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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Public Information Office Contact: Sally Shutt, Public Information Director Telephone: (910) 437-1921 E-mail: <u>sshutt@co.cumberland.nc.us</u>

New Year Brings Smoking Ban for 15 County Properties

FAYETTEVILLE, NC – A county ordinance banning smoking anywhere on the grounds of 15 Cumberland County Government facilities goes into effect Jan. 1. Anyone who fails to stop smoking on the properties following an oral or written notice will be subject to a \$50 fine.

Since 1993, smoking has been banned in county buildings and vehicles, and within 25 feet of all entrances to those buildings. In May, the Board of Commissioners, at the

request of the Health Director and Board of Health, approved prohibiting smoking anywhere on the grounds, including parking lots, of the following sites:

- Department of Public Health, 1235 Ramsey St.
- Department of Social Services, 1225 Ramsey St.
- E. Newton Smith Center/Board of Elections, 227 Fountainhead Lane
- Historic Courthouse, 130 Gillespie St.
- Hope Mills WIC office, 2622 Hope Mills Road
- Spring Lake Family Resource Center, 103 Laketree Blvd., Spring Lake
- Child Support Building, 109 Bradford Ave.
- All eight branches of the Cumberland County Public Library & Information Center

In November, the Board of Commissioners approved Phase II of the smoke-free initiative. The Courthouse, Law Enforcement Center, Detention Center and Animal Control properties will be the next properties to go smoke free on July 1, 2014.

Fliers are being distributed to the public and employees with information on free quitting smoking support services such as QuitlineNC at 1-800-QUIT-NOW (1-800-784-8669). County employees may enroll in smoking cessation classes offered through the Employee Wellness Program.



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