

MEMORANDUM

TO: DAVID PERSSON
FROM: R. DAVID JACKSON
DATE: July 18, 2013
RE: CITY OF VENICE - BANK SAFETY ISSUE

The question is what the City of Venice can do to further bank safety, namely whether it can try to deter bank robberies by establishing a "no hats, no hoods, no sunglasses" policy in local banks.

While there does not appear to be an express preemption of a municipality's power to regulate what is (or what is not) worn in banks, there is a likely possibility of raising constitutional concerns (i.e., freedom of religion or religious expression), by mandating via ordinance that bank customers are strictly prohibited from wearing certain items (such as head coverings) in banking institutions.

However, the Florida Bankers Association (FBA), in conjunction with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Florida Department of Law Enforcement, and the Florida Highway Patrol, implemented a statewide "No Hats, No Hood, No Sunglasses" program in 2008. According to the FBA, this is a voluntary program whereby participating financial institutions post information throughout their branches notifying customers that they should remove hats, hoods, and sunglasses when entering the building. If customers refuse to remove these items, they are to be directed to a more experienced teller or an area of the bank with more security features. No customers will be denied service.

It is also noted that through its website, the FBA offers various products, for participating banks to purchase, in furtherance of this program such as door stickers and lobby brochures explaining the program.

Should they so desire, the City Council could consider a resolution encouraging local banks to participate in the FBA's "No Hats, No Hood, No Sunglasses" program in the interest of the public health, safety, and welfare.

Edward Lavallee - no hat no sunglasses

From: David Persson <dpersson@sarasotalawfirm.com>
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<ELAVALLEE@ci.venice.fl.us...
Date: 3/29/2013 4:53 PM
Subject: no hat no sunglasses

There appears to be a voluntary program in ;Florida...here's what one bank does.

http://www.legacybankfl.com/No_Hats_Press_Release.pdf

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State financial institutions will require hat, sunglass removal

Banks and credit unions in Missouri on May 20 will begin asking customers to remove hats, hoods and sunglasses before entering their building in a new security measure.

The "No Hats, No Hoods, No Sunglasses" program is aimed at discouraging robberies by making it easier to identify thieves.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Missouri Highway Patrol, local law enforcement agencies, the Missouri Bankers Association and the Missouri Credit Union Association are supporting the program

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