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Subject: Star Tribune Highlights Smoke-Free Condominium in Minneapolis

Live Smoke Free

e-Alert
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Star Tribune Highlights Smoke-Free Condominium in Minneapolis

On the front page of today's Minneapolis Star Tribune, there is an article about a 118-unit condominium building on Minneapolis's river front that recently voted to go smoke free. The Live Smoke Free program believes that this is the largest condominium building in Minnesota that has gone smoke free.

The article is timely since the Tobacco Law Center, Center for Energy and Environment, and Live Smoke Free began a three-year research project to investigate the process of helping condominiums and other owner-occupied buildings adopt a smoke-free policy in January. Several of the project's advisory committee members were interviewed for the Star Tribune article.

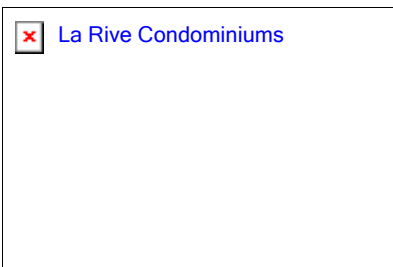
Condominium Owners Tell Smokers: Take it Outside

By Jim Buchta, Star Tribune
Photo: Glen Stubbe, Star Tribune

Residents of a tony, high-rise condominium along the Mississippi River in Minneapolis are among the first to vote to make their building smoke-free, taking Minnesota's battle over smoking bans into private homes.

The rule, at La Rive Condominiums near St. Anthony Main, covers individual units, common areas, garages and private balconies. Current owners who want to smoke will be grandfathered in, but future buyers will have to abide by the rule.

Opponents say the ban is an intrusion into private property rights that could hurt resale prospects at a time when the market is already soft. Supporters counter that, not only do they have a right to breathe clean air, but nonsmoking potential buyers will see going smoke-free as a plus.



"Just as we have seen business [use bans], we're now seeing homeowners and landowners of apartment buildings and condominiums deciding that they don't want their property to have smoking on it either," said Doug Blanke, director of the Tobacco Law Center at the William Mitchell College of Law.

Continue reading: <http://www.startribune.com/lifestyle/homegarden/15617577.html>

About Live Smoke Free

The Live Smoke Free program promotes smoke-free policies for apartment and other multi-housing buildings in the Twin Cities metro area. Live Smoke Free assists tenants and landlords who wish to adopt smoke-free building policies. If you know of anyone who would like to learn more about smoke-free multi-housing, please let us know or direct people to our web site at www.mnsmokefreehousing.org.

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