

Smoking and Tobacco Use

1009.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes limitations on smoking and the use of tobacco products by members and others while on-duty or while in Columbia Heights Police Department facilities or vehicles.

For the purposes of this policy, smoking and tobacco use includes, but is not limited to, any tobacco product, such as cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, snuff, tobacco pouches and chewing tobacco, as well as any device intended to simulate smoking, such as an electronic cigarette or personal vaporizer.

1009.2 POLICY

The Columbia Heights Police Department recognizes that tobacco use is a health risk and can be offensive to others.

The City of Columbia Heights observes and supports the Minnesota Clean Indoor Air Act in relation to its public facilities. All city buildings and vehicles, in their entirety, shall be designated as tobacco free, meaning that smoking in any form (through the use of tobacco products such as pipes, cigars, and cigarettes) or "vaping" with e-cigarettes is prohibited while in a City facility or vehicle.

Smoking of any kind, including pipes, cigars, cigarettes, vaping with e-cigarettes, and the use of chewing tobacco, is prohibited for employees while on duty. Employees 18 and over are allowed to smoke only during their breaks and lunch, and only in areas designated for that purpose.

1009.3 SMOKING AND TOBACCO USE

Smoking and tobacco use by members is prohibited anytime members are in public view representing the Department.

It shall be the responsibility of each member to ensure that no person under his/her supervision smokes or uses any tobacco product inside City facilities and vehicles.

1009.4 ADDITIONAL PROHIBITIONS

No employee shall smoke, even while out of view of the public or off-duty, in areas properly posted with "No Smoking" notices nor shall any employee use tobacco products on public school property (Minn. Stat. § 609.681; Minn. Stat. § 144.4165). The Chief of Police or the authorized designee should ensure that proper signage is in place for notice of areas where tobacco use is restricted (Minn. R. 4620.0500).