

Weapons on Hospital Property

Title: Weapons on Hospital Policy
Filed As: Emergency and Safety
Owner: Director of Security
Policy #: ESP-59

Policy Statement

To delineate action to be taken when weapons are discovered or suspected to be on Hospital property. The basic premise of the Policy is that [REDACTED] Hospital has an obligation to provide a safe environment for all that come to our facilities.

Attachments - None Applicable

Rationale

The carrying of any weapon(s), whether under permit or not, is strictly prohibited on Hospital property, with the exceptions of police officers and armored car couriers acting in the official capacity of their offices.

The weapons referred to here, include, but are not limited to: handguns, rifles, knives, brass knuckles, a black jack, chains, explosive devices, or anything else that is intended to be used to inflict bodily harm.

This Policy applies to patients, visitors, volunteers, and employees at the Hospital, [REDACTED], and all Hospital-operated facilities. Hospital personnel may refuse to render services to persons carrying a weapon until arrangements are made for the safekeeping of that weapon to ensure proper security of the weapon.

Definitions - None Applicable

Process

1. When a staff member sees a weapon or suspects the presence of a weapon, she/he must report it to Hospital Security immediately to ensure proper security of the weapons.
 - A. The individual will be asked to secure the weapon for safekeeping in the gun locker. Off Site Locations are to ask the patient to leave and find a means of securing the weapon. Weapons are not to be secured in areas not designed for weapons security.
 - B. If there is a reason to believe that to make this request would endanger the employee or others, assistance will be requested from the Local Police Department.
 - C. If the weapon is surrendered voluntarily, it will be secured in a gun locker until the owner departs the facility.
 - D. An Incident Report will be made out by the Security Department and forwarded to the Quality Assessment/Risk Management Department. The Director of Security and/or Security Supervisor will be notified immediately by Security personnel.

2. Security personnel are entitled to search all areas of Hospital property and confiscate any weapon(s) found. Before conducting such a search, authorization will be obtained from Hospital Supervisor or Security Director.

Forms - None Applicable

Checklist/Job Aids - None Applicable

References

The Joint Commission

Chronological History

Adopted 7/95. Reviewed 9/04, 10/04, 10/07, 3/11, **04/21/20**. Revised: 8/98, 9/01, 3/11, 08/19.