



WEAPONS POLICY FOR THE NEW US COURTHOUSE – SALT LAKE CITY, UT

I. WEAPONS WITHIN THE COURTROOMS, COURT CHAMBERS, JURY ASSEMBLY ROOM, GRAND JURY ROOM, AND CLERK'S OFFICE AREAS.

A. The only persons authorized to carry firearms, pepper spray, Tasers, and any other less-lethal weapons shall be:

1. The U.S. Marshal and authorized Deputy Marshals.
2. Court Security Officers acting under the authority of the U.S. Marshal as Special Deputies.
3. U.S. Probation and Pretrial Services Officers duly authorized to carry weapons.
4. Officers of other law enforcement agencies only when granted explicit permission by the U.S. Marshal or an authorized Deputy Marshal. This permission must be obtained on a case by case basis, each time the officer enters the courthouse. No one other than those categories of officers defined in A1, A2, and A3 of this policy shall be granted blanket authorization to carry weapons in the courthouse unless authorized in writing by the U.S. Marshal and with the consent of the Chief United States District Judge.
5. Officers or agents of other law enforcement agencies who are escorting persons in their custody must enter the building through the sally port entrance on Level B-1 of the basement. These officers must secure their firearms and other weapons before entering the detention/cell areas. If the officer subsequently escorts the prisoner to court, he or she must have the express permission of the U.S. Marshal or authorized Deputy Marshal to retrieve the weapons to take into the courtroom.

B. Weapons brought to court to be used as evidence are authorized if:

1. The weapon is presented to the U.S. Marshals Service for a safety check at the time the weapon is first brought into the courthouse, and
2. The weapon is presented in the courtroom in a safe condition, i.e.,
 - a. The weapon is unloaded.
 - b. All revolvers will have the cylinder open.
 - c. All semi-automatic handguns will have the slide locked to the rear and the magazines removed.
 - d. All rifles and shotguns with bolt action will have the bolt removed, unless there are contradicting evidentiary requirements.
 - e. All pump rifles or shotguns will have the action locked to the rear.
 - f. Semi-automatic rifles and shotguns will have the bolt locked to the rear and the magazines removed.
 - g. All firearms mentioned above will be rendered inoperable by the insertion of a zip-tie or flex cuff placed through the operating action and/or barrel of the weapon.
 - h. All ammunition will be kept separate from the weapon. No one in possession or custody of such weapon shall carry on his or her person ammunition for the weapon.

II. WEAPONS WITHIN THE BUILDING IN ANY OTHER AREAS

- A. The only persons authorized to carry firearms (and other weapons listed above) in different areas of the Courthouse shall be:
 1. The U.S. Marshal and authorized Deputy Marshals.
 2. Court Security Officers acting under the authority of the U.S. Marshals as Special Deputies.
 3. Federal law enforcement agents who are tenants of the building, i.e., the Federal Protective Service Officers, and contract guards acting under their authority.
 4. U.S. Probation and Pretrial Services Officers.
- B. All other law enforcement officers and agents visiting the building must secure their weapons in a gun locker in the gun storage room located immediately inside of the courthouse main entrance to the left of and prior to the CSO Security Screening Post.
- C. It should be noted that a "Concealed Carry Weapons Permit (CCWP)" does NOT in and of itself authorize any individual, including employees, to bring a weapon into the courthouse. Private citizens carrying a weapon under state issuance of a CCWP will NOT be permitted to bring any weapons listed in this order into the building.

III. WEAPON TYPES ALLOWED

- A. Only law enforcement officers are authorized under this policy to carry firearms, pepper spray, Tasers, or any other less-lethal weapons.
- B. The possession and carrying of all other weapons in the courthouse, other than those designated for use as official evidence in a trial in the courthouse and inspected by the U.S. Marshal or an authorized Deputy Marshal, is strictly prohibited.

IV. CONFISCATION OF WEAPONS

The U.S. Marshal, authorized Deputy Marshals, and USMS Court Security Officers are authorized to confiscate any and all weapons carried by (or in the possession of) persons entering the courthouse who are not otherwise authorized under the provisions of this weapons policy to carry or possess such weapons.

APPROVED THIS 15th DAY OF May, 2014.


Ted Stewart, Chief U.S. District Judge – D/UT


James Thompson, U.S. Marshal - D/UT