

**Letter to Residents:**

**Notice Regarding New Smoke-Free Multi-Unit Housing Law in Fresno**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Resident(s): \_\_\_\_\_

The Fresno City Council Passed City Ordinance No. 2021-045 prohibiting smoking in all multi-unit residences in Fresno. The ordinance will go into effect on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022. A link to the ordinance can be found at: [www.fresno.gov/smokefree](http://www.fresno.gov/smokefree)

All existing tenants must be notified of the new ordinance no later than January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 and must be offered a **voluntary** non-smoking lease addendum. The attached addendum is optional – if you wish to complete it, please return a copy to \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_. All new leases initiated after January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 will include non-smoking provisions. Please note that the new law prohibits smoking in all units and common areas regardless of what is written into the lease and violators of the law may be subject to a fine.

Under the smoke-free ordinance, “Multi-unit rental property” means a residential property containing two or more rental units and “Common area” means every area of a multiunit rental property that resident of more than one unit are entitle to enter or use, including, but not limited to, halls, pathways, lobbies, courtyards, elevators, stairs, community rooms, playgrounds, gym facilities, swimming pools, parking garages, parking lots, grassy or landscaped areas, restrooms, laundry rooms, cooking areas, and eating areas (Fresno Municipal Code 20.10.2001).

If another tenant in your building is smoking inside their unit or in common areas, a description of the complaint process can be found on the City of Fresno’s website at: [www.fresno.gov/smokefree](http://www.fresno.gov/smokefree)

The U.S. Surgeon General’s find that there is no safe level of exposure to secondhand smoke and the California Air Resources Board’s decision to classify secondhand smoke as a toxic air contaminant has prompted jurisdictions across the state and country to reduce multi-unit residents’ exposure to secondhand smoke.

For those wishing to quit smoking, the County of Fresno provides Tobacco-Free Resources to the public. The Smokers’ Helpline also provides free phone cessation services to all California smokers at 1-800-NO-BUTTS or [www.californiasmokershelpline.org](http://www.californiasmokershelpline.org).

Thank you for your cooperation

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_

Management