

June 10, 2011

News Release

For Immediate Release

Smokefree Air Act Stands: Begins 12:01 a.m. June 11

The 31st Judicial Circuit Court has denied a request for an injunction against the Smokefree Air Act of 2011, which was passed by Springfield voters on April 5.

The ordinance prohibiting smoking from enclosed public areas and workplaces within the City limits will go into effect at 12:01 a.m. tonight as previously planned. The Springfield-Greene County Health Department has been delegated the authority and enforcement agency on this policy. This is consistent with authority the Health Department has held for the enforcement of Springfield smoking ordinances for more than twenty years.

Associate Circuit [Judge Jason Brown's decision](#) (pdf) upheld a precedent set in 2009 by the Missouri Court of Appeals Western District, saying Springfield's ordinance was "materially similar" to an ordinance challenged and upheld in "City of Kansas City v. Carlson."

The Springfield-Greene County Health Department expects owners, managers or the designee to comply with this policy and ensure that the employees and patrons of the establishments are in compliance as well.

Resources, frequently asked questions, policy language and contact information for questions or complaints are available on the web at www.springfieldmo.gov/smokefree or by calling (417) 864-1010.

Media only: For more information or comment on today's ruling, contact: Clay Goddard, Assistant Director, Springfield-Greene County Health Department, (417) 864-1663.



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