

# NEWS RELEASE



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For immediate release.

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## **95% of Establishments Did Not Sell Tobacco to Minors**

The Nebraska State Patrol conducted tobacco compliance checks as part of the Panhandle Prevention Coalition's comprehensive plan to prevent youth from starting to use tobacco products. Officers with the assistance of youth under the age of 18, completed forty-one checks including convenience stores, grocery stores, and liquor stores throughout Scottsbluff and Dawes Counties.

Thirty-nine of forty-one establishments that were checked did not sell tobacco to minors. The efforts of these thirty-nine responsible businesses are commended:

- Panhandle COOP- 201 S Beltline Highway W, Scottsbluff
- Safeway Store #00556- 601 S Broadway, Scottsbluff
- Panhandle COOP Associate Food Store- 401 S Beltline Highway W, Scottsbluff
- ZY Glam- 1127 East Overland Avenue, Scottsbluff
- Panhandle COOP- 3302 Avenue B, Scottsbluff
- Maverick #442- 92 W 36<sup>th</sup> Street, Scottsbluff
- Kelley's Liquor- 817 W 27<sup>th</sup> Street, Scottsbluff
- Git n Split- 506 W 27<sup>th</sup> Street, Scottsbluff
- Cheemas Gas & Liquor- 2002 Avenue I, Scottsbluff
- Riverview Golf & Country Club- 100928 CR 19, Scottsbluff
- Dollar General #8126- 1818 E Overland, Scottsbluff
- Dermer's- 1311 E Overland, Scottsbluff
- DL Foods- 122 W Webster, Morrill
- GT Mart- 1800 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Mitchell
- Kwik Stop Plus- 1109 Broadway, Mitchell
- Skippy's- 204 Jeffers Avenue, Lyman
- Riverview Golf & County Club- 100928 CR 19, Scottsbluff
- Dollar General- 100 E 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Gordon
- Sidetracks- 100 S Main Street, Gordon
- Bosselman Pump & Pantry- 101 W Highway 20, Gordon
- Highway Express- 101 E Highway 20, Gordon
- Superfoods- 401 W Highway 20, Gordon
- Bosselman Pump & Pantry- 220 W Highway 20, Rushville
- Barrel House Liquor- 217 W 2<sup>nd</sup>, Rushville
- Family Dollar- 316 W 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Rushville

- White Clay Grocery- Box 267, White Clay
- Lariat Liquor- 341 W Third Street, Chadron
- Pump & Pantry- 276 Mears Street, Chadron
- Safeway Stores #46- 264 Morehead Street, Chadron
- Favorite Bar- 155 Main Street, Chadron
- The Ridge- 164 Main Street, Chadron
- Maverick- 111 W Highway 20, Chadron
- Cheema's Gas & Liquor- 855 W Third Street, Chadron
- Big Bat's- 1250 W Highway 20, Chadron
- Walmart- 510 Linden Street, Chadron
- D & S Market- 202 Main Street, Crawford
- Tailgate Bar & Grill- 303 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Crawford
- Saddlerock One Stop- 3481 Highway 20, Crawford
- Westco- 1120 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Crawford

Regrettably, two businesses checked failed to comply with the law and sold to the underage buyers. These businesses have been notified and appropriate action has been taken:

- Family Dollar- 7896 State Highway 87, White Clay
- Grocery Mart- 228 N Main Street, Gordon

"National research shows that when communities consistently conduct compliance checks and keep failure rates below 10%, children in those communities are less likely to use tobacco products," stated Janelle Visser, Tobacco Free in the Panhandle Coordinator with Panhandle Public Health District.

Training for alcohol and tobacco retailers is available quarterly at locations throughout the Panhandle. This training, sponsored by Panhandle Prevention Coalition and Nebraska State Patrol, provides individuals entrusted with the responsibility of serving alcohol or selling tobacco with strategies to avoid illegally selling to underage youth or intoxicated patrons. Responsible Beverage Server Training is available for free to retail merchants, owners, and employees across the Panhandle. The next training will be held August.18<sup>th</sup>, 2021; visit <http://www.panhandlepartnership.com/training-academy.html> for further details.

Funding for Tobacco Free in the Panhandle is provided by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services/Tobacco Free Nebraska Program as a result of the Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement.

For additional information visit [www.pphd.org/tfn.html](http://www.pphd.org/tfn.html) or call Janelle Visser, Tobacco Free in the Panhandle Coordinator, at Panhandle Public Health District at 308-487-3600 ext 105 or toll free at 866-701-7173. Panhandle Public Health District is working together to improve the health, safety and quality of life for all who live, learn, work and play in the Panhandle. Our vision is that we are a healthier and safer Panhandle Community.