



State of Minnesota, JUUL Settle Lawsuit

JUUL Labs, Inc. and co-defendant Altria have now settled lawsuits with 48 states and territories. This is in addition to Multi District Litigation settlements that cover more than 5,000 cases brought by approximately 10,000 private U.S. plaintiffs. These lawsuits assert that JUUL, backed by Altria, intentionally marketed its products to children and includes allegations of misrepresentation, false advertising, and teen addiction injuries.

The most recent state settlement occurred on April 17, 2023, with the State of Minnesota - the only state to take the company to trial.

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After three weeks of testimony,

the parties settled on the eve of closing arguments. The details of that agreement will be disclosed in May 2023.

On April 12th, 2023, JUUL announced a \$462 million multi-state settlement with attorneys general of six states: New York, California, Colorado, the District of Columbia, Illinois, Massachusetts and New Mexico. The company's efforts to resolve the lawsuits have cost it nearly \$3 billion, and this has happened before the company has even received FDA regulatory authorization to keep selling its products.

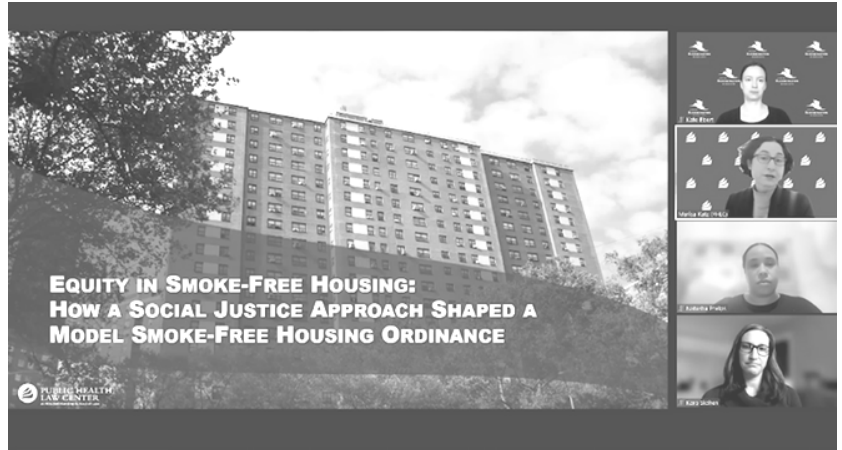
Another trial, brought by San Francisco United School Districts (SFUSD), is scheduled for April 24, 2023. To learn more, register for the Center's April 27 webinar: Universe of JUUL Litigation: What State Attorney General Action and Multi District Litigation Mean For Public Health at <https://bit.ly/43ML1Pe>.



Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison speaks at a news conference at the State Capitol on Dec. 4, 2019, in St. Paul, Minn. Minnesota announced a settlement Monday, April 17, 2023 in its lawsuit against Juul Labs and tobacco giant Altria just ahead of closing arguments. (Renee Jones Schneider/Star Tribune via AP, File)

ANSR, PHLC Create State's First-Ever Smoke-Free Housing Ordinance

In January 2023, ANSR's partners at the Public Health Law Center (PHLC) released Minnesota's first-ever Model Smoke-Free Housing Ordinance. PHLC developed the model ordinance in partnership with ANSR's Live Smoke Free Program, Bloomington Public Health, and many local and national partners that formed an Equitable Enforcement Advisory Committee, comprised of tenant advocates, public health advocates, addiction experts, restorative justice experts, and legal experts. The



ANSR's Kara Skahen discusses Minnesota's new equity-focused model smoke-free housing ordinance.

The Equitable Enforcement Advisory Committee Members:

- Breathe California (CA)
- Center for Black Health and Equity (NC)
- City of Bloomington, MN (MN)
- Community Mediation & Restorative Services (MN)
- HOME Line (MN)
- Live Smoke Free, ANSR-MN (MN)
- National Housing Law Project (CA)
- Public Health Law Center (MN)
- Restorative Response (MD)
- Rutgers University (NJ)
- Southern MN Regional Legal Services (MN)

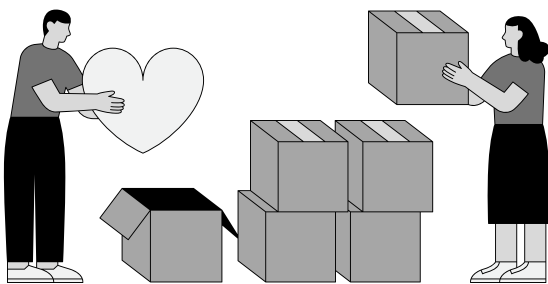
Committee

met five times from December 2020 - March 2021 and sought to create a model smoke-free housing ordinance that would protect residents from second- and thirdhand smoke exposure while prioritizing housing stability.

