

Charlottesville VA

Sec. 33-10. – Prohibition of Firearms on City Property.

(a.) The possession, carrying or transportation of firearms, ammunition, or components or combination thereof (1) in any buildings, or parts thereof, owned or used, by the city, or by any authority or local governmental entity created or controlled by the city, for governmental purposes; or (2) in parks owned or operated by the city, or by any authority or local governmental entity created or controlled by the city; or (3) in any recreational or community center facility operated by the city, or by any authority or local governmental entity created or controlled by the city; or (4) in any public street, road, alley, sidewalk, public right-of-way, or any other place of whatever nature that is open to the public and is being used by or is adjacent to a permitted event or event that would otherwise require a permit, is prohibited. For purposes of this ordinance, governmental purposes shall not include housing provided by the Charlottesville Redevelopment and Housing Authority nor shall it include the provision of parking provided by the city.

(b.) The possession, carrying, storage or transportation of firearms by city employees, agents or volunteers in workplaces owned, operated or managed by the city is prohibited.

(c.) Pursuant to this section, the city may implement security measures that are designed to reasonably prevent the unauthorized access of such buildings, parks, recreation or community center facilities, or public streets, roads, alleys, or sidewalks or public rights-of-way or any other place of whatever nature that is open to the public and is being used by or is adjacent to a permitted event or an event that would otherwise require a permit by a person with any firearms, ammunition, or components or combination thereof, such as the use of metal detectors and increased use of security personnel.

(d.) This section shall not apply to

- (1) military personnel when acting within the scope of their official duties; or
- (2) sworn law enforcement officers engaged in the performance of their public duties or providing security to a special event pursuant to a permit issued by the Charlottesville City Manager for the duration of the permitted special event; or
- (3) a Senior Reserve Officers' Training Corps program operated at a public or private institution of higher education in accordance with the provisions of 10 U.S.C. § 2101 et seq.;
- (4) any intercollegiate athletics program operated by a public or private institution of higher education and governed by the National Collegiate Athletic Association or any club sports team recognized by a public or private institution of higher education where the sport engaged in by such program or team involves the use of a firearm. Such activities shall follow strict guidelines developed by such institutions for these activities and shall be conducted under the supervision of staff officials of such institutions;
- (5) an armed security officer licensed by the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services providing security to a special event pursuant to a permit issued by the Charlottesville City Manager for the duration of the permitted special event; or

(6.) historical re-enactors and any other persons who possess firearms that are inoperative or otherwise incapable of discharging a projectile, and are not loaded with inoperable ammunition, when such persons are participating in, or traveling to or from special events that involve the display or demonstration of such firearms. Before the use of an inoperative firearm in a special event, the individual who will be possessing the firearm shall allow a City official designated on the special event permit to inspect the firearm to ensure its inoperability and the absence of ammunition.

(e.) Notice of the restrictions imposed by this ordinance shall be posted

- (1) at all entrances of any building, or part thereof, owned or used by the city, or by any authority or local governmental entity created or controlled by the city, for governmental purposes;
- (2) at all entrances of any public park owned or operated by the city, or by any authority or local governmental entity created or controlled by the city;
- (3) at all entrances of any recreation or community center facilities operated by the city, or by any authority or local governmental entity created or controlled by the city; and
- (4) at all entrances or other appropriate places of ingress and egress to any public street, road, alley, or sidewalk or public right-of-way or any other place of whatever nature that is open to the public and is being used by or is adjacent to a permitted event or an event that would otherwise require a permit.

(f.) For purposes of this section, the term “firearm” means any handgun, shotgun, or rifle that will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel single or multiple projectiles by action of an explosion of a combustible material.

(g.) Any violation of section 33-10 is unlawful and shall be punished as a Class 1 misdemeanor.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that this ordinance shall be effective on October 1, 2020.