Organizers and supervisors of public events, conferences, meetings and work activities on County facilities, work sites, public buildings and adjacent properties shall be responsible to communicating the requirements of the Tobacco-Free Policy to such events or conferences for attendees.

All new employees of Pima County will be informed on and educated about the Tobacco-Free Policy and the requirement that employees comply with the policy. Additionally, new employees shall be made aware of the availability of tobacco cessation programs sponsored or funded by Pima County.

### References:

Pima County Ordinance, Chapter 2.12  
Pima County Code, Section 8.50

Adopted Date:     November 13, 2012  
Effective Date:    January 1, 2013