



ORDINANCE PROHIBITING DEADLY WEAPONS ON COUNTY PROPERTY

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ORDINANCE PROHIBITING DEADLY WEAPONS ON COUNTY PROPERTY

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute 153A-121(a) grants to counties the general police power to prohibit conduct detrimental to the safety of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute 153A-129 grants to counties the authority to regulate the display of firearms on the public roads, sidewalks, alleys or other public property; and

WHEREAS, Mecklenburg County desires to exercise the authority authorized by said Statutes with respect to the display of deadly weapons on County property; now, therefore;

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of Mecklenburg County:

Section 1. It shall be unlawful for any person while on county property to carry openly any gun, rifle, pistol, dynamite cartridge, bomb, grenade, mine, powerful explosive as defined in G.S. 14-284.1, bowie knife, dirk, dagger, slungshot, leaded cane, switchblade knife as defined in G.S. 14-269.2, blackjack, metallic knuckles, razor, shurikin, stun gun, or any other deadly weapon of any kind.

Additionally it shall be unlawful for any person while on County property to carry a concealed handgun, whether or not the carrying of said concealed handgun is pursuant to a lawfully issued concealed handgun permit.

Section 2. This prohibition shall not apply to the following persons:

- (1) Officers and enlisted personnel of the armed forces of the United States when in discharge of their official duties as such and acting under orders requiring them to carry arms and weapons;
- (2) Civil officers of the United States while in the discharge of their official duties;
- (3) Officers and soldiers of the militia and the national guard when called into actual service;
- (4) Officers of the State, or of any county, city, or town, charged with the execution of the laws of the State, when acting in the discharge of their official duties;
- (5) Sheriff deputies and Court officials while in the discharge of their official duties, and persons when producing or displaying arms or other deadly weapons as evidence in an official court proceeding; or

(6) “Armed private security officers” while acting in the performance of their duties, as may be allowed by the North Carolina General Statutes.

Section 3. The term “**County Property**” shall mean (1) all property owned by Mecklenburg County, including without limitation, all County offices and office buildings, the parking lots, parking garages and grounds surrounding said office buildings, all County parks and recreational facilities, County landfills, and all vacant or unimproved County owned real property, but excluding Spirit Square and the Mecklenburg Mental Health Center, and (2) all property leased to Mecklenburg County.

Section 4. The violation of any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be a misdemeanor and may be punishable by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or imprisonment for not more than thirty (30) days.

Section 5. It is hereby declared to be the intention of the Board that the sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and phrases of this Ordinance are severable, and if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this Ordinance shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid by the valid judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality or invalidity shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs, and sections of this Ordinance, as the same would have been enacted by the Board without incorporation in this Ordinance of any such unconstitutional or invalid phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section.

Section 6. This ordinance shall be effective upon its adoption.

Adopted the 8th day of September, 1992.

Amended the 19th day of September, 1995.

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