



Kansas City, Kansas Police Department

Chief of Police Michael York

February 11, 2020

To Whom it may concern,

In November of 2017, The Kansas City, Kansas Police Department partnered with the Wyandotte County Health Department to enforce our City Ordinance requiring individuals to be over the age of 21 to purchase cigarettes. What we learned from our participation was that even after notification and education about the ordinance change, there were numerous retailers willing to sell cigarettes to underage persons. I am in strong support of prohibiting the sale of tobacco and e-cigarette products to anyone under the age of 21. The current law focuses on enforcement of the retailer, not on the young person attempting to purchase, which I believe to be appropriate. My concerns are that conducting enforcement on the consumer has not worked well in other communities, is difficult to enforce, and could involve officer resources which could be otherwise utilized. I feel that the current law, coupled with the proper education, is sufficient. Please feel free to contact my office with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael York 1644".

Michael York
Chief of Police
Kansas City, KS Police Department
700 Minnesota Avenue
KC., KS. 66101

