

# RCA/RCC Provisional Safety Policy

April 26, 2021

## 1. Provisional Policy.

- a. This safety policy for Riverside Christian Academy (RCA) shall be a provisional policy until such time as a permanent and more detailed policy can be developed and approved.
- b. RCA, in conjunction with leadership and members of Riverside Church of Christ (RCC) shall establish a committee to draft a permanent safety policy to cover all events upon this campus and shall adopt appropriate policies for RCA school staff and volunteers, RCC church members, and other specific individuals.
- c. The permanent policy should be adopted by Aug 1, 2022.

## 2. Safety Teams.

- a. RCC/RCA shall have Safety Teams composed of active adult RCC members, so willing, and other individuals who may be approved, who shall be classified into the following two groups:
  - i. *Campus Safety Team.*
    1. Members of the Campus Safety Team shall be approved by RCC Shepherds and the RCA Board.
  - . *Church Safety Team.*
    1. Members of the Church Safety Team shall be approved by the RCC Shepherds.
- . Within each group, each safety team member shall be designated as one or the other of the following:
  - i. Handgun-ready members.
  - ii. Supporting members (non-handgun).
- a. All handgun-ready safety team members shall meet the following criteria:
  - i. Possess a valid state-issued carry permit and in all other ways be lawfully permitted to possess and carry a handgun for purposes of being armed. If the permit is from a state other than TN, it must be from a state with reciprocity from TN.

## 3. Campus Safety Team.

- a. Handgun-ready members of the Campus Safety Team are not only permitted, but encouraged to carry a handgun at all times when present on the RCC campus and, if armed, are expected to be in "safety mode" at all times and locations upon the campus, including during RCA school related events and 3rd party events.
- b. Handguns shall be carried concealed and shall be securely holstered or otherwise made secure from inadvertent use or accident.
- c. All members of the Campus Safety Team shall be issued badges and "safety vests" for use when it is appropriate for event attendees to know when safety is present. Only the RCA President, or his designee, shall

decide when visible safety is invoked. Otherwise, section 3(b) is to be assumed in effect at all times.

#### **4. Church Safety Team.**

- a. Handgun-ready members of the Church Safety Team are not only permitted, but expected to carry a handgun at all times when present on the RCC campus during church-related events only, and are expected to be in "safety mode" at all such times and locations upon the campus, excluding during RCA school related events (unless the handgun-ready member is also a member of the Campus Safety Team).
- b. Handguns may be carried concealed or open, but shall in all cases be securely holstered or otherwise made secure from inadvertent use or accident.
- c. All members of the Church Safety Team shall be issued badges for use when it is appropriate for event attendees to know when safety is present.

#### **5. Training.**

- a. All handgun-ready safety team members shall attend safety team training at least two times per calendar year.
- b. All handgun-ready safety team members shall be proficient in marksmanship and, to ensure and maintain marksmanship, shall participate in firing range operations every 180 days expending no less than 100 rounds of ammunition. Such firing range activity shall be logged and reported to the Safety Team Leader.

#### **6. The Safety Team Leader.**

- a. Each year, the Safety Team shall select its leader from among the active team membership who shall serve for 12 months and be eligible for re-appointment.
- b. The safety team leader shall be responsible for:
  - i. Maintain logs of marksmanship training by all members of the safety teams.
  - ii. Scheduling team events and team training throughout the year, as appropriate, to ensure the safety team is equipped for emergency scenarios.
  - iii. Scheduling the rotation for designated roles (such as safety usher) during scheduled church services.
  - iv. Coordinating with the RCA President for coverage of school related events and with the RCC Shepherds for church-related events.

#### **7. Other Church Members.**

- a. Notwithstanding these policies, active adult members of RCC who hold valid state-issued TN or AL carry permits shall not be denied the right to carry on their person during worship services and regular church-related events.