



VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

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*****NEWS RELEASE*****
June 26, 2025

DOJ Grant Helps VPD Officers Crack Down on Tobacco Sales to Minors

On June 25 and 26, 2025, Visalia Police Department officers conducted tobacco compliance inspections at several businesses across the city. These inspections aimed to ensure retailers were following California State laws on the sale of tobacco products and to educate them on recent changes related to the flavored tobacco ban. All businesses inspected were found to be in compliance.

As part of Visalia PD's ongoing efforts to prevent underage smoking and vaping, officers will continue conducting tobacco decoy operations and compliance checks throughout the year. Businesses found selling tobacco to minors may face misdemeanor charges or fines up to \$1,000. Additionally, possessing flavored tobacco products for sale may result in civil penalties ranging from \$1,000 to \$20,000 per violation.

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Department of Justice.