Also in January 2023, ANSR's Kara Skahen joined several of these partners for a national webinar to share how ANSR, PHLC, and the City of Bloomington formed the Committee and the process that led to Minnesota's new equity-focused model smoke-free housing ordinance. One hundred eighty three people attended.

ANSR looks forward to working with Minnesota communities interested in putting the new model smoke-free housing ordinance to use.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Do you like to unpack and organize?

Do you enjoy pricing items for sale?

Are you good at moving heavy things?

Do you have stuff to donate, like books, housewares, and sports equipment?

If you answered YES to any of these questions, we'd love your help!

ANSR's Annual Garage Sale is a labor of love and we look to volunteers like you to help support us before, during, and after the sale. We need volunteers to help with set up (June 15), to help during the sale (June 16-17), and to help with tear down (June 17).

Interested? Contact Jeanne at 651-646-3005 or jw@ansrmn.org

Substance Abuse Prevention Skills Training Back In Person

For the first time in three years, the Regional Prevention Coordinators (RPCs) hosted the Substance Abuse Prevention Skills Training (SAPST) in person. The four day training covers the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF). The SPF includes a planning process that prevention professionals can use to understand and effectively address substance misuse and related mental health problems in their communities. The SPF process includes addressing the needs of the community, building capacity, planning, implementing, and evaluating prevention strategies in the community.

Attendees came from around the state working in substance misuse prevention and provided an opportunity to learn from the RPCs about the SPF, but also share experiences with each other and provide different perspectives and examples in their own communities.

The RPCs enjoyed being able to gather in person to provide training and to learn from prevention partners. More in person trainings are planned for the coming months. To stay up to date with future training opportunities, visit mnprc.org website.



RPCs gather to offer the first in-person SAPST training in three years.

Legislative Update

Three bills advance at legislature



Bills to ensure that any funds from JUUL from the state's lawsuit are dedicated to tobacco use prevention, to increase the access to tobacco cessation services, and to prohibit the sale of flavored tobacco products all advanced during the 2023 legislative session.

The State of Minnesota sued JUUL for successfully promoting JUUL vapes to young people. The two parties reached an agreement to settle on April 17.

Minnesota is one of many states to sue JUUL, but was the first to bring the vaping giant to trial. One of the arguments that JUUL made during the trial was that Minnesota had squandered the previous tobacco settlement and had not invested enough in tobacco use prevention. That is one thing we agree with. Minnesota can and should spend more on prevention and the bill in the legislature will dedicate any settlement dollars to preventing young people from starting to smoke/vape and helping those who are addicted to quit. Dedicating any settlement funds to prevention is included in the Omnibus Health and Human Services bill and is very likely to become law.

Reducing the barriers to tobacco cessation services is a goal that public healthy advocates have advanced for years and a bill now moving through the legislature will do just that. It will make it easier for people who are receiving other treatment services like chemical dependency treatment and those with low incomes to access these services. Like the JUUL settlement bill, this provision is included in the Omnibus Health and Human Services bill and is very likely to become law.

Prohibiting the sale of flavored tobacco and vape products is more controversial than the other two bills, but it is still advancing in the legislature. While it is unlikely to make it all the way through the House and Senate process this year, we are well positioned to pass it in 2024.

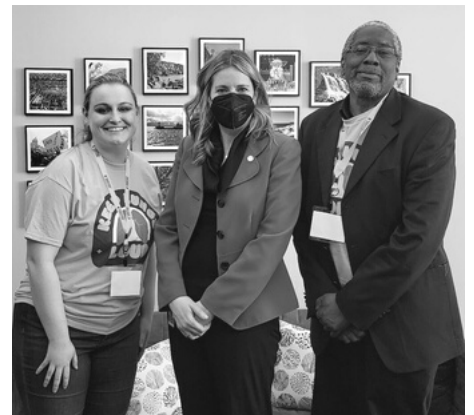
If you would like more information about any of these bills, please contact Jeanne at 651-646-3005 or jw@ansrmn.org

Day at the Capitol 2023



On March 14, 2023, ANSR staff joined 200+ partners from Minnesotans for a Smoke-Free Generation at the State Capitol to ask legislators to support three commercial tobacco prevention bills this session that would remove barriers to cessation, end the sale of flavored commercial tobacco, and dedicate JUUL lawsuit funds to prevention and cessation.

