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# TIP SHEET #6



## Legal Resources: Where to Find Technical Assistance

The **Technical Assistance Legal Center (TALC)** in California has several helpful publications available on its website: <http://talc.phi.org>. Samples of the publications available on the TALC website include:

- **Directory of State Legal Resources for Tobacco Control.** This guide was developed through contributions from tobacco control attorneys from throughout the United States. Its main focus is legal tools to change the social norms regarding smoking and tobacco use.
- **Legal Technical Assistance on Tobacco Control Policy: A Guide for Other States.** This publication provides an overview of TALC's model, structure, and philosophy, and can serve as a guide for new technical assistance legal centers.
- **Master Settlement Agreement (MSA) between the Attorneys General and the Tobacco Industry: Overview of Key Public Health Restrictions (11/98).** This document lays out key provisions of the MSA: What is prohibited, what is allowed and the effective date of each featured provision.
- **Sample policies** prohibiting tobacco sponsorship of rodeos and other events.
- **A list of tobacco control legal centers** in other parts of the U.S. can be found on the TALC website under "Links."

**Smokeless Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement (STMSA) Language Pertaining to Sponsorship and Sampling:** The full text of the STMSA is available on the California Attorney General website at <http://caag.state.ca.us/tobacco/ssa.htm>. See especially Sections II and III. For help interpreting the STMSA, see the resources listed above.

**State Legislated Actions on Tobacco Issues (SLATI)** website at <http://slati.lungusa.org>. The American Lung Association maintains this guide to tobacco control laws in the 50 states and the District of Columbia. You can search their website for legislative issues affecting your state, and search their information database on specific legislation. (Note: the most recent laws may not be on the website yet.)

**Letters from the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA) and the US Smokeless Tobacco Company (USSTC) showing that local PRCA rodeos can choose whether to take tobacco sponsorship.** The letters show that local PRCA rodeos can decline tobacco sponsorship, ban the use of tobacco products, and accept public service messages regarding tobacco use, without being penalized by the PRCA. Copies of the letters are available on the Buck Tobacco website at [www.bucktobacco.org](http://www.bucktobacco.org).

**Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between USSTC and the STMSA Settling States concerning Adult-Only Facilities:** This MOU describes the agreement between USSTC and some of the STMSA settling states regarding "adult-only facilities" (tobacco sampling booths). The memorandum is available in the tobacco litigation section of the California Attorney General's website at [http://caag.state.ca.us/tobacco/pdf/UST\\_MOU.pdf](http://caag.state.ca.us/tobacco/pdf/UST_MOU.pdf).

**National Association of Attorneys General (NAAG):** The members are the Attorneys General of the 50 states and the chief legal officers of the U.S. commonwealths and territories. The attorneys general enforce the cigarette MSA and STMSA. At the website, you can find the name of your state's attorney general or chief legal officer, and contact information for the NAAG staff coordinating tobacco enforcement. [www.naag.org](http://www.naag.org)

**Rodeo Toolkit:** Additional information and resources are available in the "Legal Restrictions on Rodeo Sponsorship: Know the Law and Know What's Bull" section of the Rodeo Toolkit, published by the California Department of Health Services, Tobacco Control Section. The toolkit can be ordered by calling the Tobacco Education Clearinghouse of California (TECC) at (800) 258-9090.