

Training Bulletin #1 - Guidance Matrix

This training bulletin matrix contains quick reference guidance for the carrying of firearms in a variety of situations. Refer to the matrix that most closely addresses the type of weapon and the situation.

LICENSE HOLDER - HANDGUN MATRIX

ACTIVITY	AUTHORITY
May a license holder generally be in a public place while armed with a handgun?	Yes, so long as it is holstered or concealed. See: Penal Code 46.02; Gov't Code Ch. 411
May a license holder enter a public or private facility where the proper "No Firearms" or similar notice is given?	No. See: Penal Code 30.06
May a license holder carry a handgun on the <i>physical premises</i> of an institution of higher education or private or independent institution of higher education?	Generally, yes, but this is subject to the rules adopted by the institution and a posted 30.06 notice. Any handgun carried on the premises must be concealed. See: Gov't Code 411.2031; Penal Code 46.03(a)(1), (a-4); Penal Code 30.06
May a license holder carry a handgun on a driveway, street, sidewalk or walkway, parking lot, parking garage or other parking area of an institution of higher education?	Yes, so long as the handgun is concealed. NOTE While the new laws expand the carry rights of citizens to carry a firearm off campus, UT System's view is that the law did not change any laws related to campus carry. Open carry is prohibited on campus. Constitutional carry advocates may disagree with this interpretation. Therefore, it is important to be aware of the scope of these new laws, as the likelihood of encountering an armed citizen on or around campus will increase once these laws take effect. Guidance: Request that the person conceal the handgun. Advise the person that if they fail to conceal the handgun, they will be arrested. See: Gov't Code 411.2031-2032; Penal Code 46.03(a)(1), (a-2)
May a license holder carry a handgun on the grounds or building on which an activity sponsored by a school or educational institution is being conducted?	Generally, yes, but this is subject to the rules adopted by the institution and a posted 30.06 notice. The handgun must be concealed. See: See Gov't Code 411.2031; Penal Code 46.03(a)(1), (a-3); Penal Code 30.06
May a license holder carry a handgun in a passenger transportation vehicle of a school or educational institution, whether the school or educational institution is public or private?	Generally, yes, but this is subject to the rules adopted by the institution and a posted 30.06 notice. The handgun must be concealed. See: Gov't Code 411.2031; Penal Code 46.03(a)(1), (a-3); Penal Code 30.06
May a license holder carry a handgun in their vehicle as they drive through campus?	Yes, so long as the handgun remains in a holster or concealed, and the person is not committing a criminal violation which is a Class B or above. See: Gov't Code Ch. 411.2032; Penal Code 46.02 (a-1)
May a license holder park their vehicle on campus if it has a firearm or ammunition inside?	Yes, if the firearm is lawfully possessed and the vehicle is locked; handguns must be concealed at all times on campus. See: Gov't Code 411.2032; Penal Code 46.03 (a-1); Labor Code 52.061
May a license holder carry a handgun on the premises of a high school, collegiate, or professional sporting event?	No, unless they are a participant, and the handgun is used in the event. See: Penal Code 46.03(a)(8)
May a license holder carry a handgun while intoxicated?	No, unless the person is on their own property or on private property with consent of the owner; or inside of or directly enroute to a motor vehicle or watercraft that is owned by the person or under the control or with the consent of the owner or operator of the vehicle or watercraft. See: Penal Code 46.02 (a-6)

