CHF (LOCAL)

Concealed Carry and Other General Provisions

The purpose of this policy is to implement Texas Government Code, Section 411.2031, Carrying of Handguns by License Holders on Certain Campuses, at Collin County Community College effective August 1, 2017, and to outline prohibited firearms and weapons on all College District campuses.

Firearms

The College District prohibits the use, possession, or display of a firearm on College property or at a College-sponsored or -related activity in violation of the law or College policies and procedures, unless written authorization is granted in advance by the District President or designee.

Procedures

After consulting with students, staff, and faculty of Collin College regarding the nature of the student population, specific safety considerations, and the uniqueness of Collin College, the District President has established the following rules regarding the carrying of concealed handguns by license holders on the campuses of Collin College:

- 1. Only individuals with a valid License to Carry a Handgun (LTC) issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety, under Texas Government Code Chapter 411, Subchapter H, as well as licenses* from other states, the validity of which is recognized by the state of Texas, may carry a concealed handgun on or about his or her person on the property of the College. *Licenses are collectively referred to as LTC herein.
- 2. The College prohibits the use, possession, or display of any illegal knife, club, or prohibited weapons, as defined by the Texas Penal Code and described in CHF(LEGAL), on College property or at a College-sponsored or -related activity, unless written authorization is granted in advance by the District President or designee.
- 3. While on College campuses, it is the responsibility of the holder of the LTC to conceal the handgun so that it is not partially or wholly visible to another person.
- 4. While on a College campus, an LTC holder who is in possession of a handgun must keep that handgun on or about his or her person or in a locked vehicle, as permitted by law.
- 5. Handguns may not be stored overnight on College campuses, unless in a locked, privately owned or leased motor vehicle.
- Possession of a handgun on College property while intoxicated, under the influence of illegal drugs, or while taking prescription drugs that impair judgment or physical abilities is prohibited.

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- This policy applies to persons traveling in College-owned vehicles. However, the policies of the owner of the vehicle apply when private or commercial transportation is used for Collin College travel.
- 8. Individuals who do not possess a valid LTC are prohibited from possessing a handgun on College campuses.
- This policy applies to all students, staff, faculty, and visitors of the College, except for law enforcement officers licensed by a state of the United States or a federal agency and School Marshals licensed by the State of Texas and appointed by the Collin College Board of Trustees.
- 10. Open carry of a handgun on a campus of the College is restricted to law enforcement officers licensed by a state of the United States or a federal agency.
- Students and employees of the College, with the exception of police officers employed by the College, shallwill not inquire as to whether any person is carrying a concealed weapon or possesses an LTC.
- 12. The storage or transportation of a firearm or ammunition is allowed by College students, faculty, staff, and employees if the individual is authorized to such possession in a locked, privately owned or leased motor vehicle on those specific premises allowed by law and described in CHF(LEGAL).

Other Weapons

All other weapons are strictly prohibited for students, staff, faculty, and visitors on College property or at any College-sponsored or -related activity, including, but not limited to, long guns, location-restricted knives, brass knuckles, clubs, explosives, fireworks of any kind, incendiary devices, instruments designed to expel a projectile with the use of pressurized air, such as a BB gun, martial arts throwing stars, or any weapons described in CHF(LEGAL). An exception is authorized for the limited purpose of honor guards who carry ceremonial swords (e.g., Military Ball) at a Collin College-sponsored event. The possession or use of articles not generally considered to be weapons may be prohibited when the District President or designee determines that a danger exists for any student, College District employee, or College District property by virtue of possession or use.

Possession of other weapons on College campuses is grounds for immediate disciplinary action and possible prosecution for violations of state law.

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Exclusion Zones

Possession of a handgun is prohibited on Collin College campuses in the following locations by any person except law enforcement officers licensed by a state of the United States or a federal agency. These locations shallwill be appropriately identified by signage as specified under Sections 30.06 and 30.07 of the Texas Penal Code:

- Child-care facilities.
- 2. Polling locations.
- 3. In the room or rooms where a meeting of a governmental entity is held, and if the meeting is an open meeting subject to Chapter 551, Government Code, and notice as required by that chapter is provided.
- High-hazard laboratories and health science education facilities where the presence of high-hazard materials or operations creates a significant risk of catastrophic harm due to a negligent discharge.
- 5. Designated meeting room(s) at each campus in Student and Enrollment Services that can be used, as needed, for disciplinary meetings or counseling meetings.
- 6. Facilities where professional, high school, college sporting, or interscholastic events are in progress.
- 7. Locker and dressing rooms where individuals change clothes, including those at athletic, theatre, and health science education facilities.
- 8. Any location or facility of Collin College, as directed or approved by the District President as necessary for campus safety, where effective notice on a temporary basis pursuant to Sections 30.06 and 30.07, Texas Penal Code, has been given by the required signage. An example might include a College facility where alcohol is being served for a special event.
- 9. A violation of these specific prohibitions is considered an offense under Section 46.035(a-3), Texas Penal Code.

Violations

Violations of this policy should be reported immediately to the Collin College Police Department at (972) 578-5555. Such violations may result in disciplinary action by Collin College up to and including criminal prosecution for violation of the Texas Penal Code.

Employees and students found to be in violation of this policy shallwill be subject to disciplinary action. [See DH, FM, and FMA]

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Reporting

Not later than September 1 of even-numbered years, Collin College shallwill submit a report to the Texas State Legislature and to the standing committees of the legislature with jurisdiction over the implementation and continuation of Section 411.2031, Texas Government Code that:

- Describes the Collin College rules, regulations, or other provisions regarding the carrying of concealed handguns on the campuses of Collin College; and
- Explains the reasons the institution has established these provisions.

Safety Committee

The District President shallwill appoint a standing committee, the Collin College Safety Committee that is chaired by the Executive Vice President and includes representatives from the administration, faculty, staff, and student government. The committee shallwill be charged with meeting as needed, but at least once each fall and spring semester to review the College's policy, any new legislation and legal decisions relating to this issue, and the effectiveness of the implementation of the College's policy. Advisory notes and recommendations from the committee shallwill be forwarded for review and consideration by the Executive Leadership Team, District President, and Board of Trustees, as necessary.