

 UNIVERSITY OF DENVER	UNIVERSITY OF DENVER POLICY MANUAL WEAPONS ON CAMPUS		
<u>Responsible Department:</u> Campus Safety <u>Recommended By:</u> Campus Safety, Chief Risk and Compliance Officer, Senior Vice Chancellor for Business and Financial Affairs <u>Approved By:</u> Chancellor	<u>Policy Number</u> SAFE 7.10.060	<u>Effective Date</u> 11/7/2025	

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. The University is committed to promoting a safe living, learning and working environment for all members of the University community. Accordingly, the University expressly forbids, and will not tolerate or condone, conduct that threatens, intimidates, or coerces other employees, students, visitors, guests, vendors, contractors, or any member of the public at any time.
- B. The University recognizes that the presence and use of Weapons on University Premises presents a potential threat to the safety of all community members.
- C. The University as a private property owner has the right to impose restrictions and prohibitions on the use, possession, and storage of Weapons on University Premises.

II. POLICY OVERVIEW

- A. Except as expressly authorized within this Policy, the University prohibits the use, possession, or storage of any Weapon:
 - 1. on University Premises;
 - 2. at University-sponsored events;
 - 3. in any vehicle owned, leased or controlled by the University; or
 - 4. in any private vehicle parked on University Premises.
- B. As a private property owner, the University has the right to enforce this prohibition on Weapons even if the individual possesses a federal or state license to a carry or possess the Weapon.
- C. The University permits certified and/or licensed law enforcement officers duly authorized to carry specific Weapons to use, possess, or store their service Weapons on University Premises in performance of their official duties.

III. PROCESS OVERVIEW

- A. The University strongly encourages all community members to report as soon

as possible to the Division of Campus Safety all threats, or actual incidents of violence, both direct and indirect, including but not limited to threats by and incidents involving employees, students, visitors, guests, vendors, contractors, or other members of the public.

1. Individuals who are Responsible Employees pursuant to the University's Discrimination and Harassment Policy must report threats or actual incidents of violence that may constitute alleged Prohibited Conduct under that Policy to the Office of Civil Rights and Equal Opportunity.
 2. Individuals who are Campus Security Authorities must notify the University of threats or actual incidents of violence that may constitute Clery Act Crimes pursuant to the Clery Act Compliance Policy.
- B.** The Director of Campus Safety may grant a waiver to this Policy for educational purposes as part of a classroom activity, University-sponsored sports involving Weapons, or other purposes with prior written approval. Individuals or groups seeking such an exception must submit a written request for a waiver at least five (5) business days in advance of the event for which they seek a waiver. The Director of Campus Safety will evaluate such request, in consultation of Enterprise Risk Management, and provide a written response to the waiver request.
- C.** In cases of suspected use, possession, or storage of Weapons in violation of this Policy, the University retains the right to search persons, possessions and bags and privately-owned vehicles on University Premises, and to confiscate, retain, dispose of or destroy all items prohibited by this Policy regardless of value or ownership. The University may also contact law enforcement to address violations of this Policy.
- D.** The University will address violations of this Policy as follows:
1. Referring employees to Human Resources and Inclusive Community for disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment.
 2. Referring students to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities for action under the Honor Code, which may result in suspension or dismissal from the University.
 3. Visitors, guests, vendors, contractors, or any member of the public may be temporarily or permanently removed from University Premises.
 4. Individuals who violate this Policy may also be subject to criminal or civil liability.

IV. DEFINITIONS

- A. "University Premises"** includes, but is not limited to, all indoor and outdoor common and educational areas, all University owned, leased, or operated

facilities, University owned or operated housing (including but not limited to University property leased to University-recognized fraternities and sororities), campus sidewalks, campus parking lots, recreational areas, outdoor stadiums, and University owned or leased vehicles (regardless of location). University Premises does not include municipal property that goes through or is adjacent to campus, such as sidewalks or alleys.

B. “Weapon” means and includes:

1. *Weapons* –any device that is designed to or traditionally used as an instrument to inflict or threaten bodily harm or to damage or destroy University property or the property of others. Weapons include, but are not limited to, knives with a blade longer than three (3) inches (excluding kitchen knives possessed, properly stored, and used for their intended purpose in University owned or operated housing), Tasers, bows and arrows, and common objects and materials modified for use as a weapon or any other object legally controlled as a weapon.
2. *Firearm* –any device that is designated to fire a bullet, pellet, shot, flare, spear or other projectile. This includes, but is not limited to, handguns, rifles, pistols, shotguns, revolvers, and cannons made of any material, including those made with 3D printers and similar technology, whether loaded or unloaded, as well as the ammunition for these devices.
3. *Explosives* – any chemical compound or mechanical mixture that contains oxidizing and combustible units, or other ingredients, in such proportion, quantities, or packing that an ignition by fire, friction, concussion, percussion or detonator, or any part of the compound or mixture, may cause a sudden generation of highly heated gases that results in gaseous pressure capable of producing destructive forces on contiguous objects or of destroying life or limb. This definition includes, but is not limited to, fireworks, toy cannons or toy guns in which explosive material are used or other devices containing any combustible or explosive substance used to propel another object.
4. *Imitations, Replicas and Antiques* – any items that could be reasonably mistaken for a Firearm, Weapon, or Explosive, such as imitations, replicas, or antiques, regardless of whether they were designed to fire a bullet, shot, or other projectile. The definition includes devices that are designed to fire a projectile and powered by a propellant, including CO2 (as in paint ball weapons).

V. RESOURCES

A. University Policy SAFE 7.10.010 – *Clery Act Compliance*

B. University Policy CREO 3.10.010 – *Discrimination and Harassment*

Revision Effective Date	Purpose
<i>11/7/2025</i>	<i>Minor update to logo, titles, and reference number for Policy in Resources</i>