



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Contact** Greg Staples, Chief of Police  
515-981-0228 ext. 2622(O) 515-202-2540 (C)  
gstaples@norwalk.iowa.gov

## Norwalk Police Department Partners with Iowa ABD for Tobacco Enforcement

**February 19, 2014** – The Norwalk Police Department in conjunction with the Iowa Alcoholic Beverage Division (ABD) and the Iowa-pledge program has completed an investigation into the possible distribution of tobacco products to minors in the City of Norwalk.

As a part of the Iowa-Pledge Program, Officers have conducted compliance checks on seven local establishments that sell tobacco products. These checks resulted in findings that 100% of the establishments investigated followed all laws governing tobacco sales to minors.

The Norwalk Police Department has taken a pledge to keep tobacco out of the hands of Norwalk youth. The Iowa-Pledge program began in 2000 and since that time has helped to bring statewide tobacco sales compliance to 93%. The Norwalk Police Department is proud to do its part in keeping our children safe and healthy.

Establishments caught violating State laws governing tobacco sales face criminal fines. However, placing criminal charges is not the intent of the Iowa- Pledge Program. By partnering with the Iowa Alcoholic Beverages Division and participating in the Iowa-Pledge program, the Norwalk Police Department hopes to maintain a compliant retail environment in our community and help keep tobacco out of the hands of Iowa's youth.

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### **About Norwalk, IA**

*Settled in 1846 and incorporated in 1900, Norwalk has grown to nearly 10,000 residents. Norwalk is located in Southern Polk and Northern Warren Counties and just south of the Des Moines International Airport and Highway 5 bypass. Business Week awarded Norwalk with the distinction of being the 2010 Best Affordable Suburb. [www.norwalk.iowa.gov](http://www.norwalk.iowa.gov)*