

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF CONNECTICUT**

ORDER RE: WEAPONS POLICY FOR THE DISTRICT OF CONNECTICUT

To ensure the safety of litigants, witnesses, attorneys, the public, and court personnel who enter or occupy its space, the Court issues the following order, effective immediately:

No person is permitted to possess any weapon in any space serving the District of Connecticut, except as specifically provided below.

The following persons may possess a weapon in spaces serving the District of Connecticut:

1. The United States Marshal, Deputy United States Marshals, Court Security Officers, and Federal Protective Police and their contract security officers;
2. Federal law enforcement officers and agents, (1) except in the Richard C. Lee U.S. Courthouse and property outside but attached to that building, (2) except on the Seventeenth Floor of the Connecticut Financial Center, 157 Church Street, New Haven (the Probation Office), (3) except in any temporary seats of court not mentioned herein, and (4) except, with respect to the Ribicoff, McMahon, and Giamo Federal Buildings, in any courtroom or any grand jury suite, hallway, conference room, robing room, attorney or witness room, chambers, the Clerk's Office, elevator bank, public restroom, property outside but attached to those buildings, or other area serving the U.S. District Court for the District of Connecticut (a "court-appurtenant space"). Such officers and agents may possess weapons in a courtroom or court-appurtenant space only if expressly authorized by the United States Marshal;

3. The federal law enforcement officer or agent who is identified as the case agent by the United States Attorney or his designee; such an officer or agent may possess a weapon in a courtroom and, as necessary to reach the courtroom, in a court-appurtenant space;
4. Law enforcement officers or agents having custody or in charge of the transportation of a prisoner to or from a federal court facility, but such officers and agents may not possess weapons in courtrooms or court-appurtenant spaces unless specifically authorized to do so by the United States Marshal;
5. Correctional officers of the State of Connecticut, entrusted with responsibility of transporting a state prisoner to or from a federal court facility, but such officers may not possess weapons in courtrooms or court-appurtenant spaces unless specifically authorized to do so by the United States Marshal;
6. Other persons specifically authorized by the United States Marshal or his deputy;
7. In the Ribicoff and McMahon Federal Buildings and the Connecticut Financial Center, Probation Officers may possess weapons to transport them to and from storage in the Probation Office.

No weapon intended for introduction as an exhibit in Court or to a Grand Jury may be brought into any building housing a federal court or court-appurtenant space in this District unless first presented to the United States Marshal or his deputy for a safety check and the United States Marshal or his deputy reports to the Clerk that the check has been completed.

As used herein the term "weapon" includes:

1. Any weapon (including a starter gun or antique firearm) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; the frame or

- receiver of any such weapon; any “ghost gun”; any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or any destructive device;
2. Any device or instrument designed to use an electrical discharge to harm or incapacitate, e.g., a Taser or stun gun.
 3. Ammunition as defined by 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(17);
 4. Any “destructive device” means any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas, including a bomb, grenade, rocket having a propellant charge of more than four ounces, or missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter ounce;
 5. A tear gas canister, mace container, Cap-Stun, or other dangerous gas or gas container;
 6. A knife, stiletto, razor, or other dangerous cutting or sharp instrument;
 7. A collapsible baton or ASP baton;
 8. A device, instrument, material or substance, animate or inanimate that is used for, or is capable of, causing death or injury;
 9. Any device which, while not operational as a weapon, is designed to appear or appears as a weapon, or which may be used to intimidate or to simulate a weapon (such as a facsimile firearm); and,
 10. Any device or instrument designed or redesigned for use as a weapon or dangerous instrument, or combination of parts which may be readily assembled into a weapon or dangerous instrument.

This Order supersedes the ORDER RE: WEAPONS POLICY FOR UNITED STATES COURTROOMS AND COURTROOM FACILITIES IN THE DISTRICT OF CONNECTICUT, dated April 8, 2016, and is effective immediately.

In addition to any other federal or state offenses, failure to comply with this Order is punishable by criminal contempt under 18 U.S.C. § 401 by fine or imprisonment or both.

SO ORDERED, this 9th day of June, 2025 at Hartford, Connecticut.

/s/ Michael P. Shea

Michael P. Shea

Chief United States District Judge