

**Letter to Residents:
Notice Regarding New Smoke-Free Multi-Unit Housing Law in Firebaugh**

Date: _____

Dear Resident(s): _____

On May 20, 2019, the Firebaugh City Council passed an amendment to ordinance 19.02 prohibiting smoking in all multi-unit residences in Firebaugh. This includes any associated exclusive-use enclosed areas or unenclosed areas, such as, for example, a private balcony, porch, deck, or patio. No smoking shall be permitted in common areas of multi-unit residences except in designating smoking areas. The ordinance will go into effect on July 1, 2019. A link to the ordinance can be found at:

<http://www.firebaugh.org>

All existing and prospective tenants must be notified of the new ordinance no later than July 1, 2019 and must be offered a **voluntary** non-smoking lease addendum. The attached addendum is optional – if you wish to complete it, please return a copy to _____ by _____.

All new leases initiated after July 1, 2019 will include non-smoking provisions. Please note that the new law prohibits smoking in all units and common areas regardless of what is written into the lease and violators of the law may be subject to a fine.

Under the smoke-free ordinance, “Multi-unit residence” shall mean property containing two (2) or more units, including, but not limited to, duplexes, apartment buildings, condominium complexes, senior and assisted living facilities, and long-term healthcare facilities. Under the smoke-free ordinance “Common area of multi-unit residence” shall mean every Enclosed Area and every Unenclosed Area in a Multi-Unit Residence that residents of more than one Unit are entitled to enter or use, including, without limitation, halls, pathways, lobbies, courtyards, elevators, stairs, community rooms, playgrounds, gym facilities, swimming pools, parking garages, parking lots, grassy or landscaped area, restrooms, laundry rooms, cooking area, and eating area (Firebaugh Municipal Code 19-02-3-12.1).

If another tenant in your building is smoking inside their unit or in common areas, a description of the complaint process can be found on the City of Firebaugh’s website at: <http://www.firebaugh.org>

The U.S. Surgeon General’s finding that there is no safe level of exposure to secondhand smoke and the California Air Resources Board’s decision to classify secondhand smoke as a toxic air contaminant has prompted jurisdictions across the state and country to reduce multi-unit residents’ exposure to secondhand smoke.

For those wishing to quit smoking, the California Smokers’ Helpline provides free phone cessation services to all California smokers at 1-800-NO-BUTTS (1-800-662-8887) or www.californiasmokershelpline.org.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Management