NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS COLLEGE 049500

SITE MANAGEMENT WEAPONS CHF (LOCAL)

SCOPE

The North Central Texas Community College District is committed to protecting the health and safety of the College District community, while respecting the right of license holders to carry a concealed handgun where so permitted by law.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide reasonable rules and regulations regarding the concealed carry of handguns by license holders on the property of the College District. Nothing in this policy shall be construed in a manner that generally prohibits or has the effect of generally prohibiting license holders from carrying concealed handguns on College District property. The President shall ensure that appropriate signage, notice, and other operational matters are provided in accordance with this policy.

APPLICABILITY

This policy applies to all faculty, staff, students, guests, visitors, and individuals and organizations doing business with or on behalf of the College District on College District property. It does not apply to commissioned peace officers as defined in Article 2.12 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedures.

DEFINITIONS

- 1. <u>Concealed Carry</u>: For the purposes of this policy, a handgun shall be considered concealed if it is not openly discernible (noticeable) through ordinary observation.
- 2. <u>Display of a Handgun</u>: The knowing or intentional display of a handgun in the plain view of a person, even if holstered.
- 3. <u>Handgun</u>: For purposes of this policy, a handgun has the meaning assigned by Texas Penal Code 46.01(5), any firearm that is designed, made, or adapted to be fired with one hand. The definition does not include rifles or shotguns, which are prohibited by law and College District policy.
- 4. <u>Intentional</u>: A person acts intentionally when it is his or her conscious objective or desire to engage in specific conduct or cause a specific result.
- 5. <u>Interscholastic Event</u>: For purposes of this policy, an interscholastic event is any function, program, or contest between primary or secondary schools or representatives thereof.
- 6. **Knowing**: A person acts knowingly with respect to his or her conduct or to circumstances surrounding his or her conduct when he or she is aware of the nature of his or her conduct or that the circumstances exist. A person acts knowingly with respect to a result of his or her conduct when he or she is aware that his or her conduct is reasonably certain to cause the result.

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- 7. <u>Lessee</u>: A person or entity who acquires the right to possess and use goods under a lease.
- 8. <u>License Holder</u>: A person licensed-to-carry a handgun (formerly called a Concealed Handgun License holder) by the Texas Department of Public Safety under Chapter 411 of the Texas Government Code.
- 9. On or about One's Person: A license holder must carry a handgun in a manner that the handgun is within such distance or proximity that the person could reach it without materially changing his or her position.
- 10. **Open Carry**: The carry of a partially or wholly visible handgun stored in a shoulder or belt holster in plain or partial view and in a public place.
- 11. **Polling Place**: The portion of the College District premises in which voting occurs on the day of an election or while early voting is in progress.
- 12. **Premises**: A building or portion of a building. Unless otherwise provided by law or this policy, the term does not include any public or private driveway, street, sidewalk or walkway, parking lot, parking garage or other parking area.
- 13. **Property**: All land and buildings, and portions of buildings owned or leased by the College District.

CONCEALED CARRY

An individual who is a license holder may carry a concealed handgun on or about his or her person on the property of the College District, unless such carry is otherwise prohibited by law or this policy. When a license holder is prohibited by law or this policy from carrying a concealed handgun on a portion of College District property, the license holder may, in accordance with section 52.061 of the Texas Labor Code, secure the handgun in a locked privately owned or leased motor vehicle.

A license holder who elects to carry a concealed handgun on College District property is responsible for knowing where concealed carry is prohibited, where notice of such prohibition is not required, and for complying with applicable state laws related to the carry of a concealed handgun.

DISPLAY OF HANDGUN

The intentional or knowing display of a handgun by a license holder in the plain view of another person, even if holstered, is strictly prohibited, at all times, on the property of the College District, including on any public driveway, street, sidewalk, walkway, parking lot, parking garage, or other parking area.

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UNLICENSED / OPEN CARRY The carry of a handgun by an unlicensed person and the open carry of a handgun by all persons, including a license holder, is strictly prohibited, at all times, on the property of the College District, including on any public driveway, street, sidewalk, walkway, parking lot, parking garage, or other parking area.

