

ORDINANCE NO. 11-2008**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ATMORE, ALABAMA
ELIMINATING SMOKING IN ALL WORKPLACES AND PUBLIC
PLACES (100% SMOKEFREE); PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES
FOR THE VIOLATION OF THIS ORDINANCE;
REPEALING CLAUSE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.****SECTION 1: TITLE**

This Ordinance shall be known as the City of Atmore Smokefree Air Act of 2008.

SECTION 2: FINDINGS AND INTENT

The City of Atmore City Council does hereby find that:

Numerous studies have found that tobacco smoke is a major contributor to indoor air pollution, and that breathing secondhand smoke (also known as environmental tobacco smoke) is a cause of disease in healthy nonsmokers, including heart disease, stroke, respiratory disease, and lung cancer. The National Cancer Institute determined in 1999 that secondhand smoke is responsible for the early deaths of up to 65,000 Americans annually. (National Cancer Institute (NCI), "Health effects of exposure to environmental tobacco smoke: the report of the California Environmental Protection Agency. Smoking and Tobacco Control Monograph 10," Bethesda, MD: National Institutes of Health, National Cancer Institute (NCI), August 1999.)

The Public Health Service's National Toxicology Program has listed secondhand smoke as a known carcinogen. (Environmental Health Information Service (EHIS), "Environmental tobacco smoke: first listed in the Ninth Report on Carcinogens, US Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Public Health Service, National Toxicology Program, 2000.)

A study of hospital admissions for acute myocardial infarction in Helena, Montana before, during, and after a local law eliminating smoking in workplaces and public places may be associated with a reduction in morbidity from heart disease. (Sargent, Richard P.; Shepard, Robert M.; Glantz, Stanton A., "Reduced incidence of admissions for myocardial infarction associated with public smoking ban: before and after study," *British Medical Journal* 328: 977-980, April 24, 2004.)

Secondhand smoke is particularly hazardous to elderly people, individuals with cardiovascular disease, and individuals with impaired respiratory function, including asthmatics and those with obstructive airway disease. Children exposed to secondhand smoke have an increased risk of asthma, respiratory infections, sudden infant death syndrome, developmental abnormalities, and cancer. (California Environmental Protection Agency (CAL EPA), "Health effects of exposure to environmental tobacco smoke", *Tobacco Control* 6(4): 346-353, Winter 1997.

The Americans With Disabilities Act, which requires that disabled persons have access to public places and workplaces, deems impaired respiratory function to be a disability. (Daynard, R.A., "Environmental tobacco smoke and the Americans with Disabilities Act, 'Nonsmokers' Voice 15(1): 8-9.")

The U.S. Surgeon General has determined that the simple separation of smokers and nonsmokers within the same air space may reduce, but does not eliminate, the exposure of nonsmokers to secondhand smoke. (Department of Health and Human

Services.) *The Health consequences of Involuntary Smoking: A Report of the Surgeon General*. Public Health Service, Centers for Disease control, 1986.) The Environmental Protection Agency has determined that secondhand smoke cannot be reduced to safe levels in businesses by high rates of ventilation. Air cleaners, which are only capable of filtering the particulate matter and odors in smoke, do not eliminate the known toxins in secondhand smoke. (Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), "Indoor air facts no. 5: environmental tobacco smoke, "Washington, D.C.: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), June 1989.)

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention has determined that the risk of acute myocardial infarction and coronary heart disease associated with exposure to tobacco smoke is non-linear at low doses, increasing rapidly with relatively small doses such as those received from secondhand smoke or actively smoking one or two cigarettes a day, and has warned that all patients at increased risk of coronary heart disease or with known coronary artery disease should avoid all indoor environments that permit smoking. (Pechacek, Terry F.; Babb, Stephen, "Commentary: How acute and reversible are the cardiovascular risks of secondhand smoke?" *British Medical Journal* 328; 980-983, April 24, 2004.)

A significant amount of secondhand smoke exposure occurs in the workplace. Employees who work in smoke-filled businesses suffer a 25-50% higher risk of heart attack and higher rates of death from cardiovascular disease and cancer, as well as increased acute respiratory disease and measurable decrease in lung function.

(Pitsavos, C.; Panagiotakos, D.H.; Chrysohoou, C.; Skoumas, J.; Tzioumis, K.; Stefanadis, C.; Toutouzias, P., "Association between exposure to environmental tobacco smoke and the development of acute coronary syndromes: the CARDI02000 case-control study," *Tobacco Control* 11 (3): 220-225, September 2002.)