Top Left: ANSR staff Jackie Siewert and American Heart Association's Sueling Schardin meet with Rep. Steve Elkins (50B). Top Right: Advocates celebrate before meeting with lawmakers. Bottom Left: Advocates gather on the Capitol steps. Bottom Right: ANSR staff Molly Schmidtke and ANSR Boardmember Gene Nichols meet with Rep. Kelly Moller (40A).



ANSR Membership Form

Already a member? Not your renewal date? Pass this form along to someone you think might be interested. Share your newsletter. Also, please send in your email address to help us update our records.



I want to help ANSR's ongoing work:

- Guarantor __\$100 __ \$200 __ Other
- Sustaining member __\$50 __ \$75
- Contributing member __\$30 __ \$40
- Regular member __ \$25
- Associate member __\$15 __ \$10

Name _____

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City/State/Zipcode _____

H (____) _____(W) _____

Home/Work Telephone _____

Email address _____

ANSR is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Contributions are tax deductible.

Anyone wishing to donate to ANSR or renew their membership online may do so at www.ansrmn.org/donate

Please mail this form with your check to:
Association for Nonsmokers-Minnesota
2395 University Ave. W., Suite 310
St. Paul, MN 55114-1512

Donor Spotlight! Why I support ANSR

Christine Rice and the Rice Family Foundation

The Rice Family Foundation is a long term supporter of ANSR's work. Chris and Dan Rice come from a public policy background and Chris was Assistant Commissioner of Health. It irked her that the temperature of the butter in restaurants was regulated, but smoke-filled air which is unhealthy for all was not. Chris was a founding Board of Directors member of the Minnesota Partnership for Action Against Tobacco (MPAAT was re-named ClearWay Minnesota) and was the volunteer acting Executive Director of six months during the early days.

"My family and I support ANSR through our family foundation because we are committed to the kinds of policy changes ANSR is working toward. We want our grandchildren to grow up without nicotine addiction and we want the same thing for other people's grandchildren. I spent much of my life working on public policies that will make the future brighter for the next generation. That is exactly what ANSR does, so it is easy to support their work."



Photo: Maya Betti

One of our prevention students, Maya Betti, recently designed the 2023 Day at the Capitol logo. This logo was shared on pins, stickers and t-shirts, and were a huge hit among the 200+ attendees. She is a senior at Mounds View High School and will be attending Saint Olaf College next year to study journalism and pre-law.

In her free time, she loves to listen to Billy Joel, watch period pieces, read fantasy novels, and work on her school's newspaper. We are thankful to have her on our team! Thank you for all your work, Maya!

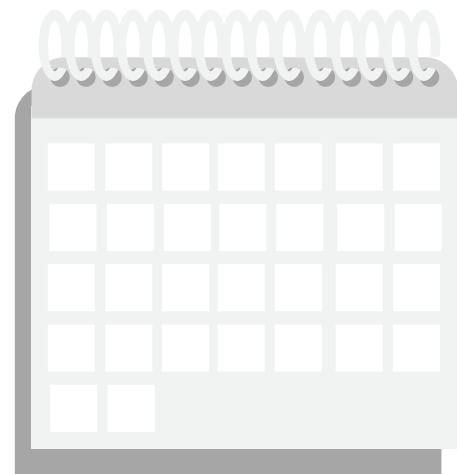


Mark your Calendar

ANSR GARAGE SALE

JUNE 16-17

1647 Laurel Ave | 9am-5pm daily



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For more information, contact ANSR at:
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do for ANSR. Please
consider sharing this
newsletter with a friend!



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ANSR's Annual Plant Sale

*May 19-20, 2023 9am-5pm
1647 Laurel Avenue, St. Paul*

*All proceeds support the Association for Nonsmokers-MN
www.ansrmn.org*

