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PRESS RELEASE

Smoking Ban Ordinance

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

South Padre Island

April 11, 2011 Carlos Centeno

Starting on Monday, April 11, 2011, smoking is herby prohibited in all public places within the city limits of the City of South Padre Island. "Public place" means any enclosed area that is open to or used by the general public or that is a place of employment.

Smoking is already prohibited in all buildings owned by the City of South Padre Island including hearing rooms, conference rooms, chambers, and enclosed places of public assembly in which public business is conducted.

Smoking will be permitted in commercial establishments that derive fifty-one percent (51%) or more of its annual gross sales receipts from the sale of alcoholic beverages as defined by the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code and establishments that are not closed in by a roof and solid walls.

As per section 10.50, smoking means inhaling, exhaling, burning or carrying any lighted cigar, cigarette, weed, plant or other combustible substance.

It shall be unlawful for any person to smoke in any area where smoking is prohibited by the provision of the ordinance and could be fined up to \$2,000 if this ordinance is violated.

You can view the ordinance in its entirety by referring to Chapter 10, section 10-50 of the City of South Padre Island code of ordinances located on the City's website at http://www.myspi.org/egov/apps/services/index.egov?path=details&action=i&id=16.

For more information regarding the implementation of such ordinance please contact Environmental Health Director, Victor Baldovinos at (956) 761-3882 or by email at VBaldovinos@MySPI.org.