

College Operating Procedures (COP)



Procedure Title: Possession of Weapons on Campus
Procedure Number: 08-0828
Originating Department: Public Safety

Specific Authority:

Board Policy 6Hx6:2.07
Florida Statute 1001.64
Florida Administrative Code

Procedure Actions: 02/01/10; 08/10/10; 12/2/14

Purpose Statement: With limited exception, the College prohibits the unlawful possession of weapons on College property and at College events.

Guidelines:

I. PURPOSE & INTENT

In order to maintain a safe academic and workplace environment, Florida SouthWestern State College provides this College Operating Procedure for information and direction regarding the use, storage, and possession of firearms and weapons on Florida SouthWestern State College property and at Florida SouthWestern State College events.

II. STATEMENT OF POLICY

A. Applicability

1. This College Operating Procedure is applicable to all members of the Florida SouthWestern State College community, including all students, faculty, staff, visitors, contractors, and invitees and guests, on or at any Florida SouthWestern State College campus, facility, or event (“Individuals”).

B. Compliance

1. In accordance with Sections 790.115 and 790.251, Florida Statutes, this Policy prohibits Individuals from possessing firearms, electric weapons or devices, destructive devices, or other weapons defined in Sec. 790.001(13), F.S. on or at any Florida SouthWestern State College campus, facility, or event except as otherwise provided by Florida law.
2. In addition to firearms, Chapter 790, Florida Statutes, regulates the possession of all other weapons on or at any Florida SouthWestern State campus, facility,

or event. This policy does not prohibit legitimate work tools required to complete official work on campus.

C. Exceptions

1. It is lawful and not a violation of this College Operating Procedure for law enforcement officers of government agencies, whether on or off duty, who currently are authorized by the employing law enforcement government agency, to possess the firearm on or at any Florida SouthWestern State campus, facility, or event.
2. It is lawful and not a violation of this College Operating Procedure for a person 18 years of age or older to possess a concealed firearm or other weapon for self-defense or other lawful purpose within the interior of a private vehicle (conveyance), with or without a license, if the firearm or other weapon is securely encased or is otherwise not readily accessible for immediate use. In accordance with Section 790.25(5), F.S., this policy does not prohibit the carrying of a legal firearm other than a handgun anywhere in a private vehicle (conveyance) when such firearm is being carried for a lawful use. This exception shall not be construed to authorize the carrying of a concealed firearm or other weapon on the person.
3. It is lawful and not a violation of this College Operating Procedure for the College's armored car vendor, when acting in the course and scope of their college duties, to possess a firearm on a Florida SouthWestern State Campus, or in the event of any other possession of a firearm specifically authorized pursuant to the provisions of Section 790.115, Florida Statutes.
4. Should it be necessary or desirable for the use of firearms in any of the academic programs of the College, then permission for such use must be applied for and granted by the President or designee, Vice President for Administrative Services, and the Provost & Vice President of Academic Affairs.

D. Enforcement

The College will develop administrative procedures to implement this Policy which will include provisions for notification, signage, education and enforcement