

10-4-93

ORDINANCE NO. 93-O-36

AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING SMOKING IN PUBLIC PLACES WITHIN THE CITY OF ANNISTON AND ITS POLICE JURISDICTION; AND PROVIDING FURTHER FOR EXEMPTIONS TO THE PROHIBITION AND PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF

WHEREAS, the United States Surgeon General has concluded that involuntary smoking is a cause of disease, including lung cancer, in non-smokers; and

WHEREAS, the possession of lighted smoking materials in public places is a nuisance and is hazardous to the public health, safety, comfort, convenience and indoor environment; and

WHEREAS, the simple separation of smokers and non-smokers within the same air space may reduce, but does not eliminate, the exposure of non-smokers to environmental tobacco smoke; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Anniston, Alabama, finds that it is necessary to prohibit smoking in public places except in areas designated as "smoking" areas.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ANNISTON, ALABAMA, that it hereby establish regulations governing smoking in public places to read as follows:

SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS.

- a) "Smoking" or "Smoke" shall include the carrying, holding or possession of lighted smoking materials in any form, including but not limited to, the possession of lighted cigarettes, cigars, pipes or other tobacco products;
- (b) "Public" or "Public Place" shall mean an enclosed area that is used by the general public, or that is a place of business or employment, or that is a public meeting area, and includes, but is not limited to: stores, offices and other commercial establishments, restaurants, public and private educational institutions, health care facilities, nursery and convalescent homes, government buildings, public transportation vehicles, elevators, restrooms and other areas as described in Section 2;
- (c) "Service Line" means any indoor line at which one or more persons are waiting for or receiving service of any kind, regardless of whether such service involves the exchange of money;
- (d) "Employee" means any person who is employed by an employer for compensation or profit;
- (e) "Employer" means any person, partnership, corporation, association or other entity that employs five or more persons;
- (f) "Place of Employment" means any indoor area under the control of an employer to which employees have access during the course of employment, including, but not limited to work areas, employee lounges, employee restrooms, conference rooms and employee cafeterias. A private residence is not a place of employment.

SECTION 2. OFFENSES

Except as provided in Section 3 and 4, smoking is prohibited in any of the following public places:

- (a) Any commercial establishment, including but not limited to retail stores, restaurants, banks, office buildings and offices;

- (b) Any vehicle of public transportation, including but not limited to local trains, buses, taxicabs and limousines;
- (c) Elevators;
- (d) Restrooms;
- (e) Libraries, schools or other educational facilities, museums, auditoriums and art galleries;
- (f) Any public area of a health care facility, health clinics or ambulatory care facilities, including but not limited to laboratories associated with the rendition of health care treatment, hospitals (with exceptions in patient rooms), rest homes, doctors' offices and dentists' offices;
- (g) Any indoor place of entertainment or recreation, including but not limited to gymnasiums, theatres, concert halls, bingo halls, arenas and enclosed swimming pools;
- (h) Any other enclosed area used by the public or serving as a place of work;
- (i) Hospitals shall accommodate non-smokers by prohibiting smoking in all patient rooms, except where all the occupants thereof consent to smoking. Hospitals may set aside designated lounge areas for smoking.

### SECTION 3. EXCEPTIONS.

Section 2 and the restrictions imposed therein shall not apply to:

- (a) Areas which are specifically designated as smoking areas in accordance with Section 4 of this Ordinance;
- (b) An entire room or hall which is used for private social functions, provided that the event is under the control of the sponsor of the function and not of the proprietor or person in charge of the establishment or hall;
- (c) A separate bar area of a restaurant; or a licensed lounge;
- (d) Taxicabs and limousines where the driver and all passengers affirmatively consent to smoking in such vehicle;
- (e) A private, enclosed office provided that this exception shall not be construed to permit smoking in the reception areas of lobbies or offices unless designated as smoking areas;
- (f) Performers upon the stage, provided that the smoking is part of a theatrical production;
- (g) A tobacco specialty retail shop;
- (h) Any restaurant between the hours of 12:00 Midnight and 5:00 a.m.;
- (i) Any public place which in its entirety is too small to allow any practical separation of smokers and non-smokers, as determined by the Calhoun County Health Department.

