STATE OF MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DIVISION OF CORRECTION

DIVISION OF CORRECTION DIRECTIVE	PROGRAM:	PERSONNEL	
	DCD #:	50-39	
	TITLE:	Employee Handguns	
	ISSUED:	September 15, 2006	
	AUTHORITY:	Randette Watan	Randall Watson ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER
	APPROVED:	Jetur & Ceneluz	John A. Rowley ACTING COMMISSIONER

- I. References:
 - A. Public Safety Article, §§5-301 to 5-314, ACM
 - B. COMAR 12. 06. 07

II. Applicable to: All Division of Correction Employees

- III. Purpose: To establish policy concerning an employee's application for a permit to carry a handgun and procedures governing the storage of a handgun while on duty.
- IV. Definitions: None
- V. Policy:

It is the policy of the Division of Correction that:

- A. A Division employee may not carry a handgun during off duty hours without a permit as required by the provisions of Public Safety Article, §§5-301 to 5-314, ACM, which governs issuance by the Maryland State Police.
- B. Except in pre-release facilities, each warden shall provide a secure, designated area of the institution for the loading, unloading and storage of handguns carried by employees authorized to do so under the above-referenced statute.
- C. Handguns shall not be permitted in any pre-release facility unless that facility maintains a secure tower, control center or armory with facilities for storing weapons, as well as a safe loading and unloading area for such weapons.
- VI. Procedure:
 - A. Application References
 - 1. Staff requested to provide information regarding a handgun permit application shall limit the information to confirmation of the individual's employment.

- 2. No recommendations shall be made for the granting of a handgun permit.
- B. Storage of Handguns
 - 1. An employee bringing a handgun onto the premises of a Division institution/facility shall be required to produce his/her valid permit. The permit shall be secured in the handgun storage area with the handgun.
 - 2. A log shall be maintained, noting each personal handgun that is stored/released.
 - 3. Under no circumstances may a privately owned handgun be left in a vehicle parked on institutional property.
 - 4. All handguns turned in to an institution for storage shall first be unloaded. Automatic weapons shall be locked in an open position so that the empty chamber is visible.
 - 5. Weapons that cannot be rendered safe by opening a cylinder or locking the action open shall not be stored in a correctional facility.
- C. No institutional directive is required.
- VII. Attachment: None
- VIII. Rescission: DCD 50-39, dated September 9, 1994

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