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UNLICENSED - HANDGUN MATRIX

ACTIVITY	AUTHORITY
May an unlicensed person generally be in a public place while armed with a handgun?	Yes, so long as the person is 1) 18 years of age or older; 2) not otherwise prohibited from possessing a firearm under Texas or Federal law; and 3) has not been convicted of certain crimes within the previous five years. The handgun must be holstered or concealed. See: Penal Code 46.02; <i>Firearms Policy Coalition, Inc. et. al., v. Steven McCraw, et. al.</i> - A federal district court has ruled the Texas Department of Public Safety can no longer apply the License to Carry statutory eligibility criteria that prohibit otherwise eligible 18-to-20-year-olds from obtaining the license. <i>Firearms Policy Coalition, Inc. et. al., v. Steven McCraw, et. al.</i> , No. 4:21-cv-1245-P. The Department will therefore no longer deny applications solely on the basis that the applicants are 18-to-20 years old.
May an unlicensed person enter a public or private facility with a handgun where the proper "No Firearms" or similar notice is given?	No. See: Penal Code 30.05
May an unlicensed person carry a handgun on the physical premises of an institution of higher education or private or independent institution of higher education?	No. See: Penal Code 46.03(a)(1)
May an unlicensed person carry a handgun on a driveway, street, sidewalk or walkway, parking lot, parking garage or other parking area of an institution of higher education?	No. NOTE: While the new laws expand the carry rights of citizens to carry a firearm off campus, UT System's view is that the law did not change any laws related to campus carry. Open carry is prohibited on campus and unlicensed persons are not allowed to carry a handgun anywhere on campus. Constitutional carry advocates may disagree with this interpretation. Therefore, it is important to be aware of the scope of these new laws, as the likelihood of encountering an armed citizen on or around campus will increase once these laws take effect. Guidance: Request that the person leave campus with the firearm or secure the firearm in their vehicle. Advise the person that if they fail to do so, they will be arrested. See: Penal Code 46.03(a)(1); Penal Code 30.05
May an unlicensed person carry a handgun on the grounds or building on which an activity sponsored by a school or educational institution is being conducted?	No, unless pursuant to written regulations or written authorization of the institution. See: Penal Code 46.03(a)(1)
May an unlicensed person carry a handgun in a passenger transportation vehicle of a school or educational institution, whether the school or educational institution is public or private?	No, unless pursuant to written regulations or written authorization of the institution See: Penal Code 46.03(a)(1)
May an unlicensed person carry a handgun in their vehicle as they drive through campus?	Yes, so long as the handgun is lawfully possessed, remains in a holster, or concealed, and the person is not committing a criminal violation which is a Class B or above. Penal Code 46.02 (a-1)
May an unlicensed person park their vehicle on campus if it has a firearm or ammunition inside?	Yes, if the firearm is lawfully possessed and the vehicle is locked. See: Penal Code 46.02; Labor Code 52.061
May an unlicensed person carry a handgun on the premises of a high school, collegiate, or professional sporting event?	No, unless they are a participant, and the handgun is used in the event. See: Penal Code 46.03(a)(8)
May an unlicensed person carry a handgun while intoxicated?	No, unless the person is on their own property or on private property with consent of the owner; or inside of or directly enroute to a motor vehicle or watercraft that is owned by the person or under the control or with the consent of the owner or operator of the vehicle or watercraft. See: Penal Code 46.02 (a-6)

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LONG GUN MATRIX

ACTIVITY	AUTHORITY
May a person generally be in a public place (e.g., sidewalks, public square, etc.) while armed with a long gun?	Yes, however they are subject to disorderly conduct laws (displays in manner calculated to alarm – high or low ready). See: Penal Code 42.01; Tex. Const. Art. 1, Sec.8
May a person enter a public or private facility where the proper "No Firearms" or similar notice is given?	No See: Penal Code 30.05
May a person carry a long gun on a driveway, street, sidewalk or walkway, parking lot, parking garage or other parking area of an institution of higher education?	No. NOTE: While the new laws expand the carry rights of citizens to carry a firearm off campus, UT System's view is that the law did not change any laws related to campus carry. Open carry is prohibited on campus and unlicensed persons are not allowed to carry a firearm anywhere on campus. This interpretation also supports the belief that long guns are not allowed anywhere on campus. Constitutional carry advocates may disagree with this interpretation. Therefore, it is important to be aware of the scope of these new laws, as the likelihood of encountering an armed citizen on or around campus will increase once these laws take effect. Guidance: Request that the person leave campus with the firearm or secure the firearm in their vehicle. Advise the person that if they fail to do so, they will be arrested. See: Penal Code 46.03(a)(1)
May a person carry a long gun on the physical premises of an institution of higher education or private or independent institution of higher education?	No. See: Penal Code 46.03(a)(1)
May a person carry a long gun on the grounds or building on which an activity sponsored by a school or educational institution is being conducted?	No, unless pursuant to written regulations or written authorization of the institution. See: Penal Code 46.03(a)(1)
May a person carry a long gun in a passenger transportation vehicle of a school or educational institution, whether the school or educational institution is public or private?	No, unless pursuant to written regulations or written authorization of the institution See: Penal Code 46.03(1)
May a person openly carry a long gun in their vehicle as they drive through campus?	Yes. Texas has no laws regarding the carrying of long guns in motor vehicles.
May a person park their vehicle on campus if it has a long gun or ammunition inside?	Yes. See: Labor Code 52.061
May a person carry a long gun on the premises of a high school, collegiate, or professional sporting event?	No, unless they are a participant, and the handgun is used in the event. See: Penal Code 46.03(a)(8)
May a person carry a long gun while intoxicated?	Yes, however they are subject to disorderly conduct laws (displays in manner calculated to alarm – high or low ready). See: Penal Code 42.01; Tex. Const. Art. 1, Sec.8