INTOXICATION

A license holder may not carry a concealed handgun on College District property while intoxicated.

REQUIREMENT TO DISPLAY LICENSE

A license holder who is carrying a concealed handgun on or about his or her person must display his or her driver's license (or identification certificate issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety) and the license-to-carry when so directed by a College District police officer.

Except as required by law, an individual is not required to disclose whether he or she is a license holder in order to participate in a program or receive a service offered by the College District.

RIGHT TO DISARM

A College District police officer, acting in the lawful discharge of his or her official duties, may disarm a license holder at any time he or she deems such action reasonably necessary for the protection of the license holder, officer, or another individual.

EXCLUSION ZONES

A license holder is prohibited from carrying a concealed handgun in those locations of the College District where such prohibition is required by law or is necessary based on the nature of the student population, specific safety concerns, or the uniqueness of the College District environment. Any building or portion of a building identified as an exclusion zone shall have the appropriate notice posted in compliance with Chapter 30 of the Texas Penal Code.

CHILD-CARE CENTERS

In accordance with Chapter 746 of the Texas Administrative Code, concealed handguns are prohibited on the premises of a facility licensed, certified, or registered by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services.

POLLING PLACE

As provided by Texas Penal Code 46.03(a)(2), concealed handguns are prohibited on the premises of the College District designated as polling places on the day of an election (federal, state, or local) or while early voting is in progress.

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ON CAMPUS HOUSING

A concealed handgun may be carried or stored in campus housing as set out in this policy. Any time a handgun in a campus housing facility is not in the immediate care, custody, or control of the owner, that handgun must be stored within secure gun storage. No gun storage will be provided by the College District; however, secure gun storage safes may be rented through the Residence Life Office for use in campus housing. This policy applies to all residents as well as live-in staff in any campus facility designed for housing or overnight stay.

- 1. Exclusion Zones for Camps and Special Events with Minors: Concealed handguns are prohibited in designated campus housing buildings during certain periods including, but not limited to, the time between the spring and fall semesters when the facility hosts events or camps attended by minors.
- 2. <u>Residents</u>: A license holder who resides in campus housing may carry a concealed handgun into campus housing and may store the weapon in his or her assigned residential room except during periods when the facility hosts special events attended by minors.
 - a) A resident who brings a concealed handgun into campus housing pursuant to this policy must carry the weapon on his or her person at all times or store it in his or her assigned room within secure gun storage.
 - b) A handgun may be stored only in a residential room, and in a locked container rented from and installed by the College District.
 - c) A resident may not intentionally or knowingly display a handgun in plain view of another person in campus housing except as necessary to properly store the weapon in his or her assigned residential room.
 - d) A student who is assigned to a residential room in campus housing where a firearm is stored and is concerned about his or her wellbeing may request a transfer to another residential room through the regular housing process with no penalty.
- 3. Non-Residents: A license holder who does not reside in campus housing may carry a concealed handgun into campus housing except during periods when the facility hosts special events attended by minors. The handgun must be carried on or about the non-resident's person at all times and may not be stored in a campus housing room.

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4. **Responsible for Personal Injury or Damage**. A resident or non-resident whose possession, use, or storage of a handgun results in personal injury or property damage is personally liable for the injury or damage.

SPORTING OR INTERSCHOLASTIC EVENTS

Concealed handguns are prohibited:

- 1. On the premises of the College District where a high school, collegiate, or professional sporting event or interscholastic event is taking place, unless the handgun is used in the event by a license holder who is a participant in the event, as set forth in section 46.035(b)(2) of the Texas Penal Code;
 - a) Where a sports club or intramural athletic event is taking place; and/or
 - b) At a location where an athletic/sports activity is taking place and a majority of the participants in the activity are under age 18.

