

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA FILED

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MOHAVE BY: *[Signature]*

2014 DEC -2 PM 1:22

IN THE MATTER OF:)
)
SECURITY SCREENING IN ALL MOHAVE)
COUNTY COURT FACILITIES)
)
)

VIRLYNN TINNELL
SUPERIOR COURT CLERK
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
2014-38

WHEREAS, this court recognizes that every reasonable effort should be made to provide a safe environment for all persons visiting, working in or having business in any Court facility in Mohave County; and

WHEREAS, weapons free buildings are essential to provide such security;

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the following requirements and attached policies and procedures be implemented:

1. No weapons or dangerous instruments shall be allowed on the premises of or brought into any court facilities except by a courthouse security officer, judge, probation or surveillance officers; or law enforcement officer in an emergency situation or when specifically allowed as outlined in the attached policy 2.02 Weapons in the Courts. If an unauthorized person is carrying a concealed weapon, an arrest pursuant to A.R.S. §13-3102 may be appropriate. Note – Court facility includes all buildings under the administrative authority of the Presiding Judge, i.e. Justice Court, Probation Department, Mediation Center, etc.

2. Except as noted above, any person having reason to enter or remain in any court facility armed with a weapon shall demonstrate such need to the Presiding Judge or designee. When satisfied of such reason, the Presiding Judge or designee may grant a special exception for a limited period of time.

3. All persons, excluding court staff with appropriate identification, entering any court facility, and all packages, purses, briefcases, boxes, and other containers brought into any court facility, shall be examined for weapons or dangerous instruments. All such items shall be removed and deposited with security personnel. If lawful, such instruments may be retrieved upon leaving the premises.

DATED this 2nd day of December, 2014.

[Handwritten Signature]
Honorable Charles W. Gurtler Jr., Presiding Judge
Mohave County Superior Court

Original filed with the Clerk of Superior Court in Mohave County

MOHAVE COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT POLICY AND PROCEDURE

TITLE: 2.02 WEAPONS IN THE COURTS

EFFECTIVE DATE: 11/10/2014

REVISED DATE:

A. PURPOSE AND POLICY:

The security and safety of the employees, litigants and users of the Mohave County Courts is of paramount concern. Therefore, no weapons (as defined by the Court's security manager) are allowed in any of the Court buildings within Mohave County. The **ONLY EXCEPTIONS** to this policy are as listed:

1. All Law Enforcement Officers, Detention, Probation, and Court Security Officers either in uniform or with visibly displayed law enforcement identification who appear in Court and while in the performance of official duties may bypass the security screening system and keep possession of their weapons in the Courthouse. These officers may be required to provide a subpoena or official paperwork to confirm business in the Court.
2. Law Enforcement Officers, Detention, Probation, and Court Security Officers, and Fire and Medical personnel may bypass the security screening system when responding to an emergency situation at the Courthouse.
3. The Presiding Judge shall determine whether judges and other court staff may be permitted to carry weapons into the Courthouse. The Court Security Manager will maintain a list of judges and court staff that have been authorized to carry weapons by the Presiding Judge.

B. OTHER PROVISIONS:

1. All Law Enforcement Officers, Detention, Probation, and Court Security Officers coming to Court as a party in a case or appearing for personal business shall not wear their officially sanctioned uniforms, shall not enter the Courthouse with weapons, shall not use their law enforcement identification to bypass any security screening systems, and will comply with all screening procedures required by court security.
2. A Judicial Officer may order a Law Enforcement Officer to place all weapons into a gun locker, upon a finding that the facts and circumstances raise a safety, security or ethical issue if the Law Enforcement Officer remains armed in the courtroom.
3. County Attorneys, Public Defenders, Legal Defenders and members of the Private Bar are not permitted to enter the Courthouse with weapons.

C. STORAGE OF WEAPONS:

1. Persons who lawfully possess a weapon and request the use of a gun locker

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to store a weapon will be required to provide photo identification: a driver's license or state identification card are acceptable. The Court Security Officer will escort the individual to the gun locker. The individual will place the weapon and any magazines, speed loaders or loose rounds into a large manila envelope provided by court security. The individual will clip their photo identification to the outside of the manila envelope with a paper clip provided by court security and place the envelope into an available gun locker. Court security will close and lock the locker door. When the individual is finished with their business at the Court, they will contact court security for the return of their weapon. Court security will unlock the gun locker and check the photo identification to ensure that the weapon is returned to its rightful owner. Court security will return the photo identification to the individual and advise them that they may remove their weapon from the manila envelope. Court security will then advise the individual with the weapon to please leave the building and the court property as expeditiously as possible.

Violations of this policy may result in arrest for criminal trespass, pursuant to A.R.S. §13-1502.