

Lowell Tobacco Control Monthly Report

September/2017

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Lowell

Inspections

I've conducted 29 routine inspections so far this month. There were mostly signage violations. Four establishments were found in violation of the cigar packaging/pricing regulation. All violations were corrected before leaving the premises.

Compliance Checks

No compliance checks conducted this month.

Tobacco Permit Suspension Hearing to be Scheduled for November Meeting

Lowell Food Mart – 624 School Street – Second Offense

Right Price Gas 7-day Tobacco Sales Permit Suspension

The 7-day suspension was carried out without incident. The establishment was inspected twice during the suspension period and no tobacco products were found on the premises.

Mill City Tobacco – Open Door Update

Although I did not report back on this issue at the September meeting, I did inspect the establishment right after the August board meeting. The manager admitted that the door was left open during the folk festival to appear more inviting to customers. I pointed out how that led to a violation observed by a board member. I had him call the owner and told both of them that they're risking losing the establishment's status as a Retail Tobacco Store. Subsequently, a compliance check was conducted at that location and the door was found to be locked.

Pricing Surveys

I've conducted pricing surveys at 15 establishments this month.

Tobacco Grant Request for a Response (RFR)

I attended the bidders' conference on September 19th. Most of the questions asked were technical in nature as the uploading of documents and submission of the proposal will be done electronically through CommBuys, the state's official procurement web-based system.

The city of Lawrence will continue to be part of our tobacco control collaborative. Both, the chairman of the Lawrence Board of Health and its health agent have signed the Participating Municipality Agreement as part of the RFR process.