

TITLE – FIREARMS AND WEAPONS POSSESSION

It is the intent of the Gogebic Community College Board of Trustees to create and maintain a safe and civil environment for students, employees, and visitors. In furtherance of that intent and in accordance with Section 7, Article VIII, of the 1963 Constitution of the State of Michigan, and the Community College Act of 1966, as amended (Public Act 331 of 1966), the following policy provisions related to firearms and weapons on campus are adopted:

The provisions of this policy shall apply to the facilities and land owned, leased, or under the primary control of the Board of Trustees, as well as to college employees, students, and visitors. The provisions of this policy shall not apply to Police/Peace Officers and other legally established law enforcement officers.

Except as authorized by the college President, no person shall carry or possess any firearm and/or weapon within the facilities governed by the Board of Trustees, regardless of whether that person has a license to carry a concealed weapon.

Except as authorized by the college President, no person shall carry or possess any chemical, biological, radioactive, or other dangerous substance or compound on campus.

These regulations do not apply to lawful possession and carry of firearms and weapons related to an academic or other institutional use approved in writing by the college President.

This policy does not prohibit the lawful possession of unloaded firearms or weapons being legally transported between a college parking area and a location authorized for its use (range, hunting area, etc.), or transport between a parking area and storage facility. Nothing in this policy requires the college to provide storage facilities for employee or student owned firearms or weapons.

Persons residing on property governed by the Board of Trustees shall store any and all firearms and weapons in a manner directed by the college's Vice President of Student Services. No vehicle owned, leased, or otherwise under the control of the college shall be used to store or carry a firearm, except as authorized by the college President.

An employee with a reasonable basis for believing that an individual is in possession of or carrying a firearm or weapon in violation of this policy has a responsibility to report the suspected act in a timely manner, unless doing so would subject the employee or others to physical harm. Reports should be made to any of the college Vice Presidents or President. This responsibility shall not prohibit prompt notification to appropriate law enforcement authorities when an immediate threat to personal safety exists.

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Violations of this policy by students or employees shall be considered misconduct and subject to discipline, up to and including expulsion or termination. Violations of this policy by visitors may

be considered grounds for removal from facilities and land owned, leased, or under the primary control of the college. The college may refer suspected violations of this policy to appropriate law enforcement authorities, and provide access to investigative and other data as permitted by law. This policy further directs employees to fully cooperate with law enforcement authorities investigating firearm or weapons violations.

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