



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
**Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services**



**Commissioner's Policy Statement and Implementing Procedures**

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Smoking Policy
<b>P &amp; P NUMBER:</b>	Chapter 6.19
<b>APPROVED:</b>	Miriam Delphin-Rittmon, Commissioner                      Date: 10/15/2015
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE:</b>	October 15, 2015 <i>Miriam Delphin-Rittmon</i>
<b>REVISED:</b>	3/1/2011, Replaced Rescinded Smoking Policy #51 dated July 10, 1996
<b>REFERENCES:</b>	National Association of State Mental Health Directors Policy Statement on Smoking Policy and Treatment at State Operated Psychiatric Hospitals: July 10, 2006. Health Consequences of Smoking: A Report of the Surgeon General, May 27, 2004.
<b>FORMS AND ATTACHMENTS:</b>	

**STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:** There is extensive medical evidence that clearly demonstrates mainstream or side stream (second hand) smoking of tobacco products causes or contributes to a number of negative health consequences including cancer, emphysema, increases in blood pressure, increased risk of birth defects, and other adverse conditions. Additional evidence of the addictive quality of tobacco products places smoking cessation efforts within the mission of the DMHAS in order to promote recovery, health, and an improved quality of life. In an effort to comply with local clean air ordinances and to promote the safety, health and comfort of all concerned, the DMHAS strongly discourages the smoking of tobacco products and encourages and supports clients and employees to pursue smoking cessation efforts as feasible for each individual and/or facility.

**POLICY:** The smoking of cigarettes, cigars, pipes, electronic cigarettes, and vaporizers by DMHAS clients, employees, and visitors is prohibited in all DMHAS state owned or leased property, including vehicles, at all times. A smoking policy has been developed for each DMHAS facility or location which will govern the practices at that respective site, taking into account accreditation standards, local ordinances, and other requirements and measures including protecting individuals from passive smoke exposure, educational and supportive measures for clients and staff who wish to reduce or quit smoking, and accommodations; where smoking is permitted; which provide shelter from inclement weather, reasonable access, and adequate ventilation and space.

**PROCEDURE:** Each state operated facility and location shall develop policies and procedures that minimally address the above. These shall be monitored and maintained as a function of each facilities Environment of Care Committee or similar body charged with upholding a safe and healthy environment.