

LEE COUNTY

NORTH CAROLINA

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RESOLUTION TO AMEND SECTION 2-31 OF THE LEE COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES CONCERNING CONCEALED HANDGUNS ON COUNTY PROPERTY

WHEREAS, N.C. Gen. Stat. §14-415.11 prescribes the rules under which an individual possessing a valid concealed handgun permit may carry such handgun; and,

WHEREAS, N.C. Gen. Stat. §14-415.23 gives local governments the authority to determine whether to prohibit, by ordinance, the carrying of concealed handguns on County property; and,

WHEREAS, as passed by the Lee County Board of Commissioners on November 6, 1995, Section 2-31 of the Lee County Code of Ordinances prohibits concealed handguns on County property, and signs indicating such prohibition were posted on County property; and,

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Lee County Board of Commissioners to no longer prohibit the carrying of concealed handguns on certain County property, pursuant to a concealed carry permit; and,

WHEREAS, in order to do so, it is necessary for the Board of Commissioners to modify Section 2-31 of the Lee County Code of Ordinances; and,

WHEREAS, N.C. Gen. Stat. §14-409.40 further authorizes a county to “regulate the transport, carrying, or possession of firearms by employees of the local unit of government in the course of their employment with that local unit of government;” and,

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Lee County Board of Commissioners to allow employees, subject to reasonable Personnel Policies, to carry concealed handguns on certain County property while employed by the County; and,

WHEREAS, N.C. Gen. Stat. §14-409.40 authorizes a county to regulate the possession of openly carried firearms in public-owned buildings, on the grounds or parking areas of those buildings, or in public parks or recreation areas; and,

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Lee County Board of Commissioners to modify Section 2-31 of the Lee County Code of Ordinances to prohibit the open carry of handguns and other weapons on County property; and,

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Board of Commissioners to authorize the County Manager and his designees to amend any necessary Personnel Policies to conform to these modifications.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Lee County Board of Commissioners as follows:

1. Section 2-31 of the Lee County Code of Ordinances is hereby modified to allow for the lawful carrying of properly permitted concealed handguns on certain County property, subject to any Personnel Policies or posted signage regulating such carrying. Notwithstanding the aforementioned provision, concealed

handguns shall be prohibited on the following County properties: McSwain Center, General Services Building, and the Lee County Animal Shelter.

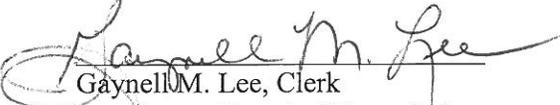
2. Section 2-31 of the Lee County Code of Ordinances is further modified to prohibit the open carry of any weapon, handgun or firearm on all County-owned property, including all County buildings, the grounds and parking areas of those buildings, and all County parks and recreation areas.
3. The County Manager and appropriate County officials are authorized to amend the Lee County Personnel Policy to establish reasonable policies and procedures for employees wishing to carry a concealed handgun onto County property during work hours.
4. The modifications made pursuant to this resolution shall take effect January 1, 2015, at which time the County Manager is directed to post appropriate signage relating to the above modifications.

First reading: September 8, 2014

Second reading: October 6, 2014

Adopted this 6th day of October, 2014.

ATTEST:


Gaynell M. Lee, Clerk
Lee County Board of Commissioners


Charles T. Parks, Chairman
Lee County Board of Commissioners