## REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE

## Pursuant to P.A. 124 of 2007 Section 901(2)

# **Tobacco Free Implementation Plan Progress Report**

The plan developed in February 2008 to prohibit the possession and use of tobacco/tobacco products on facility property for both employees and offenders of all CFA facilities and the Tuscola Residential ReEntry Program effective February 1, 2009. At this time, there are no correctional facilities that are entirely tobacco-free; however, every facility does have designated housing units as smoke-free environments. The remaining timeline for implementing the tobacco-free plan is as follows:

| September 2008 | Facilities will set up special meetings to deal with those who are continuing to smoke where they are not allowed. Committee members should be Health Care staff, Psychologist, RUM, ADW of Custody/Housing. FOA facility supervisors will form committees as needed.  |
|----------------|--|
| October 2008   | Third reduction in the number of tobacco products that can be purchased by prisoners.  |
| October 2008   | Remind store staff to pay particular attention to the quantity of tobacco/tobacco products in stock. Implement procedures to estimate their needs in order to keep losses at a minimum.  |
| November 2008  | Release of new policies and procedures as needed which are affected by the plan to prohibit the possession and use of tobacco/tobacco products on facility property for both employees and offenders. Polices and procedures will be released in November for an implementation date of February 1, 2009. Applicable Employee Handbook work rules will also be changed/updated at this time. |
| November 2008  | Post signs at all CFA facilities and the FOA Tuscola Residential ReEntry Program that reflect the Department's ban on tobacco/tobacco products on facility property.   |
| December 2008  | Fourth reduction in the number of tobacco products that can be purchased by prisoners.   |
| December 2008  | Store announces that they will stop the sale of tobacco/tobacco products, including matches, as of January 1, 2009. Prisoner stores will fill orders for tobacco products while supplies last.   |

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December 2008 Special notice to be sent to prisoners that identifies the sanctions for being

in possession of tobacco/tobacco products once the policy is fully

implemented.

December 2008 (TENTATIVE) Department may elect to stop all smoking on assignments

at facilities - no smoke breaks and no tobacco products on person.

January 2009 On 1/1/09, prisoner stores stop selling tobacco/tobacco products, including

matches.

February 2009 Policy implemented on February 1, 2009.

The Department has taken the following efforts to provide tobacco cessation programs/information for prisoners and staff:

Many of the facilities have established a facility Tobacco Cessation Committee which meets and seeks input from staff and prisoners regarding the Tobacco Cessation Plan. All concerns/questions are sent to the attention of the Warden or FOA Manager, who in turn, shares this information with the Tobacco Cessation Committee.

## For Staff:

On May 5th, The Michigan Tobacco Clearing House began disseminating the Employee Cessation Packet to the Human Resource Office of all prisons and camps. Those packets provide information with regard to tobacco cessation resources, websites, telephone numbers, State of Michigan insurance plan information, local community support groups, smoking cessation plans, information regarding nicotine replacement therapy options, etc. Employee packets are also made available to staff at the front desk, break rooms, etc... In addition, employees are directed to the Employee Services Program for counseling services and further support as needed.

Facility managers have been directed to continue to discuss the Tobacco Cessation Plan at monthly staff meetings, and to ask their administrative staff to do the same. Any questions/concerns are then directed to the attention of the Tobacco Cessation Committee.

In addition to this, all of the tobacco cessation information, such as the Director's memo announcing this plan, monthly cessation memos, a frequently asked questions document, etc., is available to them on the Department's Document Access System. Employees with computer access can access this information electronically any time they are logged on to their workstation.

### For Prisoners:

Tobacco cessation classes are offered at every correctional facility. These have been available to the prisoner population since 2005.

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Also since 2005, prisoners have been allowed to order nicotine replacement therapies (patches and lozenges) to assist them in their attempt to stop smoking.

Wardens have been instructed to meet with the warden's forum members throughout the implementation phase to discuss the Tobacco Cessation Plan. Questions/concerns are then brought to the attention of the Tobacco Cessation Committee.

Facilities have been directed to bring in guest speakers (e.g. health care experts, fitness experts, etc.) to address the offender population on the harm of smoking and the benefits of not smoking. This should continue throughout the entire implementation phase.

In collaboration with the local health departments, the Michigan Department of Community Health is currently developing a videotape presentation for the prison population. As requested by the Wardens, this presentation is an attempt to encourage prisoners to take advantage of cessation prior to the implementation of the policy. The presentation will include: a) the health effects of tobacco use, b) the addiction process, c) targeting by the tobacco industry, d) the advantages of quitting and e) what happens and what to expect after you quit.

The short-term and projected long-term budgetary and program implications of converting all facilities and camps to tobacco-free status cannot be calculated until adequate time has passed to compare data with. It is anticipated with the passing of time, the ill effects associated with a smoking population will result in fewer health care visits and diseases associated with tobacco use.

The effects on institutional safety and security reported by the facilities thus far include stockpiling of tobacco by both smokers and non-smokers in anticipation of the ban on 2/1/09. There have been a few incidences of violence/threats of violence related to tobacco including assaults to take tobacco that belongs to another prisoner, or threats of violence against prisoners who have not paid for borrowed tobacco products. There have been an increasing number of facilities reporting cell robberies, and other theft of tobacco from other prisoners, and attempts to steal tobacco from the prisoner store. Some prisoners have requested protection or transfer based on their inability to repay a tobacco related debt. The price tobacco is selling for between prisoners continues to increase, with a few facilities reporting bags of tobacco selling for \$100 or more. Some facilities have reported that prisoners are burying tobacco in the yard.