

UW Whitewater Police



Weapons Storage for Medical Transports

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| Special Instructions: | | | |
| Approved By: Chief Kiederlen | Effective Date: 1/4/2012 | Revised Date: 10/11/2022 | Revision number: 2 |

I. Purpose

The purpose of this General Order is to provide officers with guidance in dealing with legally possessed weapons located on a person being transported to a medical facility.

II. Policy

It is the policy of UW-Whitewater Police Department (UWWPD) to make sure all weapons are properly secured when dealing with legally possessed weapons located on a person that requires medical transportation to a medical facility. Officers will also be expected to uphold current state and federal laws in dealing with Concealed Carry Weapon (CCW) Permit Holders.

III. Procedure

A. Contact with the Patient

1. Officers may learn that a person has a weapon on them either from the patient, medical personnel or the officer's own observations.
2. If the patient is conscious, the officer should attempt to determine if the person is a CCW Permit Holder by speaking with the patient and/or checking for their permit.
 - a. This does not apply for a person legally carrying an unconcealed weapon, i.e. "open carry".
 - b. If conscious, the officer will explain to the patient that the weapon cannot be taken to the medical facility and the officer will be taking the weapon for safekeeping. The patient will be told where the weapon will be stored and how it can be picked up.
3. If the patient is not conscious, the officer will take the weapon for safekeeping until the patient is able to take possession of the weapon.
 - a. The officer will send a note with the patient on what happened to the weapon with contact information for UWWPD.
 - b. The officer will also advise medical staff and Dispatch Center of the location of the weapon for safekeeping.

B. Storage of the Weapon

1. The officer will return to UW-Whitewater Police Department with the weapon and safely clear the weapon.

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2. The weapon will then be stored in the weapons safe as is outlined in General Order 86.00 Community Firearms Storage. The officer will complete the information card with what information the officer has.
 3. Ammunition, if applicable, will be stored in a separate sealed bag in the weapons storage safe with contact information for the person on it.
- C. Return of Weapon to Patient
1. When the patient is able to retrieve the weapon, it will be released to the patient according to General Order 86.00 Community Firearms Storage.
 2. The officer will also verify the person has a valid CCW Permit, if applicable. The weapon and ammunition will then be returned to the person as they are leaving UWWPD.
- D. Other Situations where a Weapon Needs to be Stored
1. The above procedure can also be used for situations where a weapon needs to be secured because the person cannot take it to a location they are traveling to.
 2. An example would be a person being taken into custody for a minor traffic warrant that needs to be taken to a secure facility or transferred to another law enforcement agency.