



## 916.1 - Possession of Firearms or Dangerous Weapons

### Purpose:

The purpose of this Operational Procedure is to address the possession of firearms or dangerous weapons on State Board of Higher Education owned or controlled property.

### Procedure:

1. Except as provided by law, firearms, and dangerous weapons per North Dakota Century Code § 62.1-02-05 and Bismarck Code of Ordinances 6-08 on State Board of Higher Education (SBHE) owned or controlled campus buildings and property is prohibited.
2. Firearms and dangerous weapons include the items listed in N.D.C.C. § 62.1-01-01.
3. Exceptions to this operational procedure include authorized law enforcement officials carrying out the lawful discharge of their duties. Bismarck State College shall not prohibit persons from possessing, storing, or using weapons at approved locations for the purpose of meeting the requirements of a recognized educational program and/or student group sponsored by the College.
4. If a weapon is discovered in the possession of an employee, student, or visitor on campus the following procedure will apply:
  - a. In all incidents where a weapon is observed or reported, CAMPUS POLICE IS TO BE NOTIFIED IMMEDIATELY.
  - b. Once notified, Campus Police will assess the situation and determine if law enforcement action is required.
  - c. If the weapon is found without the owner being in the immediate area, Campus Police will secure the weapon and the area and if needed request assistance from local law enforcement agencies to help with securing the area.
  - d. Should the reported weapon be in a vehicle on campus, Campus Police will obtain vehicle owner information. Campus Police will then attempt to contact the registered vehicle owner. At no time is a BSC employee authorized to enter the vehicle to remove the weapon.



- e. If the owner of the weapon is believed to be a Bismarck Public School student or employee Campus Police will contact Bismarck Public Schools Personnel. Once the owner is verified the situation will be assessed and the appropriate personnel notified.
- f. In all the above scenarios, once the owner of the weapon has been located and verified as the owner, the individual will be advised of the BSC Weapons and Firearms Policy. The owner and weapon will then be escorted off BSC property by Campus Police. The owner will be instructed to not return with the weapon. Campus Police will document this incident and forward the report to the appropriate Campus personnel.
- g. Should the owner not be immediately found, the weapon will be secured by Campus Police immediately.
- h. For all cases where a weapon is discovered, Campus Police will determine if state or federal law has been violated. If Campus Policy has been violated Campus Police will refer the matter to the Campus Conduct Coordinator or designated personnel for appropriate action.

The above procedures are for incidents where a weapon is discovered and there is no immediate threat of imminent bodily harm to a person or persons. In the event of an obvious threat of imminent harm call 911 to report this threat.

**References:**

[916.1 Possession of a Firearm or Dangerous Weapon in a Campus Residence](#)

[North Dakota Century Code § 62.1-02-05](#)

[North Dakota Century Code § 62.1-01-01](#)

[City of Bismarck Code of Ordinances Chapter 6-08](#)

**History of This Procedure:**

First policy draft January 24, 2008.

Revisions – November 22, 2010; reviewed by the Operations Council on March 11, 2015 and approved by the Executive Council on March 17, 2015; reviewed by the Operations Council on August 12, 2015 and approved by the Executive Council on August 26, 2015; March 19, 2018, changed from a policy to an operational procedure as reviewed by the Campus Council on April 26th, 2023, and reviewed by the Executive Council on May 17th, 2023, approved by the President on June 8th, 2023.