

TESTIMONIALS FROM LOCAL ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES

“Greeley has a citizen initiated no smoking ordinance that is stricter than the state version. Only a few tickets have been issued. There have been relatively few complaints, and most situations are handled with a warning rather than a ticket.”

— **Richard Brady, Greeley City Attorney**

“When passing a smoke-free law, strong enforcement and education in the beginning is essential. When this type of law passes, the majority of establishments will come into compliance initially. If they see that there is no enforcement, they will become more lax. Most establishments take a “wait and see” attitude. If there is enforcement of the code, it won’t be long until everyone is in compliance. Soon, it becomes the way society works, and no or minimal enforcement is necessary. If there is no or ineffective enforcement of the code at the beginning, fewer and fewer establishments will make the effort. Soon, the demands of the complainants become overwhelming, especially in times of limited resources for enforcement. Do it at the beginning and, after a few months, you won’t have to think about it anymore.”

— **Terry Steinborn, Environmental/Zoning Enforcement Office, City of Boulder**

“A smoke-free indoor air ordinance has been in effect within the Town of Breckenridge since 2004. Since then, there were only a few select incidents where enforcement was necessary. This ordinance has been self-enforcing, with few complaints. As for the few complaints we had, we simply spoke with the person smoking and explained the ordinance in a friendly manner. After the friendly talk, all understood and accepted responsibility to smoke outside in appropriate areas. Typically, people just need an explanation of why behavior needs to be modified. This change can best be described as a cultural paradigm shift; people can be reluctant to make changes, but in the long run they know it is for the best.”

— **Sgt. Joe Staufer, Town of Breckenridge Police Department Night Shift Team Leader**

“After hearing horror stories about how difficult it would be to enforce a smoke-free ordinance in Fort Collins, I was pleasantly surprised at how quickly our community embraced our new smoke-free law and how little enforcement was actually needed. I attribute our success in Fort Collins to all the efforts to educate our community regarding the dangers of secondhand smoke.”

— **Rich Kopp, City of Fort Collins Code Enforcement**

“In Superior, much like Boulder, few tickets are issued to smokers, and there aren’t a lot of complaints registered.”

— **Sgt. Pat Haugse, Boulder County Sheriff’s Office**

“Our experience has been one where we have issued no tickets at all since the law went into effect.”

— **Bill Kingston, Operations Commander, Louisville Police Department**

“Our ordinance has been almost completely self-enforcing. There is no additional staff time required. Over the years our ordinance has been in effect, we have had about half a dozen calls from places of employment, which have been dealt with by calls to the owners informing them of the law’s requirements.”

— **Lee E. Cassin, Director, City of Aspen Environmental Health Department 12.06.02**

“We added enforcement in the regulation but in reality, the law is self-enforcing. The patrons will not allow someone to smoke and will tell him or her to stop if they light up. I have said that it is the blue haired person with a large purse who will do the enforcing.”

— **Gary Lindstrom, Representative Colorado House District 56 and former County Commissioner for Summit County**