



Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama Firearms & Dangerous Weapons Policy



POLICY

The Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama (“Board”) wishes to provide a safe and welcoming environment for its Board members, employees, licensees, guests, and visitors. To help ensure the safety of our office and board meeting spaces, it is the policy of the Board to prohibit the possession of firearms and/or dangerous weapons by any person, to include persons possessing valid pistol permits, unless approved by the executive director or his/her designee. This approval, whether verbal or in writing, must be received prior to a person(s) coming into the office or board meeting spaces.

This policy does not apply to 1) any certified law enforcement professional acting in their official capacity; 2) private security personnel specifically being employed by the Board to provide armed security services; or 3) persons who frequent the office and board meeting spaces who have demonstrated a need to the executive director (i.e. current board members, hearing officers, attorneys, etc.).

The Board authorizes its investigator, a sworn law enforcement officer, to enforce this policy and act as the liaison between the Board and local law enforcement personnel.

APPLICATION & ENFORCEMENT

The Board will post signage notifying any persons entering the office or board meeting space of the prohibition of firearms and/ or dangerous weapons. (Attachment 1)

Upon a person being identified as possessing a firearm and/or a dangerous weapon within the prohibited space, the Board’s investigator will make contact with the individual and ascertain if the individual has a valid pistol permit, if carrying concealed. The individual will be verbally notified of the Board’s policy and asked to leave the premises and secure the firearm/dangerous weapon in their vehicle or other authorized location, such as an on-premises gun locker, if available.

Should the person not possess a valid pistol permit and yet carry a pistol in a concealed manner, the individual will be detained by the board investigator and local law enforcement contacted to determine whether a custodial arrest is warranted.

Should the person be in compliance with applicable state law regarding the carrying or possession of a firearm but refuse to leave upon request, the individual will be detained by the board investigator and local law enforcement contacted. Upon arrival of local law enforcement personnel, a decision will be made to either issue a formal trespass warning prohibiting the individual from returning to the property or pursue a charge of criminal trespass under Ala. Code (1975), § 13A-7-4.

This policy will be published on the Board’s website and is available for review, upon request, at the Board’s office.