



Policy on Deadly Weapons (Approved by the Board of Trustees)

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I. Introduction

In Kentucky Revised Statute §237.115, the Kentucky General Assembly explicitly recognizes the authority of the University to control the possession of deadly weapons on any property owned, leased or controlled by the University, including the right to prohibit possession of such weapons by any person or entity using University property or premises. This regulations establishes the University's deadly weapons policy.

II. Entities Affected

This Administrative Regulation applies to all members of the University Community, including faculty, staff, students, and visitors.

III. Definition of Deadly Weapon

For purposes of this regulation, "deadly weapon" means:

- A. A weapon of mass destruction;
- B. Any weapon from which a shot, readily capable of producing death or other serious physical injury, may be discharged;
- C. Any knife other than an ordinary pocket knife or hunting knife;
- D. Billy, nightstick, or club;
- E. Blackjack or slapjack;

- F. Nunchaku karate sticks;
- G. Shuriken or death star; and,
- H. Artificial knuckles made from metal, plastic, or other similar hard material.

IV. Policy

Except as provided in Subsection V below of this regulation, deadly weapons are prohibited on any property owned, leased, or controlled by the University, including but not limited to the following: classrooms, laboratories, residence halls, hospitals and clinics, office buildings, performance halls, museums, athletics and recreation facilities, farms and forests, parking lots and structures, University owned vehicles, and all outdoor areas of the campus of any unit of the University.

V. Exceptions

The following are exceptions to this policy:

- A. Possession of deadly weapons by peace officers acting in the course of official duties;
- B. Possession of deadly weapons as a part of legitimate academic, athletic, or work-related activities (e.g., historical preservation, law enforcement training, ROTC activities, 4-H marksmanship training, rifle team, etc.);
- C. Possession of deadly weapons by persons holding valid permits issued by the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources for use in the Robinson Forest Wildlife Management Area;
- D. Possession of a deadly weapon by a person licensed to carry a concealed deadly weapon pursuant to KRS 237.110, if the firearm or other deadly weapon is contained in a motor vehicle (private or University-owned) and is not removed from the vehicle (KRS 527.020(4) and 237.110(17));
- E. Possession of a deadly weapon if it is located in a non-University motor vehicle and in an enclosed container, compartment, or storage space installed as original equipment in the motor vehicle by its manufacturer, including but not limited to a glove compartment, center console, or seat pocket, regardless of whether said enclosed container, storage space, or compartment is locked, unlocked, or does not have a locking mechanism (KRS 527.020(8));
- F. Possession of a deadly weapon by persons who are specifically authorized* by KRS 527.020 to carry concealed deadly weapons on or about their persons at all times and at all locations within the Commonwealth. Such persons include but are not limited to: Commonwealth's attorneys, judges of the Court of Justice, conservations officers of the Department of Fish and Wildlife, elected sheriffs, and peace officers from other jurisdictions.
 - * For a complete listing of persons authorized to carry concealed deadly weapons within the Commonwealth of Kentucky and the conditions for which the carrying of the deadly weapon is authorized, see KRS 527.020.
- G.. Possession of deadly weapons by a person specifically authorized to have such possession by the President, or his or her designee, but only if such person fully complies with any and all restrictions imposed upon such possession by the President, or his or her designee.

VI. Violations

- A. Students who possess deadly weapons in violation of this prohibition are guilty of violations of the Code of Student Conduct and are subject to disciplinary action under that Code, including expulsion from the University, and all other appropriate legal actions.
- B. Faculty and staff employees who possess deadly weapons in violation of this prohibition are guilty of misconduct and subject to corrective action under Governing and Administrative Regulations, including termination of employment and all other appropriate legal actions.
- C. Others who possess deadly weapons in violation of this prohibition shall be directed to remove their weapons or themselves from the University's property or premises and shall be subject to all other appropriate legal actions.

References and Related Materials

KRS 237.110 License to carry concealed deadly weapon

KRS 237.115 Construction of KRS 237.110 -- Prohibition by local government units of carrying concealed deadly weapons in governmental buildings -- Restriction on criminal penalties

KRS 500.080 Definitions for Kentucky Penal Code

KRS 527.020 Carrying concealed deadly weapons

Revision History

6/11/1996, 6/12/2007, 6/19/2012

For questions, contact: [Office of Legal Counsel](#)