



**Environmental Protection Division
Standard Operating Procedure
HR SOP #904**

Subject: Handgun Carry for Environmental Protection Division Employees

Effective Date: June 1, 2017

Policy Statement:

Because the mission of the Environmental Protection Division (EPD) is primarily regulatory in nature, which carries with it a different public perception and public interaction than other Department of Natural Resources (DNR) divisions, a variance to DNR SOP HR903 regarding employee handgun carry is warranted. Accordingly, with the exception of EPD law enforcement employees, EPD employees are prohibited from carrying weapons into EPD offices and facilities, in state vehicles or state-paid rental vehicles, or on their person at job sites visited in the course of their regulatory responsibilities and otherwise within the scope of their job responsibilities.

As provided in the Human Resources and Administrative Policy at <http://dnrintranet.org/hr/standard-operating-procedures>, the EPD Director has the authority and discretion to approve variances to DNR Human Resources policies and standard operating procedures. Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) HR904 is an approved variance to DNR SOP HR903; it applies to employees of the EPD only.

Definitions:

Carry License: A weapons carry license issued pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 16-11-129 by a Probate Court with the official seal affixed and laminated as required.

Handgun: As defined in O.C.G.A. Section 16-11-125.1(1), a firearm of any description, loaded or unloaded, from which any shot, bullet, or other missile can be discharged by an action of an explosive where the length of the barrel, not including any revolving, detachable, or magazine breech, does not exceed 12 inches; provided, however, that the term handgun shall not include a gun which discharges a single shot of .46 centimeters or less in diameter.

Attachments:

None