Smoke-filled workplaces result in higher worker absenteeism due to respiratory disease, lower productivity, higher cleaning and maintenance costs, increased health insurance rates, and increased liability claims for diseases related to exposure to secondhand smoke. ("The high price of cigarette smoking," *Business & Health* 15(8), Supplement A: 6-9, August 1997.)

Numerous economic analysis examining restaurant and hotel receipts and controlling for economic variables have shown either no difference or a positive economic impact after enactment of laws requiring workplaces to be smokefree. Creation of smokefree workplaces is sound economic policy and provides the maximum level of employee health and safety. (Glantz, S.A. & Smith, L. The effect of ordinances requiring smokefree restaurants on restaurant sales in the United States. *American Journal of Public Health*, 87:1687-1693, 1997; Colman, R.; Urbonas, C.M., "The economic impact of smoke-free workplaces: and assessment for Nova Scotia, prepared for Tobacco Control Unit, Nova Scotia Department of Health," *GPI Atlantic*, September 2001.)

Smoking is a potential cause of fires; cigarette and cigar burns and ash stains on merchandise and fixtures causes economic damage to businesses. ("The high price of cigarette smoking," *Business & Health* 15(8), Supplement A: 6-9, August 1997.)

Accordingly, the City of Atmore City Council finds and declares that the purposes of this Ordinance are (1) to protect the public health and welfare by prohibiting smoking in public places and places of employment; and (2) to guarantee the right of nonsmokers to breathe smokefree air, and to recognize that the needs to breathe smokefree air shall have priority over the desire to smoke.

Section 3: DEFINITIONS

The following words and phrases, whenever used in this Ordinance, shall be construed as defined in the Section:

1. "Bar" means an establishment that is devoted to the serving of alcoholic beverages for consumption by guests on the premises and in which the serving of food is only incidental to the consumption of these beverages, including but not limited to, taverns, nightclubs, cocktail lounges, and cabarets.
2. "Business" means a sole proprietorship, partnership, joint venture, corporation, or other business entity, either for-profit or not-for-profit, including retail establishments where goods or services are sold as well as professional corporations and other entities where legal, medical, dental, engineering, architectural, or other professional services are delivered.
3. "Employee" means a person who is employed by an employer in consideration for direct or indirect monetary wages or profit, and a person who volunteers his or her services for a non-profit entity.
4. "Employer" means a person, business, partnership, association, corporation, including a municipal corporation, trust, or non-profit entity that employs the services of one or more individual persons.
5. "Enclosed Area" means all space between a floor and ceiling that is enclosed on all sides by solid walls or windows (exclusive of doorways), which extend from the floor to the ceiling.
6. "Health Care Facility" means an office or institution providing care or treatment of diseases, whether physical, mental, or emotional, or other medical, physiological, or psychological conditions, including but not limited to, hospitals, rehabilitation hospitals or other clinics, including weight control clinics, nursing homes, homes for the aging or chronically ill, laboratories, and offices of surgeons, chiropractors, physical therapists, physicians, dentists, and all specialists within these professions. This definition shall include all waiting rooms, hallways, private rooms, semiprivate rooms, and wards within health care facilities.
7. "Place of Employment" means an area under the control of a public or private employer that employees normally frequent during the course of employment, including, but not limited to, work areas, employee lounges, restrooms, conference rooms, meeting rooms, classrooms, employee cafeterias, hallways, and vehicles. A private residence is not a "place of employment" unless it is used as a child care, adult day care, or healthcare facility.
8. "Public Place" means an enclosed area to which the public is invited or in which the public is permitted, including but not limited to, banks, bars, 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, and waiting rooms. A private residence is not a "public place" unless it is used as a child care, adult day care, or health care facility.
9. "Restaurant" means an eating establishment, including but not limited to, coffee shops, cafeterias, sandwich stands, and private and public school cafeterias, which gives or offers for sale food to the public, guests, or employees, as well as kitchens and catering facilities in which food is prepared on the premises for serving elsewhere. The term "restaurant" shall include a bar area within the restaurant.
10. "Retail Tobacco Store" means a retail store utilized primarily for the sale of tobacco products and accessories and in which the sale of other products is merely incidental.
11. "Service Line" means an indoor line in which one (1) or more persons are waiting for or receiving service of any kind, whether or not the service involves the exchange of money.

12. "Shopping Mall" means an enclosed public walkway or hall area that serves to connect retail or professional establishments.

