

Compliance – Resource Bulletin

ALABAMA– State Specific Signs

Alabama ADA Parking Signs

Overview:

All states must comply with The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. It is a federal wide-ranging civil rights law that prohibits, under certain circumstances, discrimination based on disability. The 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design (ADAAG) stipulates design standards for accessible parking spaces. Section 502.6 of ADAAG and The Department of Transportation Standard for Highway Signs (MUTCD) both address design standards for the required signs.

Resources:

2010 ADAAG Standards: (Free)

http://www.ada.gov/2010ADASTandards_index.htm

MUTCD Standard for Highway Signs: (Free)

https://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/SHSe/shs_2004_2012_sup.pdf

Alabama Regulation: (Free)

<http://codes.lp.findlaw.com/alcode/32/6/2/10/32-6-233.1>

Design of Parking Signs:

- Accessible parking spaces must have a sign that includes the international symbol of accessibility and state “RESERVED PARKING.” Spaces designed for van parking must also have a sign stating “VAN ACCESSIBLE.” (ADAAG 502.6), (MUTCD R7-8)
- The sign should be 12”W x 18”H with green lettering and border on a white background. The symbol of accessibility should be 4”H and be white on a blue background. The symbol is a depiction of a person in a wheel chair. (MUTCD R7-8), (ADAAG 703.7.2.1)
- If required, the van accessible sign should be 12”W x 6”H and have green lettering and border on a white background or white lettering and border on a blue background. (MUTCD R7-8a, R&-8b)
- Signs should be mounted at least 60 inches above the parking surface so as to not be obstructed by any parked vehicles.
- Signs should be constructed to withstand the elements. An aluminum substrate with a reflective surface using UV stable ink is recommended. An anti-graffiti laminate surface might also be considered.
- Of note: Federal accessibility signs avoid the use of the text “handicapped” or “disabled” as a result of the Department of Justice’s efforts to make use of up-to-date accepted terminology and avoid stereotyping of individuals. (28CFR35.104)
- Alabama requires that any sign designating an accessible parking space may contain on the sign or on a separate placard the amount of the fine for illegal use of the space. (32-6-233.1(d))

Compliance – Resource Bulletin

Alabama No Smoking Signs

Overview:

The State of Alabama prohibits smoking in public places including restaurants and places of employment. Exemptions to the statewide ban are granted to bars, designated hotel/motel rooms, retail tobacco shops, and designated areas in mental health or drug therapy facilities. The Alabama Clean Indoor Air Act (ACIA) became law in 2003 and is administered by the Department of Public Health. (ACIA 22-15A-4)

Resources:

Alabama Clean Indoor Air Act: (Free)

<http://www.adph.org/tpts/assets/S126.pdf>

Enforcement of ACIA: (Free)

<http://www.adph.org/tpts/assets/ALCleanIndoorAirAct.pdf>

Alabama Dept. of Public Health Website: (Free)

<http://www.adph.org/tobacco/>

Design of No Smoking Signs:

- The state statute defines a public place as an enclosed area to which the public has access. The owner or other person in control of a public place or place of employment, must post a sign at all entrances stating “No Smoking” or the international no smoking symbol, consisting of a pictorial representation of a burning cigarette enclosed in a red circle with a red bar across it. (ACIA 22-15A-7)
- In all areas where smoking is allowed or in prohibited areas where a designated smoking area has been created in accordance with the law, a “Smoking Area” sign must be posted. (Enf. ACIA 420-3-28-.05{3})

Alabama Swimming Pool Signs

Overview:

As of 9/1/2019 Alabama does not have any statewide regulations governing the use of public swimming pools.

Resources:

NSP Foundation: (Free)

http://nspf.org/en/Resources/News_StateCodes.aspx

Design of Swimming Pool Signs:

Consult your Local County or municipality for information on any required swimming pool signs. (nspf.org)

Compliance – Resource Bulletin

Concealed Weapon Signs

Overview:

The Alabama Criminal Code allows residents of the state to carry a concealed firearm (CCW) provided they have been issued a permit granted by the local city or county in which they reside. There are certain places such as, schools, public demonstrations, etc. where CCW is forbidden even with a permit. Alabama recognizes the CCW permits of a number of states. (13A-11-75) (13A-11-72) (13A-11-59)

Resources:

Alabama Regulation: (Free) <http://alisondb.legislature.state.al.us/alison/codeofalabama/1975/coatoc.htm>
Handgunlaw.com/Alabama: (Free) <http://www.handgunlaw.us/states/alabama.pdf>

Design of Concealed Weapons Signs:

- Some states that allow the carrying of concealed weapons, with or without a required permit, have “opt out” laws that allow a private business to voluntarily create a “weapons free” zone by posting a “no concealed weapons allowed” sign on their premises. Alabama law does not allow a business to create a “weapons free” zone by posting a sign, nor does it explicitly forbid the posting of such signs at businesses or facilities where CCW is forbidden.

Cell Phone Signs

Overview:

The State of Alabama bans the use of hand-held cell phones for texting communications by all drivers of motorized vehicles. Novice drivers under 18 years old with learner’s permits are also banned from using hand-held cell phones for voice communication. The law, HB2, became effective on 8/1/2012.

Resources:

Alabama Regulation: (Free) <http://alisondb.legislature.state.al.us/alison/codeofalabama/1975/32-5A-350.htm>
Handsfreeinfo.com: (Free) <http://handsfreeinfo.com/alabama-cell-phone-laws-legislation>

Design of Cell Phone Signs:

- As of 9/1/2019 we are unaware of any mandatory “no cell phone” sign postings required in Alabama.
- An efficient way to remind both commercial and private drivers of cell phone bans is to apply a “No Cell Phone Use While Driving” safety label or window decal to cars, taxi cabs, trucks, and buses.
- Of note: Because cell phones can be distracting by nature, it is common to see signs regulating cell phone use in public buildings such as theaters, airports, courtrooms, hospitals, buses, schools and school traffic zones.

Compliance – Resource Bulletin

Baby Surrender Signs

Overview:

Since the first baby surrender (safe-haven) law was enacted in Texas in 1999, all U.S. states, as well as the District of Columbia, have passed safe-haven legislation. The laws allow an unharmed infant to be relinquished to the proper authorities.

Resources:

Alabama Regulation: (Free) http://www.nationalsafehavenalliance.org/maps/Alabama_Safe_Haven_Law.pdf

NSH Alliance: (Free) <https://www.nationalsafehavenalliance.org/>

Design of Baby Surrender Signs:

- Alabama allows for the relinquishing of a new born infant (3 days old or less) by a parent who no longer wishes to have custody of the child. The Code of Alabama, Possession and Protection of Abandoned Children statute, states that an infant may be relinquished at any hospital or emergency room. As of 9/1/2019 we are unaware of any requirement in the law for the posting of signs. (26-25-1)

Visit ComplianceSigns.com to shop for related signs: <http://www.compliancesigns.com>