

Policy regarding firearm possession  
First Christian Church, Midland  
Submitted for board consideration: 2/13/2018  
Amended & approved by the board: 4/11/2018  
Adopted \_\_\_\_\_

A. Applicability

This policy shall apply to any person, member or non-member, who possesses a firearm on Church property. This policy shall not apply to any state or federally appointed law enforcement officer. This policy shall not apply to any Church-sponsored function that does not occur on church property. This policy shall not apply to the Children's Learning Center.

B. Open Carrying of Firearms:

Subject to applicable state law, the Church shall not permit the open carrying of any firearm on Church property.

C. Communication

1. Subject to applicable state law, the Church shall not post or display any sign regarding the carrying of firearms.
2. Communication of this Policy shall be conducted by verbal and written communication as described in Section "D" below.

D. Procedural Requirements:

If any person is found to be openly carrying or displaying a firearm, the following procedures shall apply:

1. Response Personnel
  - a. The Emergency Preparations Committee and/or Executive Committee may designate Church representative(s) to communicate this policy to a person carrying a weapon.
  - b. Any such designated representative shall be one of the following:
    - 1) Church/ministerial staff,
    - 2) Elder,
    - 3) Diaconate
    - 4) Emergency Preparations Committee
    - 5) Executive Committee
    - 6) Current or former state or federally appointed law-enforcement officer
2. Response Procedure
  - a. The Church representative(s) should approach the weapon-carrying person, and identify himself or herself as a representative of the Church.
  - b. The Church representative(s) should inform the person of the law and Church policy regarding the open carrying of firearms.
  - c. The Church representative(s) should hand the person a card or pamphlet that cites the applicable state law.
  - d. The Church representative(s) should, in a non-threatening manner, ask the person to conceal or to remove his/her firearm from Church property.
3. Non-compliance Procedure

If the situation is not resolved by taking the steps outlined in Section 2, above, the situation should be considered to be an elevated threat, and the Church representative(s) should take ALL of the following actions:

  - a. Inform a member of Church Staff of the situation
  - b. Call the police