

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF IOWA**

**IN RE WEAPONS IN THE  
COURTHOUSES OF THE  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF IOWA**

**PUBLIC  
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER**

**No. 18-AO-0004-P  
(Supersedes No. 17-AO-0009-P)**

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No person is permitted to possess any weapon in a federal court facility in the Northern District of Iowa, other than as specifically provided below.

The following persons may possess a weapon in a federal court facility in the Northern District of Iowa:

1. The United States Marshal, Deputy United States Marshals, United States Probation Officers, Court Security Officers, and Federal Protective Service Officers.
2. Law enforcement personnel who are permanent tenants of the courthouse, except those identified in paragraph 1, are authorized to carry firearms directly to/from the agency office within that courthouse. Such personnel are authorized to carry their firearm so long as the firearm is concealed. However, such personnel are expressly prohibited from carrying their firearm into a courtroom or into any judge's chambers.
3. Non-tenant federal, state, and local law enforcement officers otherwise authorized to carry a firearm shall store their weapons in the secure gun lockers in the lobby of the courthouse immediately upon entering the courthouse.
4. Weapons that will be offered as an exhibit in any court proceeding may only be brought into the courthouse if first inspected and rendered safe to the satisfaction of the United States Marshal or his representative and immediately transported to a private tenant's space for safe storage prior to use in a court proceeding. Any such

weapon(s) may not be taken into a courtroom unless the lawyer or pro se party responsible for the exhibit has first: (1) notified any federal judge presiding over the proceeding; (2) notified the United States Marshal's office; and (3) taken all reasonable measures to render the exhibit as safe as possible and to disable any such weapon.

5. Law enforcement officers, correctional officers, or agents, other than those identified in paragraph 1, having custody of or transporting a prisoner to or from a federal court facility, but such officers and agents may not possess weapons in a courtroom or in a judge's chambers.

6. Courthouse tenants and contractors are permitted to possess any tools of the trade that may otherwise be prohibited by this policy, and are necessary to the performance of their duties or required to perform maintenance in or on the federal court facility. However, this exception does not authorize the possession of any firearm or ammunition in the federal court facility.

7. Other persons specifically authorized by the United States Marshal or his representative.

8. This Order shall not apply to any law enforcement officer responding to an emergency or to a call for assistance from within the courthouse.

#### **Definitions**

As used herein, the term "federal court facility" means any facility, building, or structure designated as the location at which federal court proceedings are to be conducted, as well as all property appurtenant to such facility, building, or structure.

As used herein, the term "weapon" includes:

- a. Any handgun, rifle, or shotgun, or weapon made therefrom;
- b. Any weapon (including a starter gun or antique firearm) which will, is designed to, or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; the frame or receiver of any such weapon; any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or any destructive device;

- c. Any device or instrument designed to use an electrical discharge to harm, stun, or incapacitate.
- d. Ammunition as defined by 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(17)(A);
- e. Any “destructive device”—meaning any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas, including a bomb, grenade, rocket having a propellant charge of more than four ounces, or missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter ounce;
- f. A tear gas canister, mace container, Cap-Stun, mace, pepper spray, tear gas, spray paint, or other dangerous or poisonous gas or gas container;
- g. A knife, razor, ax, hatchet, bow and arrow, ice axe/pick, throwing star, sabre, sword, box cutter, utility knife, or other dangerous cutting or sharp instrument;
- h. A device, instrument, material, or substance, animate or inanimate, that is used for, or is capable of, causing death or injury;
- i. Any item which, while not operational as a weapon, is designed to appear or appears as a weapon, or which may be used to intimidate or to simulate a weapon;
- j. Any BB or pellet gun, compressed air gun, antique firearm, flare gun, spear gun, dart gun, or slingshot;
- k. Any billy club, blackjack, brass knuckles, night stick, martial arts weapon such as nun chucks or a kubaton; and
- l. Any device or instrument designed or redesigned for use as a weapon or dangerous instrument, or combination of parts which may be readily assembled into a weapon or dangerous instrument.

In addition to any other federal or state statutes, failure to comply with this Order is punishable by criminal contempt under 18 U.S.C. § 401, by fine or imprisonment or both.

This Order is effective immediately.

IT IS SO ORDERED this 4<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2018.



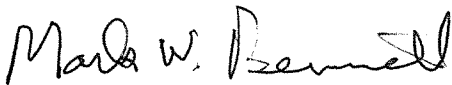
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LEONARD T. STRAND  
CHIEF JUDGE  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF IOWA



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LINDA R. READE  
DISTRICT JUDGE  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF IOWA



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MARK W. BENNETT  
DISTRICT JUDGE  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF IOWA



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C.J. WILLIAMS  
CHIEF MAGISTRATE JUDGE  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF IOWA



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KELLY K.E. MAHONEY  
MAGISTRATE JUDGE  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF IOWA