

Title: Weapons on Campus	
Effective Date: October 1, 2011	Responsible Office: William & Mary Police
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## **I. SCOPE**

This policy applies to the College of William & Mary, including the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (the university). It applies to all university employees, including faculty, hourly and wage employees, and contract workers, and volunteers (collectively, members of the campus community) on any property owned, leased, rented, or otherwise under the control of the university (university property).

The conduct of students is covered by the Student Code of Conduct, particularly the prohibition on weapons, firearms, combustibles, and explosives.

## **II. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to help provide a safe and secure working, living, and learning environment for the campus community by restricting weapons possession on university property.

## **III. DEFINITIONS**

“law enforcement officials” means

- individuals appointed pursuant to §15.2-1609, et seq.; §15.2-1700, et seq.; §23-232, et seq.; §29.1-200, et seq.; or §52-1, et seq. of the Code of Virginia; and
- sworn federal law enforcement officers.

“members of the campus community” is defined in Section I

“university property” is defined in Section I

“weapons” means any firearm or any other weapon listed in §18.2-308(A) of the Code of Virginia.

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## **IV. POLICY**

### **A. Prohibition**

The possession, carrying, storage, or maintenance of any weapon by any member of the campus community, with the exception of law enforcement officials and other individuals authorized under this policy, is prohibited on university property.

Any individual who is reported or discovered to possess a weapon on university property or maintains or stores a weapon on university property in violation of this prohibition will be asked to remove it immediately. The presence of a prohibited item will result in disciplinary action.

### **B. Authorized Exceptions**

Exceptions to the weapons prohibition may be made only with appropriate authorization as described below.

1. Work-Related Weapons Use, Possession, etc. An employee may request authorization to possess, carry, store or maintain a weapon on university property if it is:
  - a. required as part of the employee's job duties; or
  - b. connected with training received by the employee in order to perform the responsibilities of their job with the university.

Request for the authorization of an exception first must be endorsed by the head of the employee's department, school, or other university unit – typically a vice president or dean. Final authorization may be made only by the William & Mary Police Department.

2. Other Exceptions. Other exceptions must be authorized by the Vice President for Administration, in consultation with appropriate university offices. The Vice President will grant such exceptions only in limited circumstances, when the university has adequate assurance that an exception may be made without creating risk to campus safety and security.

### **C. Prop Weapons**

Due to the risk of being identified as a real weapon, any toy, prop or other item that looks like a weapon and is used for any purpose on university property must be reported to and approved by the William & Mary Police prior to being used in any activity. Examples of activities for which prop weapon use may be approved include plays, class presentations, ROTC military exercises and Intercollegiate Athletic events.

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#### **V. AUTHORITY AND IMPLEMENTATION**

This policy was approved by the Board of Visitors. The William & Mary Police are responsible for the implementation of this policy.