

## **Campus Security & Violence Prevention**

### **Responsible Administrator: Director of Human Resources**

**POLICY:** Southwest Tech promotes a safe and healthy campus environment for all those who work at or use its facilities. The College strives to maintain a campus community free from violence, threats of violence, harassment, intimidation and other disruptive behaviors.

Violence, threats of violence, harassment, intimidation, possession or storage of unauthorized weapons\*, or other disruptive behaviors that communicate the potential for physical harm, either directly or indirectly, are prohibited and will not be tolerated. Such behaviors can include oral or written statements, gestures or expressions.

To maintain a healthy campus environment, it is essential that:

1. Everyone be responsible in reporting threats, acts of violence or harassment to their supervisor and e-mail concerns@swtc.edu. If the employee, student or visitor feels there is an immediate severe threat, call 911.
2. Reported incidents be taken seriously and individuals who commit such acts may be removed from the premises and may be subject to disciplinary action or expulsion, as well as civil and/or criminal penalties
3. Students are disciplined in accordance with the provisions of the College Student Code of Conduct
4. Employees are disciplined in accordance with any applicable labor agreement and/or applicable college policy and procedure

\* A weapon includes any type of firearm, whether or not a permit is obtained; switchblade; knife (excluding eating utensils or used for any purpose other than educational functions or employment duties); metal knuckles; explosives; compressed gas-operated weapons; electric weapons as defined in state statutes; hunting archery equipment; knives which open by gravity, thrust or movement; martial arts weapons, and any other device which, based on the manner it is used or is intended to be used, is calculated or likely to produce bodily harm.

Exceptions: Knives possessed, transported or used by staff and students in the normal course of an educational program or employment duties provided that such possession, transport or use is not intended or likely to produce bodily harm. Pepper spray, as allowed by state law, is not to be considered a prohibited weapon provided the spray is only used for personal defense. Possession, transport or use of weapons by individuals

who are required to carry a weapon as part of their employment or education program (such as law enforcement students and law enforcement instructors and police officers), provided that such possession, transport or use is in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations and is in accordance with employment and educational requirements. In addition, all certified police officers on Southwest Tech campus are allowed to carry firearms as well as any other persons as designated by HR218; either concealed or openly with proper police identification to include a photographic identification card issued by the governmental agency for which the individual is employed as a law enforcement officer.

Approval Date: 6/24/10

Revision Date: 3/12/13