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 Owner: Susan Leathers: Trauma Emerg Preparedness Mgr
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 References:
 Applicability: WA - Providence St. Mary MC

Weapons/Contraband 8439.7010

POLICY

To provide for the personal safety and security of all patients, visitors and caregivers, it shall be the policy of Providence St. Mary Medical Center to prohibit the bearing of firearms, or other weapons in the hospital, or other Providence Medical Group sites, other than those legally carried by recognized law enforcement and correctional officers or carried by approved and trained PSMC Security Officers under local or regional approved inventory of Security Department defensive tools. PSMC Security Officers carry approved Pepper Gel product.

Definition of Weapons:

- A. Any device from which a projectile may be fired by an explosive, such as gunpowder, or a simulated firearm or weapon operated by gas or compressed air (guns, pepper spray, mace, etc.). Simulated weapons may be used in tightly controlled, authorized, emergency preparedness exercises such as Active Shooter drills.
- B. Large knives with fixed open blade or switch blade or considered to be a dagger, dirk, or similar weapon that is capable of causing death or bodily injury and is commonly used with the intent to cause death or bodily injury. Common pocket knives and multi-tools containing a cutting blade should be considered a tool and not a dangerous weapon.
- C. Any instrument that can be used as a club and poses a reasonable risk of injury or weapons used for the purposes of fighting such as metal knuckles.
- D. Other Contraband includes non-prescribed drugs (illegal and street drugs).
- E. Possession of a valid concealed weapons permit authorized by the State of Washington is not an exemption under this policy.

PROCEDURE

1. When weapons are found at the hospital immediately notify Security. The Security Officer will request that the individual remove the weapon from the facility and take to their vehicle or the Security Officer will temporarily store any dangerous weapon securely if the individual is unable to leave, has no vehicle, or is not in a medical condition to comply. At the medical office buildings PMG caregivers will request that the individual remove the weapon from the facility and take to their vehicle prior to medical care being given.

2. If an individual who is carrying a weapon refuses to surrender that weapon, then that individual will be denied entry to the campus and requested to leave the property immediately by Security. If that individual refuses to leave the property, or becomes threatening to caregivers, the police will be called and requested to remove the individual. If this occurs in the PMG Medical Office Buildings Security should be notified of the situation and that police were contacted to respond.
3. If the Security Officer temporarily stores weapons:
 - a. All weapons will be properly identified with a label/tag indicating the owners name, address, telephone number, date and time of acceptance written on the label/tag. Firearms accepted for storage must be unloaded.
 - b. Before any weapon is returned to it's owner, the owner must properly identify him/herself.
 - c. There may be unusual circumstances where a Law Enforcement or Correctional Officer may request Security to temporarily securely store their weapon.
4. It is the practice that the Correctional Officer assigned inside a patient room will not carry a weapon. Officers with weapons are staged outside the room of forensic patients.
5. Signs are posted on all public entrances announcing "No Firearms Allowed".
6. Disposal of other contraband: Security will be notified if other contraband substances are found. Illegal drugs will be turned over to Walla Walla Police Department for disposal and a security incident report completed.
7. Providence St. Mary Medical Center assumes no responsibility for any firearms or other weapons.
8. Any employee in possession of a firearm or other dangerous weapon may face disciplinary action to include termination. Employees suspected of bringing a weapon to the workplace are subject to search of their personal belongings, desk, locker, etc. Failure on the part of the employee to comply with such search may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination.

Attachments:

Approval Signatures

Approver	Date
Susan Blackburn	04/2019
Susan Leathers	04/2019

Applicability

WA - Providence St. Mary MC