

MEMORANDUM

VIA TELECOPIER

November 4, 1988

TO: Kent Wold
Henry Stokes

FROM: Dan Nelson

RE: Ramsey County Smoking Ban

Gentleman, the following is a summary of the situation surrounding the proposed smoking ban for buildings owned or leased by Ramsey County, MN.

On November 22, 1988 at 2:00 p.m. the seven members of the Ramsey County Commission will vote on the proposed smoking ban for buildings owned or leased by Ramsey County, MN. The address of the Court House is:

Ramsey County Court House
15 W. Kellogg Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Mail intended for Commissioners should be addressed to:

Commissioner _____
316 Court House
15 W. Kellogg Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55102

The county has provided one phone number that constituents can use to leave messages for all commissioners. Constituents can also use the office answering to determine which commissioner represents their district (see the attached District map). The number is:

(612) 298-4145

Action Summary

Tobacco Institute's Minnesota Counsel at North State Advisors has been lobbying the Ramsey County Commission for over a year on this issue. North State has been successful in delaying the vote until now.

Currently, David Horazdovsky is working with several employees of the county that are unhappy with the proposed ban. These employees are being encouraged to organize in order to make their views known at the hearing on November 22. Also, David Horazdovsky has been conferring regularly with union officials from the Teamsters. Members of the Ramsey County Sheriffs office are represented by the Teamster Union. Sheriffs employees department are being encouraged to have an organized presence at the public hearing as well.

Phillip Morris has agreed to initiate a mailing to their Ramsey County mailing list that encourages their contacts to write or call the county commission.

Recommendation for RJR

Contact should be initiated with RJR sales staff and activists on company mailing lists urging that calls be made, or letters be written, to county commissioners. North State's contacts with the administrative staff at the court house indicate that the Ramsey County commission is not accustomed to receiving constituent mail on issues being considered.

Since contacts would be coming from persons not employed by Ramsey County, it is suggested that two effects of the proposed ban be protested.

1. Tax paying smokers will be denied a designated smoking area when doing business at the court house.
2. The proposed ban is unfair. For example, prisoners at the county jail can smoke while the staff cannot (proposed ordinance attached). The measure is not constructed to even segregate smokers and non-smokers. It is meant to punish smokers.

Any program that is initiated by RJR should be timed so that constituent contacts come into the commission office the week before November 22, 1988.

Please call if you have any questions.

DN:mt

cc: Michael Brozek
Paul Emrick
Tom Kelm

Ramsey County Commissioners

The Honorable Diane Ahrens

The Honorable John T. Finley

The Honorable Ruby Hunt

The Honorable Duane W. McCarty

The Honorable Hal Norgard

The Honorable Donald E. Salverda

The Honorable Warren W. Schaber

Ramsey County Zip Codes:

55101, 02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08, 09, 10, 12, 13, 16, 17, 19