



**MESCAL J-6
FIRE DISTRICT**

**STANDARD OPERATING
POLICY # 033**

Tobacco Use

I. PURPOSE

To promote and maintain guidelines regarding tobacco use in the workplace that are in consideration of the health and safety of members, visitors, and the public.

II. SCOPE

This policy applies to all members, as well as to visitors on District premises.

III. POLICY

It is the policy of the MJFD to control the use of tobacco in the workplace in accordance with the laws and the rights, needs, health, and concerns of tobacco users and non-users alike. Visitors to District premises may be allowed to use tobacco only in designated smoking areas.

IV. DEFINITION

For purposes of this policy, "tobacco" is defined to include any cigarette (lighted or not), cigar, pipe, any other smoking product, as well as any form of chewing tobacco, vaporizing device or any other nicotine products.

V. GUIDELINES

- A. The interior of the fire stations shall be designated as tobacco-free areas.
- B. Tobacco products may be used in the following designated areas:
 - Station 171 -- In the back of the station at the southwest corner near the picnic table. Cigarette/cigar butts shall be disposed of in a trash can. Members shall not spit on sidewalks, and shall use spit bottles, to be disposed of in a trash can.
 - Station 172 -- Due to fire danger issues, smoking shall be prohibited. Members may use chewing tobacco, but must use spit bottles, to be disposed of in a trash can.
- C. Tobacco use shall be prohibited in all fire apparatus and/or District vehicles.
- D. Tobacco use by members is prohibited while on any emergency scene or during any interaction with the public, including but not limited to inspections, tours, educational programs, fundraisers, etc.
- E. Should any conflict arise over the use of tobacco products, the incident commander or ranking officer shall have the final say over tobacco usage at any given time or during any specific event.
- F. Members should consider the general welfare of the department, its image, and the public, prior to using tobacco products. The use of good judgment and common sense should prevail.
- G. In the interest of members' health and wellness, the use District encourages all members who use tobacco to pursue tobacco usage cessation programs.
- H. These guidelines shall not supersede any local or State laws or any existing or future regulations established for fire, health or safety reasons.

Approved by the Mescal-J6 Fire District Governing Board on September 8th, 2015. Replaces February, 2012