

Lowell Tobacco Control Report

July of 2021

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Program Director

Lowell

Inspections

At the time of writing this report, no inspections had been conducted yet as I was on vacation until 7/16/21 and a new purchase order for our contractor had not been approved until 07/21/21.

Implementation of the new state law: An Act Modernizing Tobacco Control

Following up on the issue of flavored hemp wraps reported in my last report, I have been contacted by an attorney representing P&L Sales Group, Inc, a company that markets Twisted Hemp wrap products. He wanted confirmation that the sale of flavored Twisted Hemp wraps are not prohibited by 105 CMR 665 as they, allegedly, do not contain tobacco or nicotine. I responded by stating that although these products may not fall under the definition of a “Flavored Tobacco Product”, they do meet the definition of a “Tobacco Product Flavor Enhancer”, the sale of which is also prohibited by the aforementioned state regulation.

Compliance Checks

We conducted no compliance checks this month. We expect to resume them in August.

A hearing needs to be scheduled for each of the following violators. The ones who have paid their fines will be subject to a tobacco permit suspension for up 30 consecutive business days. An appeal hearing needs to be scheduled for Jerry’s Food Store.

Establishment	Date of Violation	Fine	Status
Pete’s Gulf – 185 Woburn St	05/26/21	\$1,000	Paid
Jerry’s Food Store – 1172 Lawrence St	05/26/21	\$1,000	Appeal
Rita Supermarket – 515 Lawrence St	05/26/21	\$1,000	Paid
Lizardo’s Market – 431 Lawrence St	06/03/21	\$1,000	Paid
Jay’s Food Mart – 166 Gorham St	06/03/21	\$1,000	Paid

List of Proposed Policy Changes

Due to my sudden extended absence in the month of June and part of July, and given the new issues related to the enforcement of the state law, I have not finished compiling a preliminary list of possible changes to our local regulation. I expect to be able to present it to the Board at the next meeting.