

**AN ORDINANCE PERMITTING THE POSTING OF SIGNS
TO PROHIBIT THE CARRYING OF CONCEALED HANDGUNS
ON CERTAIN COUNTY PROPERTY**

WHEREAS, Chapter 398 of the 1995 Session Laws changes prior law by establishing a system that will allow private citizens to obtain permits to carry concealed handguns; and

WHEREAS, this change in the law will significantly increase the number of individuals who may legally carry concealed handguns; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners is concerned about the increased presence of concealed handguns on County property and about the threat that such increased presence will pose to the health, safety, and general welfare of the community; and

WHEREAS, N.C.G.S.#14-415.23 authorizes Counties to adopt ordinances to permit the posting of a prohibition against carrying a concealed handgun, in accordance with N.C.G.S.#14-415.11(c), on County buildings, their appurtenant premises, and parks; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of this ordinance to permit the posting of County property such that the carrying of concealed handguns on the posted premises will constitute a violation of N.C.G.S. Chapter 14, Article 54B;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Washington County Board of Commissioners that:

Section 1. Posting of Signs Required. The County Manager is hereby authorized to post appropriate signage on each park, building or portion of a building now or hereafter owned, leased as lessee, operated, occupied, managed or controlled by Washington County, as well as the appurtenant premises to such buildings, indicating that concealed handguns are prohibited therein.

Section 2. Location of Signs. Said signs shall be visibly posted on the exterior of each entrance by which the general public can access the building, appurtenant premise, or park. The County Manager shall exercise discretion in determining the necessity and appropriate location for other signs posted on the interior of the building, appurtenant premise, or park.

Section 3. Exemption. This ordinance shall not apply to the following:

Law Enforcement Officers

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Section 4. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be effective on and after
December 1, 1995.

ADOPTED this the 16 day of October, 1995.

C. M. Stokes
Chairman

Howard L. Davenport
Vice-Chairman

H. W. [unclear]
Commissioner

Billy Waters
Commissioner

[unclear]
Commissioner

JB/nm
10.4.95