

**Law Center Policy Statement Number:** PS-118LC  
**Title/Topic:** Tobacco-free Campus  
**Effective Date:** August 1, 2014

## **I. PURPOSE**

The use of tobacco products is harmful to health and imposes costs on LSU Law Center (“Law Center”) and all members of the Law Center community. State law RS 40:1300.263 requires the Law Center to adopt a smoke-free policy and authorizes the Law Center to adopt a tobacco-free policy. This policy is intended to comply with State law and to balance the individual liberty of members of the Law Center community with concern for the significant negative health effects of tobacco use, the costs associated with campus facilities administration, and Law Center’s ability to recruit students, faculty, and staff.

## **II. DEFINITIONS**

**Law Center Campus:** all land, property, buildings, and other facilities owned, leased, occupied, or otherwise controlled by the Law Center. This includes any land, property, buildings, and other facilities within the Law Center that are occupied by third parties (including the Louisiana Law Institute and the Louisiana Judicial College) or that may be leased by the Law Center to third parties.

**Smoking:** inhaling, exhaling, burning, carrying, or possessing any lighted tobacco product, including cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, and any other lighted combustible plant material; it also means the use of electronic cigarettes and any other product that is used to deliver nicotine by means of smoke or vapor.

**Tobacco Products:** any and all forms of tobacco, including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), bidis, kreteks, smokeless tobacco, snuff, and chewing tobacco, as well as electronic cigarettes and any other product which is used to deliver nicotine by means of smoke or vapor. This does not include any FDA-approved product or device intended to assist the user to stop smoking or using tobacco products.

## **III. GENERAL POLICY**

Smoking and the use of all tobacco products on the Law Center Campus is prohibited. This prohibition applies to all individuals while on the Law Center Campus, including faculty, staff, students, administrators, contractors, and visitors.

## **IV. PROCEDURES**

- A. Exceptions to the prohibition of smoking and the use of other tobacco products are authorized as follows:
  1. Research involving tobacco products, provided the university employee conducting the research obtains the prior approval of the Vice Chancellor for

Business and Financial Affairs. Smoke, like any other laboratory air contaminant, shall be controlled and subject to any applicable health and safety standards.

2. By artists or actors who participate in authorized performances that require tobacco use as part of the artistic production.
3. Educational, clinical, or other appropriate purposes with prior approval of the Vice Chancellor for Business and Financial Affairs.

## B. Enforcement

Effective implementation of this policy relies on the courtesy, respect, and cooperation of all members of the university community. It is expected that all members of the Law Center community will comply with the policy voluntarily. For those who do not, punitive sanctions should not be imposed until other efforts, such as verbally addressing the issue with the tobacco user or formal warnings of potential disciplinary action, have failed.

1. A single violation of this policy shall not itself be cause for discipline to students, faculty, or staff. Repeated violations of this policy, after discussions with the tobacco user by an appropriate university official and, as appropriate, formal warnings against repeated violations, may be grounds for discipline.
2. If someone is seen using tobacco products on the Law Center Campus, any member of the university community may inform the tobacco user of this policy and request that he or she comply. If the user does not comply, or if the individual prefers not to directly confront the user, details of the policy violation may be brought to the attention of the appropriate university official responsible for the tobacco user as shown below.
  - a. For faculty members, the Vice Chancellor for Business and Financial Affairs.
  - b. For staff, the employee's supervisor or the Vice Chancellor for Business and Financial Affairs.
  - c. For students, the Vice Chancellor for Business and Financial Affairs.
  - d. For contractors, the CFO or the Vice Chancellor for Business and Financial Affairs.
  - e. Where the status of the tobacco user is unknown, the matter may be brought to the attention of the Vice Chancellor for Business and Financial Affairs or the CFO. Concerns about tobacco use in the area near the Law Center buildings may be brought to the Vice Chancellor for Business and Financial Affairs or the CFO. Any Law Center official to whom such a concern is brought should request the tobacco user to comply with the policy. If the user refuses to comply or the issue continues to occur, the

representative should obtain the identity of the user and make a referral to the Chancellor.

3. The Chancellor will take action as he or she deems appropriate under the circumstances. This may include, but is not limited to, discussing the matter with the tobacco user immediately, issuing a warning letter notifying the user about the policy, requiring the user to meet with other appropriate Law Center officials for additional conversations, or for repeated violations, impose appropriate disciplinary sanctions for repeated refusal to comply with Law Center policy.

#### C. Notifications and Signage

Ashtrays are no longer provided on the Law Center Campus. All ashtrays will be removed, covered, or otherwise made unusable. Campus signage shall be developed and implemented to inform students, faculty, staff, administrators, contractors, and visitors that the Law Center is a tobacco-free campus and cessation resources are available. Department heads must convey information about this policy to their staff as appropriate.

#### D. Cessation Assistance

The Law Center is committed to supporting all students and employees who wish to stop using tobacco products, and assistance is available. For a full listing of tobacco cessation resources please visit: [www.quitwithusla.org](http://www.quitwithusla.org).

### **V. SOURCES**

Louisiana Revised Statute 40:1300.263