13. "Smoking" means inhaling, exhaling, burning, or carrying any lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe, weed, plant, or other combustible substance in any manner or in any form.

14. "Sports Arena" means sports pavilions, stadiums, gymnasiums, health spas boxing arenas, swimming pools, roller and ice rinks, bowling alleys, and other similar places where members of the general public assemble to engage in physical exercise, participate in athletic competition, or witness sports or other events.

SECTION 4: APPLICATION OF ARTICLE TO THE CITY OF ATMORE FACILITIES

All enclosed facilities, including buildings and vehicles owned, leased, or operated by the City of Atmore, shall be subject to the provisions of the Ordinance.

SECTION 5: PROHIBITION OF SMOKING IN PUBLIC PLACES

Smoking shall be prohibited in all enclosed public places within the City of Atmore, including but not limited to, the following places:

1. Aquariums, galleries, libraries, and museums.
2. Areas available to and customarily used by the general public in businesses and non-profit entities patronized by the public, including but not limited to, professional offices, banks, laundromats, hotels, and motels.
3. Bars.
4. Bingo facilities.
5. Convention facilities.
6. Educational facilities, both public and private.
7. Elevators.
8. Facilities primarily used for exhibiting a motion picture, stage, drama, lecture, musical recital, or other similar performance.
9. Health care facilities.
10. Licensed child care and adult day care facilities.
11. Lobbies, hallways, and other common areas in apartment buildings, condominiums, trailer parks, retirement facilities, nursing homes, and other multiple-unit residential facilities.
12. Polling places.
13. Public transportation facilities, including buses and taxicabs, under the authority of the City of Atmore, and ticket, boarding and waiting areas of public transit depots.
14. Restaurants.
15. Restrooms, lobbies, reception areas, hallways, and other common-use areas.

16. Retail stores.

17. Rooms, chambers, places of meeting or public assembly, including school buildings, under the control of an agency, board, commission, committee or council of the City of Atmore or a political subdivision of the State, to the extent the place is subject to the jurisdiction of the City of Atmore.

18. Service lines.

19. Shopping malls.

20. Sports arenas, including enclosed places in outdoor arenas.

SECTION 6: PROHIBITION OF SMOKING IN PLACES OF EMPLOYMENT

A. Smoking shall be prohibited in all enclosed facilities within places of employment without exception. This includes common work areas, auditoriums, classrooms, conference and meeting rooms, private offices, elevators, hallways, medical facilities, cafeterias, employee lounges, stairs, restrooms, vehicles, and all other enclosed facilities.

B. This prohibition on smoking shall be communicated to all existing employees by the effective date of this Ordinance and to all prospective employees upon their application for employment.

SECTION 7: PROHIBITION OF SMOKING IN OUTDOOR ARENAS AND STADIUMS

Smoking shall be prohibited in the seating areas of all outdoor arenas, stadiums, and amphitheaters.

SECTION 8: REASONABLE DISTANCE

Smoking is prohibited within a reasonable distance outside an enclosed area where smoking is prohibited, so as to insure that tobacco smoke does not enter the area through entrances, windows, ventilation systems, or other means.

SECTION 9: WHERE SMOKING NOT REGULATED

Notwithstanding any other provision of the Ordinance to the contrary, the following areas shall be exempt from the provisions of Sections 5 and 6:

1. Private residences, except when used as a licensed child care, adult day care, or health care facility.
2. Hotel and motel rooms that are rented to guests and are designated as smoking rooms; provided, however, that not more than twenty percent (20%) of rooms rented to guests in a hotel or motel may be so designated. The status of rooms as smoking or nonsmoking may not be changed, except to add additional nonsmoking rooms.
3. Retail tobacco stores; provide that smoke from these places does not infiltrate into areas where smoking is prohibited under the provisions of the Ordinance.
4. Provide and semiprivate rooms in nursing homes and long-term care facilities that are occupied by one (1) or more persons, all of whom are smokers and have requested in writing to be placed in a room where smoking is permitted; provided that smoke from these places does not infiltrate into area where smoking is prohibited under the provisions of this Ordinance.

5. Outdoor areas of places of employment except those covered by the Provisions of Sections 7 and 8.

SECTION 10: DECLARATION OF ESTABLISHMENT AS NONSMOKING

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Ordinance, an owner, operator, manager, or other person in control of an establishment, facility, or outdoor area may declare that entire establishment, facility, or outdoor area as a nonsmoking place. Smoking shall be prohibited in any place in which a sign conforming to the requirements of Section 11 (A) is posted.

