**NYC Merchant Interviews: Recruitment Protocol**

**INTRODUCTION**

Hello, my name is <name> and I am calling to speak with a manager or owner of the store.

Hello, this is <name> with RTI International.

I’m calling about a research study that we are conducting on behalf of the Food and Drug Administration. As part of this study, we are speaking with store merchants like yourself to get your thoughts on a New York City ban on flavored tobacco products that was signed into law in October 2009 and went into place in 2011. We’re interested in learning about your opinions of the ban, how you got information about the ban, and any issues that came up when the ban went into place. I’m calling to see if you would be willing to do a brief [*If telephone interview:* telephone] [*If in-person interview*: in-person] interview as part of this project. The interview would be private—no one outside of the research team will know what you say in the interviews. We will not use your name or the name of your store in anything we report. The interview will take about 15 minutes and we will schedule it for a time that is convenient for you. We would like to talk with you when you are in a private location of your choice and we can talk outside of your business hours. To thank you for your time, we’re offering $40.

Would you be willing to do an interview?

\_\_Yes *[Proceed with screening questions]*

\_\_No *[End interview]* READ: Thank you for your time.

**SCREENER**

I have a few questions to make sure that you would be an appropriate person for our interview.

S1. Were you working at or did you own this or a similar store in NYC in October, 2009?

\_\_Yes *[Continue]*

\_\_No *[End interview]*

IF S1 = No, READ: Thank you for your time, but at this time we are only able to do the interviews with managers or owners who have been working at the store since October, 2009 or earlier.

ASK S2 IF WE DO NOT KNOW THE TYPE OF STORE

**S2.** Can you tell me what type of store you work at or own? For example, is it a convenience store, a gas station, grocery store, or mass-merchandiser?

\_\_Convenience store

\_\_Gas Station

\_\_Grocery Store

\_\_Mass-Merchandiser

\_\_OTHER:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**S3.** Would you be comfortable doing the interview in English?

\_\_Yes *[Continue]*

\_\_No *[End interview]*

IF S3 = No, READ: Thank you for your time, but at this time we are only able to do the interviews in English.

**S4.** Are you at least 18 years old?

\_\_Yes *[Continue]*

\_\_No *[End interview]*

IF S4 = No, READ: Thank you for your time, but at this time we are only doing interviews with managers or owners who are at least 18.

**S5**. Does your store currently sell cigarettes and smokeless tobacco products?

\_\_Yes *[Continue]*

\_\_No *[End interview]*

IF S5 = No, READ: Thank you for your time, but at this time we are only doing interviews for stores that sell cigarettes and smokeless tobacco.

**S6.** Are you the store owner or store manager?

\_\_Yes

\_\_No

IF S6 = Yes, SCHEDULE INTERVIEW

IF S6 = No, READ: Thank you for your time, but at this time we are only doing interviews with store owners or managers.

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