### SECTION 4. DESIGNATION OF SMOKING AREAS.

- (a) Smoking areas may be designated by proprietors or other

persons in charge of a public place as designated in Section 2, except in places in which smoking is otherwise prohibited by the Fire Department of the City of Anniston or by other statute, ordinance or resolution;

- (b) Where smoking areas are designated, each smoking area shall:
  - (1) Be set apart from non-smoking areas; and
  - (2) Be situated so existing barriers and functioning ventilation systems are used to minimize the irritating and toxic affects of smoke in adjacent non-smoking areas; and
  - (3) Be designated by appropriate signs which are clearly visible to patrons in or entering the area via the front entrance to the premises; and
  - (4) Contain ashtrays, containers or other facilities for the extinguishment of smoking materials; and
  - (5) Not include service lines or cashier areas.
  - (6) Not include meat or produce counter areas in any store.
- (c) No public place within Section 2, other than those places enumerated as exceptions under Section 3, shall be designated as a smoking area in its entirety.

#### SECTION 5. RESPONSIBILITY OF PROPRIETORS.

The proprietor or other person having control of any area within Section 2 shall:

- (a) Provide a seat in a non-smoking area for any persons requesting such a seat;
- (b) Prominently post "SMOKING" or "NON SMOKING" signs, whichever may be appropriate, or the international "NO SMOKING" symbol consisting of a pictorial representation of a burning cigarette enclosed in a red circle with a bar across it. The proprietor or other person shall clearly and conspicuously post such sign in every room, building or other area where smoking is regulated by this Ordinance;
- (c) Post signs conspicuously in the lobby of every theatre stating that smoking is prohibited within the theatre or auditorium, and in the case of motion picture theatres such information shall be shown upon the screen prior to the showing of each feature motion picture;
- (d) Request persons smoking in violation of this Ordinance to stop, or to leave the non-smoking area and move to a designated smoking area.

#### SECTION 6. REGULATION OF SMOKING IN THE WORKPLACE.

Each employer in the City of Anniston shall implement and maintain a smoking policy for its employees within sixty (60) days after this Ordinance become law. This policy shall contain, at a minimum, the following provisions and requirements:

- (a) The employer (shall) accommodate, insofar as possible, the preferences of non-smoking and smoking employees. An employer is not required by this provision to incur any expense for making structural or other physical modifications to accommodate the preferences of non-smoking or smoking employees.

- (b) The smoking policy shall be announced within three weeks of adoption to all employees working in the place of employment and posted conspicuously in all workplaces under the employer's control.

SECTION 7. ENFORCEMENT.

The provisions of this Article are enforceable by the County Health Officer or a duly authorized representative thereof.

SECTION 8. PENALTY.

Any person who willfully smokes in an area where smoking is prohibited under this Ordinance; or

Any business proprietor or person in charge of a public place who fails or refuses, five days after warning, to designate smoking and non-smoking areas as required herein or who, being asked to do so, fails or refuses to enforce the designations, or

Any employer who fails or refuses to adopt and implement a smoking policy for the workplace which shall reasonably accommodate, insofar as possible as herein provided, the preferences of smoking and non-smoking employees;

Shall be guilty of an "offense" and shall be subject to punishment by a fine of not less than ONE DOLLAR (\$1.00) nor more than FIVE HUNDRED AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$500.00) for each such "offense."

SECTION 9. MISCELLANEOUS.

- (a) Nothing in this Article excuses non-compliance with any Federal or State law, other City of Anniston ordinance, or any rule or regulation which prohibits smoking.
- (b) Validity or Constitutionality. If any portion of this Ordinance shall be held unconstitutional, invalid or unenforceable, such holding shall not affect the remaining portions nor render the remaining portions invalid, and to that end the provisions hereof are declared to be severable.

SECTION 10. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Ordinance shall become effective at 12:01 a.m. on the 1st day of October, 1993, provided that a copy of this ordinance shall first have been published in The Anniston Star, a newspaper of general circulation published in the City of Anniston, Alabama, and the City Clerk of the City of Anniston is hereby ordered and directed to cause a copy of this ordinance to be published one time in said newspaper.

PASSED and ADOPTED this the 14th day of September,

1993.

CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
ANNISTON, ALABAMA

BY David Dothrage  
David Dothrage, Mayor

BY \_\_\_\_\_  
Jerre Ford, Councilman

BY James D. Montgomery  
James D. Montgomery, Councilman