

Guide to San Angelo's Smoke-Free Ordinance

Effective February 10, 2011



Thank you to the voters of San Angelo for overwhelmingly supporting a smoke-free city. The ordinance, effective February 10, 2011, prohibits smoking in most indoor public places.

Smoke-free Locations

Smoking is prohibited in most of the following locations:

Public places

Places of employment

Restaurants

Bars

Within 15 feet of entrances and windows to public buildings

Exempt Locations

The following locations are exempt from the ordinance. Exemptions do not apply to any business or organization established for the purpose of avoiding compliance with the ordinance. All businesses or organizations who want to claim exemption should contact the City of San Angelo Environmental Health Department for the details regarding exemptions in the ordinance.

Hotels and motels may designate no more than 25% of rooms rented to guests as smoking rooms.

Private clubs

Retail tobacco stores

Bingo halls

Outdoor patios or seating and serving areas attached to a restaurant or bar

Steps for Businesses

1. Communicate the smoking policy to all employees.
2. Remove all ashtrays.
3. Ask any person violating the law to stop smoking. Remind customers of the law and politely explain that they must step outside to smoke.
4. Train staff regarding what to say to customers. For example, "We're now smoke-free, and you'll need to put out your cigarette" or "A city ordinance prohibits smoking indoors. Thanks for your cooperation."
5. Refuse service to any person who continues to violate the law.
6. Ask any person violating the law to leave.
7. Notify law enforcement if the person refuses to comply.
8. Must post signs if smoking is allowed (after consultation with the City of San Angelo Environmental Health Department regarding valid exemption from ordinance).

Fines

The San Angelo Environmental Health Department is responsible for enforcing the ordinance and other law enforcement personnel are authorized to enforce. Violations are subject to the following fines:

A person smoking in a no smoking area may receive a fine of not more than \$100

An owner of a public place or place of employment that fails to comply with the ordinance may be fined:

First violation: not more than \$200

Second violation: not more than \$300

Third violation: not more than \$500

Each day that a violation occurs shall be considered a separate violation