SECTION 11: POSTING OF SIGNS

- A. "No Smoking" signs or the international "No Smoking" symbol (consisting of a pictorial representation of a burning cigarette enclosed in a red circle with a red bar across it) shall be clearly and conspicuously posted in every public place of employment where smoking is prohibited by this Ordinance, by the owner, operator, manager, or other person in control of that place.
- B. Every public place and place of employment where smoking is prohibited by this Ordinance shall have posted at every entrance a conspicuous sign clearly stating that smoking is prohibited.
- C. All ashtrays shall be removed from any area where smoking is prohibited by this Ordinance by the owner, operator, manager, or other person having control of the area.

SECTION 12: NONRETALIATION

No person or employer shall discharge, refuse to hire, or in any manner retaliate against an employee, applicant for employment, or customer because that employee, applicant, or customer exercises any rights afforded by this Ordinance or reports or attempts to prosecute a violation of the Ordinance.

SECTION 13: ENFORCEMENT

- A. This Ordinance shall be enforced by the City of Atmore Police Department or an authorized designee.
- B. Notice of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be given to all applicants for a business license in the City of Atmore.
- C. Any citizen who desires to register a complaint under this Ordinance may initiate enforcement with the City Clerk of the City of Atmore.
- D. The Health Department, Fire Department, or their designees shall, while an establishment is undergoing otherwise mandated inspections, inspect for compliance with this Ordinance.
- E. An owner, manager, operator, or employee of an establishment regulated by this Ordinance shall inform persons violating this Ordinance of the appropriate provisions thereof.
- F. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Ordinance, an employee or private citizen may bring legal action to enforce this Ordinance.
- G. In addition to the remedies provided by the provisions of this Section, the City Clerk of the City of Atmore or any person aggrieved by the failure of the owner, operator, manager, or other person in control of a public place or a place of employment to comply with the provisions of this Ordinance, may apply for injunctive relief to enforce these provisions.

SECTION 14: VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES

A. A person who smokes in an area where smoking is prohibited by the provisions of this Ordinance shall be guilty of an infraction, punishable by a fine not exceeding fifty dollars (\$50.00).

B. A person who owns, manages, operates, or otherwise controls a public place or place of employment and who fails to comply with the provisions of this Ordinance shall be guilty of an infraction, punishable by:

1. A fine not exceeding one hundred dollars (\$100.) for a first violation.
2. A fine not exceeding two hundred dollars (\$200.) for a second violation within one (1) year.
3. A fine not exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500.) for each additional violation within one (1) year.

C. In addition to the fines established by this Section, violation of the Ordinance by a person who owns, manages, operates, or otherwise controls a public place of employment may result in the suspension or revocation of any permit or license issued to the person for the premises on which the violation occurred.

D. Each day on which a violation of this Ordinance occurs shall be considered a separate and distinct violation.

SECTION 15: PUBLIC EDUCATION

The City Clerk of the City of Atmore shall engage in a continuing program to explain and clarify the purposes and requirements of this Ordinance to citizens affected by it, and to guide owners, operators, and managers in their compliance with it. The program may include publication of a brochure for affected businesses and individuals explaining the provisions of the Ordinance.

SECTION 16: GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY COOPERATION

The City Clerk of the City of Atmore shall annually request other governmental and educational agencies having facilities within the City of Atmore to establish local operating procedures in cooperation and compliance with this Ordinance. This includes urging all Federal, State, and City of Atmore School district agencies to update their existing smoking control regulations to be consistent with the current health findings regarding secondhand smoke.

SECTION 17: OTHER APPLICABLE LAWS

This Ordinance shall not be interpreted or construed to permit smoking where it is otherwise restricted by other applicable laws.

SECTION 18: LIBERAL CONSTRUCTION

This Ordinance shall be liberally construed so as to further its purposes.

SECTION 19: SEVERABILITY

If any provision, clause, sentence, or paragraph of this Ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstances shall be held invalid, that invalidity shall not affect the other provisions of the Ordinance which can be given without the invalid provisions of application, and to this end the provisions of this Ordinance are declared to be severable.

SECTION 20: REPEALING CLAUSE

All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are repealed to the extent of such conflict.

SECTION 21: EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall be effective thirty (30) days from and after the date of its adoption.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED THIS 13 DAY OF October, 2008.

Howard Shell
HOWARD SHELL, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Becca Smith
BECCA SMITH, CITY CLERK