



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY AND AIR FORCE
JOINT FORCES HEADQUARTERS
TENNESSEE NATIONAL GUARD
HOUSTON BARRACKS, PO BOX, 41502
NASHVILLE, TN 37204-1502

NGTN-TAG

4 October 2011

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Privately Owned Weapons Policy

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to clarify the Military Department of Tennessee's Policy concerning privately owned weapons at National Guard facilities across the state. Our intent is to maintain a safe and secure working environment for all employees while complying with current state and federal guidance concerning privately owned weapons at National Guard facilities. Privately owned weapons at all National Guard facilities, property, and installations are banned. T.C.A. 39-17-1359(a) provides that a state or federal government entity is authorized to prohibit the possession of weapons by any person otherwise authorized by 39-17-1351 - 39-17-1360 at meetings conducted by, or on property owned by or managed by the government entity. Failure to comply with this prohibition could lead to criminal prosecution as a criminal act under state law and may subject the violator to a fine and/or permanent ban from the property.

a. Employees who are found in possession of firearms or knives longer than 6 inches while on or attempting to enter National Guard property will be asked to leave the property and will not be allowed back onto the property until they return without their privately owned weapon. Employees found in violation of the firearm policy will also be reported to his/her commander or supervisor who will notify the State or Base Physical Security Officer. Security personnel will record the name of the individual with the weapon, type of weapon, serial number of weapon, permit status, unit of the person (if military), and reason for visit to the location. The Physical Security Officer or Security Police will generate a report for the Commander or Command Administrative Officer. Repeat offenders may be subject to discipline through their chain of supervision due to policy violation.

b. Personnel unaware of the privately owned weapons policy visiting a National Guard facility, carrying a weapon, may be allowed to temporarily store a weapon in a National Guard storage facility provided there is a capability to secure it. Discretion on whether or not to secure and store privately owned weapons for visitors will rest with security personnel or the senior military person on site at the time the weapon is discovered. In cases where a privately owned weapon is stored by National Guard personnel or their representative, local procedures will be established to maintain proper chain of custody and accountability of the weapon. The name of the individual, weapon type, serial number, purpose and location of visit, and permit status will be recorded when weapons are temporarily stored.

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c. Law enforcement/security personnel performing law enforcement duties will be allowed entrance to National Guard facilities with their law enforcement issued weapon. Law enforcement/security personnel are not authorized to carry their civilian law enforcement weapon at National Guard facilities while performing National Guard duties. However, law enforcement weapons may be stored with security police, the main access control gate, or kept locked in their vehicles depending on the local Commander's policy. TEMA personnel have statutory authority per TCA 39-17-1315 to carry weapons when authorized by the Director of TEMA.

2. This policy is effective immediately and enforcement of this policy will begin by using random vehicle searches and other Force Protection measures as necessary on our installations.



TERRY M. HASTON
Major General
The Adjutant General

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