



Weapons Prohibition

Purpose

This policy provides rules and regulations concerning the possession of weapons on the university campus and in all facilities and locations owned, leased, or operated by Hollins University, in an effort to provide a safe and secure learning and working environment for all students, employees, dependants, guests, and visitors.

Definitions

Weapon: Defined as, but not limited to, any pistol, revolver, long gun, other firearms, or other device designed or intended to propel a missile of any kind, to include a pellet or common BB; any device such as a bow and arrow or crossbow; any dirk, bowie knife, switchblade knife, ballistic knife, pocket knife or other instrument commonly known as an “edged weapon”, with a blade in excess of three inches; any straight razor; any slingshot, spring stick, metal knuckles, blackjack, or any flailing instrument consisting of two or more rigid parts connected in such a manner as to allow them to swing freely, which may be known as nun-chuck, shuriken, or fighting chain; any disc, of whatever configuration, having at least two points or pointed blades which are designed to be thrown or propelled and which may be known as a throwing star or oriental dart; and any hunting boomerang.

Applicability

This policy applies to all Hollins University employees, dependants, students, guests, visitors and contracted service representatives and to all property owned, leased, operated or controlled by Hollins University.

Policy

No person shall carry, maintain, or store a weapon as defined in this policy, concealed or otherwise, on any property owned, leased, or controlled by Hollins University. This policy applies to weapons carried about the person and maintenance or storage of any weapon in any university facility, building, residence hall, or within any parked or moving vehicle on university premises.

This policy further restricts state law set out in section 18.2-308: Personal protection; carrying concealed weapons; when lawful to carry, of the Code of Virginia. Section 15.2-915: Control of firearms; applicability to authorities and local governmental agencies, does not apply to Hollins University and therefore allows the university to prohibit ‘open carry’ and ‘concealed carry’ weapons on university properties. Vehicles found on university property that contain firearms are subject to removal from university property.

Procedures

General Information

Weapons discovered on university premises in violation of this policy may be seized by Campus Security. Weapons that are prohibited by federal or state law will be turned over to Roanoke County police for prosecution. Items that are used as weapons on property owned or operated by



the university, whether or not they fit the definition above, will also be subject to seizure and turned over for prosecution.

Prop weapons and facsimiles

Any item that appears to be a weapon and that is utilized for any purpose on university property must be reported to and approved by campus security officials prior to being used in any activity. Examples include, but are not limited to, props used in plays, and props or weapons used in class presentations or projects.

Storage and related procedures

Weapons (unloaded, disabled, and facsimile) used for demonstration and educational purposes are to be stored at the campus security department until time of class or demonstration, and then removed from the campus as soon as possible. All such weapons are to be carried or transported in hard or soft case enclosures.

Sanctions

Community members violating any rule or regulation of the university may be disciplined under the Standards of Conduct section of the Employee Information Handbook, if Faculty or Staff, or under the Student Handbook, section on Student Conduct and Social Responsibility, if a student. Violation of these rules and regulations by non-community members may result in their being removed from campus and/or barred from future visits to the university.

Exclusions

The provisions of this section shall not apply to (i) any law enforcement officer, (ii) a person possessing a knife customarily used for food preparation or service and using it for such purpose, (iii) persons who possess such weapon or weapons as a part of any program sponsored or facilitated by either the university or any organization authorized by the university to conduct its programs either on or off the university premises, (iv) persons who possess such weapon or weapons as a part of the university's curriculum or activities, (v) any person who possesses a knife or blade which he uses customarily in his trade, (vi) university employees, if the firearm is registered with Campus Security and safely stored in their residence under current state statutes, or if transporting the firearm to or from places specified under state statutes, and is unloaded and cased while on university properties, or (vii) HU Security Officers, as authorized by department manual.

Interpretation

The authority to interpret this policy rests with the President, and is generally delegated to the Vice President for Finance and Administration.

Revised: July 1, 2008