GOING SMOKEFREE MATTERS CASINOS



Every worker deserves to breathe smokefree air. Casino, bar, and restaurant workers are more exposed to toxic secondhand smoke in their jobsite compared to other segments of the U.S. workforce.



The Surgeon General concluded:

- There is no risk-free level of secondhand smoke¹
- Separating smokers from nonsmokers, cleaning the air, and ventilating buildings cannot eliminate exposure of nonsmokers to secondhand smoke¹
- Heating, air conditioning and ventilation systems alone cannot eliminate exposure to secondhand smoke¹
- 100% smokefree workplace policies are the only effective way to eliminate secondhand smoke exposure in the workplace¹

Secondhand smoke can cause:



Heart disease

Lung Cancer



Respiratory disease



Adverse effects on the health of infants and children²

Exposure to secondhand smoke causes an **estimated 41,000 deaths** from lung cancer and heart disease among adults each year in the United States.³

Smoke-free Policies:



- Improve Air Quality
- Improve Health
- Receive Public Support
- Reduce Secondhand Smoke Exposure
- Reduce Smoking
- Result in High Levels of Compliance



www.cdc.gov/tobacco

NIOSH recommends establishing smokefree areas that protect from secondhand smoke and electronic cigarette emissions including:⁴



All indoor areas without exceptions



All areas immediately outside building entrances and air intakes



Tips from Former Smokers Story:



Nathan "I never smoked a day in my life!"

Nathan, a Native American and member of the Oglala Sioux tribe, never smoked cigarettes. For 11 years, he worked at a casino that allowed smoking. Secondhand smoke contains dangerous chemicals. The exposure to secondhand smoke caused him to develop allergies and serious infections that triggered asthma attacks, eventually causing permanent lung damage called bronchiectasis. Nathan's lung damage led to his death on October 17, 2013. He was 54.

REFERENCES

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- 2 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The Health Consequences of Smoking—50 Years of Progress: A Report of the Surgeon General. Atlanta, GA: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office on Smoking and Health, 2014.
- 3 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. A Report of the Surgeon General: Secondhand Smoke: What It Means to You. Atlanta: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office on Smoking and Health, 2006.
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