



Frequently Asked Questions – Firearms in the Capitol

The following information was consolidated by Legislative Administration (LA) in order to answer frequently asked questions associated with firearms in the Capitol in general. For clarification of any issues or if you have additional questions please don't hesitate to contact LA at 986-1848.

- ❖ Some individuals may choose to come into the building, attend committee meetings, or meet with their legislators. As with all visitors, they are welcome in all public areas of the building but should only enter offices and private workspaces with the consent of the occupants of the office or workspace.
- ❖ Per ORS 166.370(3)(d), it is legal to carry firearms in the Capitol building and, on the grounds, provided the carrier has an Oregon concealed handgun license (CHL). If an individual is in possession of a valid CHL there is no statute or requirement to prevent the person from openly carrying a firearm in the Capitol or on the grounds.
- ❖ There is no requirement to display a CHL; however, we will make clear clip-on badges available and request voluntary compliance from those individuals who are going to open carry firearms in the building.
- ❖ Please don't be alarmed or become confrontational if you notice people in the building openly carrying firearms. If at any time you feel uncomfortable or that your safety is threatened, please follow normal procedures which may include:
 - Politely state that you would like the person to leave your work area.
 - Activate the closest "panic button" to obtain Oregon State Police (OSP) support.
 - Call OSP Dispatch at (503) 375-3555.
 - Exit the area.
 - If necessary, call 911.
- ❖ Prior to the date of an announced event, talk with your supervisor, co-workers, and others whose offices and work stations are near you. As a group, try to come to an understanding about your level of comfort and your safety concerns, so that each of you has a plan if an incident occurs.
- ❖ As standard procedure, you will see an increased presence of uniformed OSP officers in the building on the days of an announced or anticipated event.
- ❖ During these events, please feel free to address questions to them if needed.
- ❖ Finally, it is important to remember that safety is our number one priority. We encourage everyone to do their part to help us all stay safe. Remember, if you see something, say something.