

## Texas A&M AgriLife Research Rules

### 34.06.02.A1 | Carrying Concealed Handguns on Texas A&M AgriLife Research Property

*Approved: April 27, 2016 (Effective August 1, 2016)*

*Revised: November 18, 2021*

*Next Scheduled Review: November 18, 2026*



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#### **RULE STATEMENT**

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In accordance with The Texas A&M University System (A&M System) Regulation 34.06.02, *Weapons*, Texas A&M AgriLife Research (AgriLife Research) will comply with all applicable federal and state laws, policies, and regulations, relating to carrying handguns on AgriLife Research property. This rule applies to only off-campus facilities. For on-campus facilities, employees will follow the Texas A&M University Rule.

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#### **REASON FOR RULE**

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This rule is required by A&M System Regulation 34.06.02 and provides the guidelines for ensuring the safety of AgriLife Research personnel while complying with all federal and state laws, policies, and regulations pertaining to carrying handguns.

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#### **PROCEDURES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

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##### 1.0 GENERAL

- 1.1 The agency established this rule with input from AgriLife Research employees about specific safety considerations and the uniqueness of the agency environment. This rule was reviewed by the system board of regents as required by law.
- 1.2 A handgun license holder under Chapter 411, Texas Government Code, may carry a concealed handgun on or about the license holder's person while the license holder is on AgriLife Research property, or in an agency vehicle, unless prohibited by state or federal law, or this rule. The open carrying of handguns on agency property is prohibited. Licensed peace officers are authorized by law to carry firearms at all times. Employees who are license holders are permitted to store a handgun in their office space so long as the handgun is secured in a locked drawer or compartment.
- 1.3 AgriLife Research enforces the state law regulating firearms on AgriLife Research property. This enforcement occurs in two ways. First, police or other applicable law enforcement agencies will investigate and take appropriate action, including referral for criminal prosecution when violations occur. Second, AgriLife research will consider any violation of state law regulating firearms to be a violation of AgriLife Research rules. Accordingly, such a violation is subject to disciplinary action under rules applicable to employees.

##### 2.0 STORAGE OF HANDGUNS IN RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES.

- 2.1 Legal handguns/weapons may be stored in the personal residence of individuals who live on AgriLife Research controlled property.
- 2.2 Handguns/firearms stored on AgriLife Research property must be in a safe manufactured for the purpose of storing a handgun/firearm.

### 3.0 RULES APPLICABLE TO CARRYING A CONCEALED HANDGUN ON AGRILIFE RESEARCH PROPERTY

#### 3.1 State Law Prohibitions

A license holder is responsible for complying with the applicable state law prohibitions. See Appendix.

#### 3.2 Federal Law Prohibitions

A license holder is responsible for complying with the applicable federal law prohibitions.

#### 3.3 Other Prohibited Premises

A. When a 4H/youth event is being conducted on an AgriLife premise, a license holder is prohibited from carrying a concealed handgun, unless the license holder is a participant in the event and a handgun is used in the event. Effective notice must be given under Section 30.06, Penal Code.

B. High hazard research areas and laboratories where the presence of high hazard materials or operations creates a significant risk of catastrophic harm due to a negligent discharge, including, but not limited to, BioSafety Level 3 laboratories and areas having high magnetic fields, such as MRI research facilities.

3.4 If an AgriLife Research facility is co-located with a federal/USDA facility, any employee accessing the federal/USDA facility with follow the federal/USDA concealed carry guidelines.

3.5 Any premises where the agency, as directed or approved by the director as necessary for property safety, gives effective notice on a temporary basis pursuant to Section 30.06, Penal Code. For this rule, the phrase “owner of the property” in Section 30.06(b) means the director of the agency. No agency employee is “someone with apparent authority to act for the owner” for purposes of 30.06(b). All notices under 30.06 will be institutional notice, conform to Penal Code Section 46.03, and apply equally to all license holders.

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### **RELATED STATUTES, POLICIES, OR REQUIREMENTS**

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System Regulation [34.06.02, Weapons](#)

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### **DEFINITIONS**

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*Property* - All land and buildings owned or leased by AgriLife Research.

*Premises* - A building or portion of a building. The term does not include any public or private driveway, street, sidewalk or walkway, parking lot, parking garage, or other parking area.

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### **APPENDIX**

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[Texas Statutory Prohibitions](#)

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### **CONTACT OFFICE**

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For questions, contact AgriLife Risk and Compliance at 979-845-4789.