

July 27, 2009

License Holder
123 Happy Street
Racine, WI 53402

Dear License Holder:

On May 19th, 2009 Governor Jim Doyle signed SB181, also known as the “**Statewide Smoking Ban**”, which will go into effect on **July 5, 2010**. In recognition of the impending implementation of SB181, it is the intention of Racine’s Public Safety and Licensing committee (PSL) to remind all Class B license holders of this change and to request that each establishment make plans for appropriate steps to deal with the change. Specifically, we recognize that the change in business practices could potentially create problems for those establishments that are located near neighborhoods. It is also conceivable that we could see an increase in the number of “open intoxicant” violations as patrons want to take drinks with them outside to smoke.

PSL is suggesting that each business that holds a Class B license consider where, when, and how their patrons might go to smoke while at their establishment. We strongly encourage you to come up with a plan for how your staff explains where smoking is permitted and what the rules are regarding distance from the door, leaving drinks inside, being respectful of neighbors, etc. It is our hope that proactive planning on your part will help to minimize issues with neighbors and any other legal concerns.

Attached, please find an example action plan provided by [INSERT TAVERN NAME HERE]. Although each establishment will have different circumstances that determine what steps it may need to take, this example demonstrates some idea on the kind of plan that we hope each business could consider.

PSL is NOT requiring that each business present such a plan to us. However, it is considered a “best practice” to draw up such a plan and ensure that staff are trained and prepared for the change of Wisconsin law.

For further information about the smoking ban PSL recommends the following sites:

www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lrb/pubs/Lb/09Lb1.pdf - A Legal brief by the Wisconsin Legislative Research Bureau

www.tlw.org – The website of the Wisconsin Tavern League (a link on the left-hand side of the website will direct you to various resources regarding SB181)

Sincerely,

Enclosure