

## **Employee Questions/Comments 1210-Tobacco Use**

### **Employee 1 Questions/Comments:**

Wow! I just learned more about tobacco than I ever thought was possible! J

### **Employee 2 Questions/Comments:**

I would like it to be noted, before a vote is taken for approval on the Tobacco Use policy, **that e-cigarettes DO NOT have any tobacco, smoke, fire, flame, and in most cases nicotine. Those with less than .06% (at the highest, to 0% lowest) of nicotine do not have or give any measure of the nicotine being released in the air as vapor. It all stays within the tube of the e-cigarette.** In all cases of e-cigarettes with a slight amount of nicotine, it is still by far less than the Nicotine Patch or gum that can be purchased to help reduce or quit smoking. Nicotine Patch and other brands like that have between 5 to 10% nicotine in one dose. With an e-cigarette, there is nothing released into the air or shared in any way with a bystander that could be included in the policy as “tobacco use” as there is no tobacco present in any form. It is an aid to quit smoking tobacco, just as a doctor’s medication would be, a nicotine patch or gum is an aid to quit smoking. A similar analogy might be the more addictive drug in coffee, and although I don’t drink coffee, I would suspect that if there was a policy to ban the use of coffee (caffeine) on campus there would be a lot of grave misgivings. I have often heard many of my colleagues say they “must have their coffee” in order to get through the morning! **And many even bring their caffeine drug to meetings!!** Another analogy might be, if you would, by chance, directly inhale the vapor from an e-cigarette, you would be inhaling air. If you inhale, even the residue from a spray room freshener when you can no longer even smell the freshener, you are still inhaling a variety of chemicals, some even labeled poisonous. In my case, though no prescription is needed, I use e-cigarettes on the specific recommendation of my doctor. Banning the use of e-cigarettes is a matter of biased perception, and there does not appear to be anything in the proposed tobacco policy which would apply to e-cigarettes, except for the fact that many, not all by any means, “look” like cigarettes. Please share this with the President’s staff.

### **Employee 3 Questions/Comments:**

Why is XX XXXX in IT and XXX in Facility Management allowed to smoke in their carts? Should not these policies cover that?

### **Employee 4 Questions/Comments:**

The policy indicates no smoking with 20 feet of buildings, but US Army policy (FR and FLW) is 50 feet. We should be consistent or remark that it does not supersede Army policy.