



34.06.02.D1 Carrying Concealed Handguns on Campus

Approved: April 27, 2016 (Effective August 1, 2016)

Next Scheduled Review: April 27, 2019

Rule Statement

Texas A&M University-Central Texas (A&M-Central Texas) is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for the A&M-Central Texas community and its guests.

On the effective date of August 1, 2016, SB 11 (Act) generally authorizes a handgun license holder to carry a concealed handgun on the campus of an institution of higher education, subject to an institution's rules adopted in accordance with the Act.

In compliance with the provisions of the act, an institution may create a rule that prohibits concealed carry from specific campus areas or activities as long as the rule does not generally prohibit or have the effect of generally prohibiting concealed carry of handguns by license holders.

A&M-Central Texas has consequently elected to designate a single campus area where the concealed carry of handguns by license holders will be prohibited. That area is the university's Counseling Center, including the co-located Community Counseling and Family Therapy Center.

Reason for Rule

This rule is intended to affirm the intent of A&M-Central Texas to comply with all provisions of SB 11 while justifying its designation of the university's Counseling Center, including the co-located Community Counseling and Family Therapy Center as a campus area where the concealed carry of handguns by license holders will be prohibited.

Justification for this designation is based upon the wide variety of clients treated in the Center who come from all walks of life, with some experiencing extreme emotional distress, psychosis, depression, and anxiety often verbalizing suicidal ideations. The Center also serves families and young children; some of whom have been victims of family violence or other forms of abuse. The ability of the Center to provide a nurturing, and non-threatening environment for clients, faculty, staff, and students is essential.

Procedures and Responsibilities

1. GENERAL

- 1.1. This rule applies to all employees, students, persons conducting business, or individuals visiting the A&M-Central Texas campus.
- 1.2. The university president established this rule after consulting with students, staff, and faculty of A&M-Central Texas about the nature of the student population, specific safety considerations, and the uniqueness of the campus environment. This rule was reviewed by the system board of regents as required by law.
- 1.3. A handgun license holder under Chapter 411, Texas Government Code, may carry a concealed handgun on or about the license holder's person while the license holder is on the campus of A&M-Central Texas or an A&M-Central Texas vehicle, unless prohibited by state or federal law, or this rule. The open carrying of a handgun on campus is prohibited. Licensed peace officers are authorized by law to carry firearms at all times.
- 1.4. A&M-Central Texas enforces state law regulating firearms on campus, and that enforcement occurs in two ways. First, university police or other applicable law enforcement agencies will investigate and take appropriate action, including referral for criminal prosecution when violations occur. Second, A&M-Central Texas will consider any violation of state law regulating firearms to be a violation of university rules. Accordingly, such a violation is subject to disciplinary action under rules applicable to its students, faculty, and staff.

2. RULES APPLICABLE TO CARRYING A CONCEALED HANDGUN ON CAMPUS

2.1. State Law Prohibitions

A license holder is responsible for complying with the applicable state law prohibitions. See Appendix.

2.2. Federal Law Prohibitions

A license holder is responsible for complying with the applicable federal law prohibitions.

2.3. Other Prohibited Campus Premises

A license holder is also prohibited from carrying a concealed handgun in the following campus premises:

2.3.1 on the premises of the A&M-Central Texas Counseling Center, including the co-located Community Counseling and Family Therapy Center;

2.3.2 on any premises where the university, as directed or approved by the president as necessary for campus safety, gives effective notice on a temporary basis pursuant to Section 30.06, Penal Code. For this rule, the term "owner of the property" in Section 30.06(b), Penal Code, means the president of the university. No university employee is "someone with apparent authority to act for the owner" for purposes of Section 30.06(b), Penal Code. All notices under Section 30.06, Penal Code, will be institutional notice, conform to Sections 46.03 and 46.035, Penal Code, and apply equally to all handgun license holders; and

2.3.3 on any campus premises leased by the university to a third party, if the third party determines to prohibit the concealed carry of handguns on the premises and provides effective notice pursuant to Section 30.06, Penal Code.

2.4. At all premises where concealed carry is prohibited, A&M-Central Texas must give effective notice under Section 30.06, Penal Code.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

[System Regulation 34.02.06, Weapons](#)

Definitions

Campus – means all land and buildings owned or leased by Texas A&M University-Central Texas.

Premises – means a building or portion of a building. The term does not include any public or private driveway, street, sidewalk or walkway, parking lot, parking garage, or other parking area.

Appendix

[Texas Statutory Prohibitions](#)

Contact Office

Public Safety
254-501-5801



August 25, 2016

"Pursuant to Section 30.06, Penal Code, Dr. Marc Nigliazzo, President of Texas A&M University-Central Texas, has approved the prohibition of handguns temporarily in the Testing Center, in accordance with the requirements of the third party testing agency, for every instance of testing at the Testing Center with ETS and Castle World Wide." A&M-Central Texas rule 34.06.02.D1 Carrying Concealed Handguns on Campus is available to view at <https://www.tamuct.edu/departments/compliance/rules-and-saps.php>.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Marc A. Nigliazzo". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Marc A. Nigliazzo, Ph.D.
President
Texas A&M University-Central Texas