

Dear Members,

My name is Thomas Vanatta. I work for the City of Wichita with the tobacco compliance program. The tobacco compliance program is completely run on the generosity of both minor and adult volunteers. What we do is have minors/young people (14-20yrs old) pose as purchasers of vaping/tobacco products seeing if local retailers will sell to our volunteers. If they sell, I issue a citation to the clerk who sold and if they do not, I issue them a congratulatory postcard for them to give to their management.

**The program's mission is to keep vaping/tobacco products out of the hands of young persons.** This is not possible if our program does not have minor or adult volunteers. This is where I am hoping your program/organization may be able to assist. Adult volunteers are needed to ride along during tobacco compliance checks, serving as an observer. Since your program/organization mission of keeping Wichita tobacco-free aligns with the City's tobacco compliance program mission, I am asking for adult volunteers that I can trust with the safety of our young persons during these checks.

Male and female volunteers can be used; however, since most of our minor volunteers are female, the program needs female adult volunteers as observers accompanying the minor and myself on compliance checks. Please be aware that to volunteer, you will need to pass a background check before you will be allowed to assist with compliance checks.

I greatly appreciate your time and hope that some members would like to help volunteer. If you are interested and would like more information or have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me and I would be glad to help. Thank you very much, take care and stay safe.

P.S. If you also know of any minors/young persons that need volunteer hours for their school or organization, we always could use more minors/young persons to volunteer as well.

Sincerely,

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