ORDINANCE 2000-44

AN ORDINANCE OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA; TO BE ENTITLED MERCHANDISING OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS IN ST. JOHNS COUNTY; PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS OF FACT, INTENT AND DEFINITIONS; PROHIBITING PLACEMENT OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS IN OPEN DISPLAY UNITS DIRECTLY ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC; PROVIDING FOR EXCEPTIONS; PROVIDING FOR ENFORCEMENT; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature has enacted laws, located in Chapter 569, Florida Statutes, that provide for increased regulation of the retail sale of tobacco products; and

WHEREAS, within Chapter 569, Florida Statutes, the Florida Legislature has provided for civil, administrative, and/or criminal penalties for the sale of tobacco products to a person under the age of 18 and for the possession of such tobacco products by a person under the age of 18; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida has entered into a settlement agreement with the tobacco industry for billions of dollars to reimburse the State for some of the health care costs incurred by the State due to the prevalence of tobacco use; and

WHEREAS, the settlement agreement between the State of Florida and the tobacco industry provides for a pilot program which is aimed specifically at the reduction of the use of tobacco products by persons under the age of 18; and

WHEREAS, the United States Surgeon General and the United States Department of Health and Human Services have found that a majority of those Americans who die of tobacco related diseases became addicted to tobacco products prior to reaching the legal age of consent; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida along with the citizens of St. Johns County are concerned about the use of *tobacco products* by persons under the age of 18; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida finds that a reduction in the availability, both visually and physically, of tobacco products to persons under the age of 18 will likely lead to a reduction in tobacco product use by that age group; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida finds that the customary business practice of selling cigars and pipe tobacco (also known as *specialty tobacco stores*) allows access to physically touch and smell those products prior to purchase, and the sale and delivery of cigars and pipe tobacco is exempt from certain provisions of Chapter 569, Florida Statutes; and

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WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida finds that pursuant to Chapter 569, Florida Statutes, *specialty tobacco stores* are required to post signs prohibiting the sale of *tobacco products* to persons under 18 years of age; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida finds that specialty tobacco stores, as defined in this ordinance, are not typically patronized by persons under 18 years of age; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 569, Florida Statutes, does not prohibit local governments from regulating the placement and merchandising of *tobacco products*; and

WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court has held in Village of Hoffman Estates v. Flipside, Hoffman Estates, Inc. 455 U.S 489, 102 S.Ct. 1186, 71 L.Ed.2d 362 (1981), that ordinances that regulate the commercial marketing of items that may be used for illegal purposes does not violate the First Amendment; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners desires to regulate the placement of tobacco products as it is in the best interest of the public health, safety and welfare.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida that:

<u>Section 1.</u> <u>Recitals</u> The foregoing recitals are true and correct and incorporated herein by reference as findings of fact and conclusions of law.

Section 2. Intent. This Ordinance is intended to prevent the sale or delivery of tobacco products to persons under the age of 18 by regulating the commercial marketing and placement of such products. This Ordinance shall not be interpreted or construed to prohibit the sale or delivery of tobacco products which are otherwise lawful or regulated pursuant to Chapter 569, Florida Statutes.

Section 3. <u>Definitions</u> For the purpose of this Ordinance the following terms shall mean:

Vendor means any individual, sole proprietorship, joint venture, corporation, partnership, cooperative association, or other legal entity licensed as a dealer in tobacco products pursuant to Chapter 569, Florida Statutes, and any employee or agent of said dealer.

Tobacco Product means loose tobacco leaves, and products made from tobacco leaves, in whole or in part, which can be used for smoking, sniffing or chewing, including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, snuff or smokeless tobacco, and chewing tobacco. Tobacco product also includes cigarette wrappers.

Specialty Tobacco Store means an establishment primarily in the business of selling cigars and pipe tobacco.

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Open Display Unit means a case, rack, shelf, counter, table, desk, kiosk, booth, stand, or other surface which allows direct public access to the product placed therein.

Restricted Access Area means an area reasonably physically confined with access designated by the vendor as limited to the vendor.

Section 4. Placement of Tobacco Products in Open Display Unit Prohibited. No vendor shall place tobacco products in an open display unit unless such unit is located in a restricted access area.

- Section 5. Exceptions. The provisions of this ordinance shall not apply to the following:
 - (a) An establishment that prohibits persons under 18 years of age on the premises.
 - (b) Specialty tobacco stores.

Section 6. Enforcement The provisions of this Ordinance shall be enforced by any procedure permitted by Chapter 162, Florida Statutes or other applicable Florida Law.

Section 7. <u>Territory Embraced</u> The provisions of this Ordinance shall apply to all areas of St. Johns County including those areas within the incorporated municipalities of the County.

Section 8. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect on the later date of October 1, 2000 or its being filed with the Department of State of Florida.

PASSED AND ENACTED by the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida this 1 st day of August, 2000.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA

James E. Bryant, Chairman

ATTEST: CHERYL STRICKLAND

Clerk

Effective date: October 1,2000

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COPY OF ADVERTISMENT

THE ST. AUGUSTINE RECORD

PUBLISHED EVERY AFTERNOON MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY MORNING ST. AUGUSTINE AND ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA

STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF ST. JOHNS

Before the undersigned authority personally appeared Linda Y. Murray who on oath says that she is an Accounting Clerk of the St. Augustine Record, a daily newspaper published at St. Augustine in St. Johns County, Florida: that the attached copy of advertisement, being a

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

in the matter of

MERCHANDISING OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS

in the

Court, was published in said newspaper in the issues of

JULY 18, 2000

Affiant further says that the St, Augustine Record is a newspaper published at St. Augustine, in said St. Johns County, Florida, and that the said newspaper heretofore been continuously published in said St. Johns County, Florida, each day and has been entered as second class mail matter at the post office in the City of St. Augustine, in said St. Johns County, for a period of one year preceding the first publication of the copy of advertisement; and affiant further says that she has neither paid nor promised any person, firm or corporation any discount, rebate, commission or refund for the purpose of securing the advertisement for publication in the said newspaper.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 19TH day of JULY 2000,

who is personally known to me or who has produced PERSONALLY KNOWN as identification.

(Signature of Notary Public)

Zoe Ann Moss
MY COMMISSION # CC641814 EXPIRES
August 22, 2981-213

Zoe Ann Moss

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DIVISIONS OF F. A DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Secretary
Division of Administrative Services
Division of Corporations
Division of Cultural Affairs
Division of Elections
Division of Historical Resources
Division of Library and Information Services
Division of Licensing
MEMBER OF THE FLORIDA CABINET



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE Katherine Harris Secretary of State

Secretary of State
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

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Historic Pensacola Preservation Board
Historic St. Augustine Preservation Board
Historic Tallahassee Preservation Board
Historic Tampa/Hillsborough County
Preservation Board

RINGLING MUSEUM OF ART

August 7, 2000

Honorable Cheryl Strickland Clerk to Board of Commissioners St. Johns County Post Office Drawer 300 St. Augustine, Florida 32085-0300

Attention: Patricia DeGrande
Minutes and Records Division

Dear Ms. Strickland:

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 125.66, Florida Statutes, this will acknowledge receipt of your letter dated August 3, 2000 and certified copy of Ordinance No. 2000-44, which was filed in this office on August 7, 2000.

Sincerely.

Liz Cloud, Chief

Bureau of Administrative Code

LC/mp

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BUREAU OF ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

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