

	<b>Policy on Firearms, Explosives, and Other Weapons</b>	<b>Responsible Administrative Unit</b> Department of Public Safety
	<b>Revised: March 7, 2012; October 1, 2013</b>	<b>Policy Contact</b> Chief of Police and Director of Public Safety: <a href="mailto:GBohlen@mines.edu">GBohlen@mines.edu</a>

## 1.0 BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Campus safety is a top priority for the Colorado School of Mines. Unregulated possession of weapons on the university campus creates an unreasonable risk to the health, safety and welfare of students, employees and campus visitors and the preservation of university property, and is inconsistent with the university's academic mission. This sets forth the policy on the use and storage of firearms, explosives and other dangerous or illegal weapons on Mines' campus, property or leased premises, and applies to students, employees, invitees and all other visitors to the campus.

## 2.0 POLICY

2.1 Except as expressly provided below, the possession of firearms, explosives and other dangerous weapons on or within Mines' campus, property or leased premises is prohibited.

2.2 For purposes of this policy, a "dangerous weapon" is an instrument of offensive or defensive combat, or anything used or intended to be used for, or capable of producing serious bodily injury or death. A dangerous weapon may include, but not be limited to any of the following: any firearm; slingshot; knuckles of lead, brass or other metal; any dagger, dirk, knife or stiletto over three and one-half inches in blade length; a gravity knife; or any knife with a spring-propelled blade or a blade that can be opened by the push of a button, switch or other mechanical contrivance.

2.3 Except as expressly provided below, all firearms and dangerous weapons brought to campus must be immediately checked in at the Mines' Department of Public Safety for storage pursuant to the procedure outlined in Section 3.0 below. No firearms, explosives or dangerous weapons may be stored in any facilities or premises owned or leased by Mines, or in cars parked on the Mines' campus or property.

2.4 Except as expressly provided below, possession of a firearm or other dangerous weapons on Mines' property is a violation of Mines' policy, and in some cases, a violation of state law, and will be addressed accordingly.

2.5 This policy shall not apply to:

- A state or federal law enforcement or peace officer or agent when carrying a weapon in conformance with the policy of his/her employing agency or specific military orders.
- A member of the armed forces of the United States or Colorado National Guard while acting in his/her official capacity and in conformance with military orders.
- Explosive substances required for the explicit purpose of academic course instruction or sponsored research that are used or stored on Mines' property pursuant to applicable Mines policy and procedure. However, this exception only applies to those explosive substances that are stored and used under the direct supervision of a Mines

faculty member, and with the advance, written approval of the Mines Office of Environmental Health and Safety.

- A kitchen knife with a blade more than three and one-half inches in length that is kept in university-owned apartments such as Mines Park, or in Mines' kitchens and dining and other facilities for the purpose of food preparation.
- A person carrying a concealed handgun who holds a valid written permit issued pursuant to C.R.S. §§ 18-12-201, *et seq.* However, in situations where Mines grants access to campus buildings or facilities pursuant to a contractual relationship (e.g., student housing facilities), Mines reserves the right to contractually prohibit all concealed firearms in those buildings or facilities. In the event a person violates the terms of such a contract, the person may be excluded from the building or facility to which she or he had been granted access. A concealed carry permit does not authorize the use of a handgun in a manner that violates state or federal law or Mines policy, and the exception in this policy for concealed carry permit holders applies only to handguns as defined in C.R.S. § 18-12-202, while they are being carried by concealed carry permittees; all other firearms, explosives and dangerous weapons are subject to this policy and the storage procedure outlined below

### **3.0 FIREARM AND DANGEROUS WEAPONS STORAGE PROCEDURE**

- 3.1** With the exception of handguns being carried by an individual who has a valid concealed carry permit, all firearms and dangerous weapons must be stored and secured at the Mines' Department of Public Safety ("DPS"), and all access will be controlled by DPS.
- 3.2** Students who wish to access their firearms or weapons must contact DPS during regular business hours and make advance arrangements. The check-in and check-out process will be handled as soon as an officer becomes available.
- 3.3** All firearms and weapons must be stored in a protective case. Due to limited storage space availability, all rifles and shotguns must be stored in a soft protective case. Students are limited to the storage of three items.
- 3.4** All firearms must have the action cleared, and the chamber and magazine emptied prior to storage.
- 3.5** All firearms and weapons will be logged in and out. The information required will include the owner's name, and the make, model, and caliber of the firearms or weapons being stored. This information is obtained for identification purposes, and not for the purpose of firearm or weapon registration.
- 3.6** At the time of check-in and check-out, the owner must have a positive form of identification in his or her possession.