Pueblo of Acoma Commercial Tobacco Smoke Free Environment Proclamation

Proclamation for the Control and Elimination of all Commercial Tobacco and Electronic Cigarette Use in Tribal Building(s), Community Center, Work Place, Enclosed Public Places, Tribal Vehicles, Schools, Daycares, Recreational Area(s), Tribal Housing and Outdoor Tribal Program Events.

WHEREAS, The Pueblo of Acoma is a sovereign nation;

WHEREAS, Commercial Tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable death and disease. Native American's suffer an increased rate of serious health consequences, such as heart disease, cancer, high blood pressure, and heart attacks.

WHEREAS, Secondhand Commercial Tobacco smoke exposure is a leading cause of preventable death and causes various diseases to a healthy nonsmoker, such as heart disease, stroke, respiratory disease, cancer, and sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS);

WHEREAS, It has been determined by the U.S. Surgeon General that there is no safe level of exposure of secondhand smoke even when air ventilation systems are present. Only completely smoke free environments can protect health;

WHEREAS, A significant amount of secondhand smoke exposure for Native American adults and children occurs in the workplace and even short exposures may result in serious adverse health effects and including death;

WHEREAS, Smokeless tobacco poses many health risks, including increased risk for oral, esophageal, pancreatic, and laryngeal cancers, kidney disease, heart disease and stroke;

WHEREAS, Adolescents who use smokeless tobacco and Electronic Cigarettes are more likely to become cigarette smokers;

WHEREAS, Electronic Cigarettes or any vapor products are not a harmless alternative to Commercial Tobacco Cigarettes and are not FDA approved cessation devices;

WHEREAS, It has been determined by the U.S. Surgeon General that Electronic Cigarettes contain heavy metals and chemicals linked to serious lung disease;

WHEREAS, It has been determined by the U.S. Surgeon General that using an Electronic Cigarette puts youth and young adults at risk for long-term lasting effects on the brain development including nicotine addiction, mood disorders, and permanent lowering of impulse control;
WHEREAS, According to the 2017 Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey (YRRS), 41.1% of high school youth in Cibola County currently use Tobacco products such as E-Cigarettes, Cigarettes, Hookah, Cigars and Spit Tobacco.

WHEREAS, The YRRS graphs indicate an “increase in Youth ever trying tobacco products from 9th-12th grade.” This is an important factor to acknowledge because smoking causes depression in teens.

WHEREAS, Native American middle school students in New Mexico have the highest usage rate of Commercial Tobacco Cigarettes compared to their non-Native peers;

WHEREAS, Commercial Tobacco-free workplaces protect our people from secondhand smoke by reducing the overall use, supporting healthy lifestyles, modeling healthy behavior, and supporting cessation;

WHEREAS, the health of our people is of the upmost importance and it is the responsibility of the Tribe to create healthy social norms for our community and our youth, thereby sending a clear message to all that it is not acceptable to use Commercial Tobacco products of any kind; and

WHEREAS, Commercial Tobacco-Free Tribal workplaces, recreational areas, schools/daycares, and community spaces will protect the health of our children, grandchildren, families, and community members.

WHEREAS, respectfully in our community there are times in which traditional practices allow for the use of Traditional Tobacco but only for those specific cultural purposes/times;

Therefore, be it resolved that Commercial Tobacco use, including Electronic Cigarettes or devices shall be prohibited within the facilities owned, operated, or leased by the Pueblo of Acoma including:

a) All areas within enclosed places that are open to and frequented by the public (i.e. the community center);
b) All areas within places of employment; and
c) All outdoor areas within 25 feet of entrances, exits, and windows that open to enclosed public places and places of employment in alignment with the Dee Johnson Clean Air Act. Users will be expected to use designated smoking areas where available.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED; “no smoking” signs or the international “no smoking” symbol (a picture representing a burning cigarette enclosed in a red circle with a red bar across the cigarette) shall be clearly posted in every building or other area where smoking is prohibited by this article (within 25 feet), including private residence used as a childcare, adult, or health care facilities. Every public place where Commercial Tobacco use is prohibited shall have posted at every entrance a conspicuous sign stating that smoking is prohibited.

Certification
I hereby certify that the above proclamation was duly adopted for The Pueblo of Acoma on this 30th day of February 2019.

 Brian D. Vallo, Governor

 Davy D. Malie, Tribal Secretary

 Tonya M. Louis, ABHS Clinical Director