



SNU POLICY: WEAPONS ON SNU PREMISES

SNU POLICY ID: General Information A-15

Policy Reviewed by: SNU Department of Public Safety and Risk Management

Approval Authority: Chief Financial Officer & Vice President for Business Affairs

Approval Date: July 7, 2022

Next Review Date: July 1, 2027

Policy

In accordance with Oklahoma state statutes, Southern Nazarene University (SNU or University) strictly prohibits the possession or use of a weapon on SNU Premises by anyone, including but not limited to employees, students, or guest, unless that possession or use falls within the exceptions section of this Policy. Students and employees also have a duty to report violations of this Policy to the SNU Department of Public Safety, Director of Human Resources, Dean of Students, or Office of Student Life.

Definitions

Weapon is defined as any pistol, revolver, shotgun or rifle, whether loaded or unloaded, or any imitation or toy gun, airsoft or pellet gun, or any electronic control devices commonly known as Tasers, or any machete, dagger, bowie knife, dirk knife, switchblade knife, spring-type knife, sword cane, knife having a blade which opens automatically by hand pressure applied to a button, spring, or other device in the handle of the knife, blackjack, loaded cane, billy club, hand chain, metal knuckles, any knife with a blade measured greater than 4 inches, or any other offensive weapon, whether such weapon be concealed or unconcealed.

Possession includes, but is not limited to, carrying a weapon upon any person, whether concealed or unconcealed, and storage of a weapon in offices, classrooms, work areas, residential facilities, lockers, bags or backpacks, desks, briefcases, or any other similar manner.

SNU Premises includes all the lands, buildings, and facilities of Southern Nazarene University, whether owned or leased, and whether located in the United States or abroad, including designated university student and guest housing.

Exceptions

Properties owned by SNU but that may be rented out or otherwise leased to non-SNU employees or students or for purposes not directly related to SNU's educational mission and business are exceptions to this policy.

SNU Department of Public Safety officers and other law enforcement officers authorized by the State of Oklahoma or any of its political subdivisions, or authorized by the federal government, to carry a firearm, if they are in uniform or carrying the firearm in compliance with law and the policies established by their employing departments will be exceptions to this policy.

A person may possess or carry personal protection chemical spray devices, which contain a small, limited amount of defensive spray, (e.g., key chain sprays, small containers) intended, reserved, and used solely for defensive purposes.

Tools possessed and used in accordance with direct job duties or departmental policies may be possessed, carried, and used in accordance with those duties or policies.

The use of disabled stage firearms and other stage weapons used in theatrical performances will be exceptions to this policy, provided they are inspected and approved in advance and in writing, by the SNU Department of Public Safety Director/Chief of Police or designee.

The use of firearms or other weapons used in a classroom or training environment for a specific teaching purpose will be exceptions to this policy, provided they are under the supervision of a qualified instructor, disabled, unloaded, and approved in advance and in writing, by the SNU Department of Public Safety Director/Chief of Police or designee.

Reporting Information About Weapons or Concerns of Violence

SNU expects all members and visitors to SNU premises to help maintain safety and security at the University and at university-sponsored activities off campus.

All persons who have knowledge of weapons on SNU premises have an obligation to report that knowledge promptly to the SNU Department of Public Safety.

All persons concerned about a situation that is potentially violent have an obligation to report that concern promptly to the SNU Department of Public Safety, to the Dean of Students Office, or to a supervisor.

All persons concerned about an imminent threat of violence or about the imminent destruction of property have an obligation to report that concern immediately to the SNU Department of Public Safety or to other appropriate law enforcement agencies by dialing 911.

Disciplinary Actions Related to Unauthorized Possession or Use of Weapons

Any violation of municipal, state, or federal statute or otherwise criminal act related to the possession or use of a weapon on SNU premises will be investigated by the law enforcement agency having appropriate jurisdiction and tried through the court system with appropriate authority.

Any employee or student found to be violating this policy in a way that does not rise to the level of a violation of municipal, state, or federal statute will be subject to SNU disciplinary or judicial processes through the SNU department of Human Resources, office of the Dean of Students/Student Life and subject to penalties up to and possibly including termination of employment or dismissal from the university.

Any guest or vendor found in violation of this policy will be required to remove the weapon from SNU premises and comply with the policy or be required to leave SNU premises themselves and possibly discontinue services and a business relationship with SNU.