Tobacco and the Law

Tobacco Laws in California

Labor Code 6404.5 - This law states that smoking is illegal in bars, bar/restaurant combinations, gaming clubs and any “enclosed” workplace in California. If the health department receives a complaint at one of these establishments, and it is determined that smoking is occurring, they are subject to the following fines:

First violation - $100
Second violation within one year - $200
Third violation within one year - $500 per violation; after a third violation in one year, cases are referred to the California Occupational Safety and Health Administration (Cal-OSHA) where penalties range up to $7,000 per violation.

If you want to log a complaint regarding smoking in the workplace or bar or restaurant, you can call Placer County at (530) 889-7216.

PC 308 a – Prohibits the sale of tobacco products to minors (under the age of 18). Placer County Tobacco Prevention works in conjunction with the Sheriff’s and Police Departments in Auburn and Tahoe to conduct youth purchase surveys. During the youth purchase survey, underage youth are sent into the store either wired or with an undercover officer and try to purchase tobacco from the clerk. If the clerk sells, the officer can give storeowners and/or clerks a warning or citation.

First offense - $200
Second offense - $500
Third offense - $1,000

If you want to log a complaint regarding a place selling tobacco to a minor, have a question about the law, or are 15-17 years of age and would like to participate in a youth purchase survey, call Placer County Tobacco Prevention Program at (530) 889-7196.