BOARD MEETINGS

In accordance with section 46.035(c), concealed handguns are prohibited in the room or rooms where a meeting of the College District Board of Regents is held and if the meeting is an open meeting subject to Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

ATHLETICS FACILITIES

Concealed handguns are prohibited on the premises of the College District used to facilitate, instruct, or provide a physical exercise program, activity, or event. This prohibition includes but is not limited to gymnasiums, physical fitness labs or centers, swimming pools, shower areas, recreational and/or sports courts, baseball and softball fields, saunas, whirlpool baths, locker rooms, weight rooms and equipment rooms located within or in immediate proximity to a location used for such a purpose.

COLLEGE DISTRICT VEHICLES

Concealed handguns are prohibited in a vehicle owned or leased by the College District and used by an employee of the College District in the course and scope of the employee's employment, unless the employee is required to transport or store a firearm in the official discharge of the employee's duties.

TESTING CENTER

Concealed handguns are prohibited in the portions of designated testing centers where the College District conducts proctored testing. Secure storage for handguns will not be made available by the College District.

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OTHER ZONES

- a) <u>Designated Space</u>: Concealed handguns are prohibited where the College District defines a designated meeting space with appropriate notice posted for any student, faculty, or staff member who wishes to utilize a space where concealed handguns are prohibited. This space shall not be larger than a board, conference, or meeting room and shall not serve to generally prohibit concealed carry throughout a campus facility.
- b) By Law or Contract: Concealed handguns are prohibited where state or federal law, licensing requirements, or contract, at the sole discretion of the state or federal government or contracting entity, requires such exclusion and the exclusion does not generally prohibit or have the effect of generally prohibiting license holders from carrying concealed handguns on College District property. Exclusion areas under this provision may include certain leased spaces on College District property, as determined by the lessee.
- c) Event-Specific: Concealed handguns may be prohibited at events where alcohol is served or large-scale and/or ticketed events of the College District for which the carry of concealed handguns poses heightened safety concerns, or is prohibited by contract or lease agreement (See paragraph (b)). This prohibition includes, but is not limited to, College and High School graduations. This determination is made at the discretion of the President and/or Chief of Police.
- d) <u>Administrative Hearings</u>: Concealed handguns are prohibited in locations of the College District when and where formal grade disputes, disciplinary proceedings and/or grievance proceedings are conducted pursuant to established employee and student discipline/grievance procedures.
- e) <u>Case-by-Case</u>: Concealed handguns may be prohibited on a case-by-case basis, in any location and/or for a period of time as deemed reasonably necessary by the President, Chief of Police, or a designee to ensure the safety of the College District community. The following factors may give rise to a temporary prohibition of concealed handguns under this provision:
 - 1. An activity that due to its subject matter or history is likely to incite violence;
 - 2. An activity or program, where, due to the presence of alcohol, a specific threat of violence, the uniqueness of the environment, or other safety considerations a reasonable threat to the health or safety of the College District community exists.

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- 3. Periods in which it reasonably appears that there is a threat of destruction to College District property, of injury to human life, or a threat of willful disruption of orderly operation of the College District.
- 4. Upon receipt of a credible information of imminent injury to human life or destruction to College District property.

NOTICE

The College District shall provide notice, as prescribed by section 30.06 of the Texas Penal Code, at all locations and activities where concealed handguns are prohibited by this policy and/or law, and may post notice where handguns are expressly prohibited but where notice is not required by law. The language of the notice shall not be altered in any way unless such alteration is made by an authorized individual and revision is required to comply with state law.

An individual who, without authorization, alters, modifies, tampers with, defaces, or removes notice provided pursuant to this policy may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion, termination of employment or a business relationship, or criminal prosecution.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Individuals found to be in violation of this policy may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion, termination of employment, severance of a business relationship, and/or criminal prosecution.

AMENDING POLICY

As provided for by law, the President may, at her/his discretion, amend the provisions of this policy as necessary for campus safety, which shall take effect as determined by the President unless subsequently amended by the Board of Regents.

REPORTING TO LEGISLATURE

Not later than September 1 of each even-numbered year, the College District shall submit a report to the legislature that:

- 1. describes its rules, regulations, or other provisions regarding the carrying of concealed handguns on the campus of the institution; and
- 2. explains the reasons the institution has established those provisions.