

## Students

### Campus Security Officers

The Woodstock Academy Board of Trustees believes that in order to make The Academy safer and secure, The Academy may employ Campus Security Officers at the discretion of the Head of School with direct consultation with the Board of Trustees. Campus Security Officers must be trained and fit the requirements established by the State of Connecticut and the Federal Government.

The utilization of Campus Security Officers at The Academy is to accomplish the following goals:

1. To provide a safe learning environment and help reduce school violence.
2. To improve school/law enforcement collaboration.

#### Use of Force

It is the policy of the Woodstock Academy Board of Trustees that physical force may only be used in certain justifiable circumstances to assure the safety of a staff member or a third party, to restrain a third party from injuring themselves or another, or when necessary to restrain or detain another during an incident. While the ultimate objective in an encounter is to minimize injury to anyone, nothing in this policy requires a Campus Security Officer to actually sustain physical injury before applying reasonable force to the degree necessary.

Each Campus Security Officers is expected to respond to all emergency situations decisively and with the highest level of good judgment and professional competence. Regardless of the nature of the situation or legal justification a Campus Security Officers must remember that his/her basic responsibility is to protect the public as well as themselves.

A Campus Security Officer will use all other means reasonable before using force against another. In certain circumstances the use of force will be required without the opportunity to use an alternate means of defense.

#### Use of Firearms and Deadly Force

A Campus Security Officer may use firearms in circumstances that there is no other reasonable alternative available. Officers are to be aware that they will not fire their weapons unless there is legal justification to cause the death or serious physical injury of another and the substantial threat of extreme danger is present and warrants the use of deadly force. The Officer must have first-hand knowledge of the facts and circumstances as they currently exist. An Officer will not fire his/her weapon unless due consideration is given to what is beyond the intended target and the potential risk to innocent persons.

The use of deadly force is warranted when the intent is to stop a hostile and aggressive act whose continuation will likely result in the death or serious physical injury of the Officer or another person. Once the threat is eliminated the decision to use deadly force must be reexamined. To stop a fleeing felon when the Officer has personal knowledge that the person has used, or is about to use deadly force against another person or the Officer and if allowed to continue he/she will endanger additional lives. Property should always be considered secondary and should not influence the Officer's decision to use deadly force.

Officers should not fire at a moving vehicle except as a last resort to protect life. The Officer must be aware that in general, handgun ammunition is incapable of stopping a moving vehicle. If the driver is struck the vehicle may still continue, therefore the Officer should be prepared to take evasive action and reevaluate the situation.

A Officer should not draw, point or display his/her firearm unless circumstances dictate that the necessity to protect life may be imminent or during firearms practice in a safe and secure environment or when securing his/her firearm to be stored.

In any situation where force is used immediate medical assistance will be requested for all parties involved whenever necessary. All use of firearms and use of force incidents must meet the requirements stated in all Connecticut State Statutes and Federal Law.

#### Discharging or Drawing of a Firearm

Notification to the Connecticut State Police shall be made as soon as practical after a firearms related incident.

An Officer who draws or discharges his/her firearm for any reason other than approved training or storage shall make notification and file a report to the Head of School. Notification will also be made to the Associate Head of School and the Campus Security Officer's Supervisor.

#### Investigating and Review of Firearms Discharges

Investigation of all firearm discharges shall be conducted by the Connecticut State Police according to their protocol and are subject to constraints set forth by Connecticut State Statutes and Federal Laws. An internal review of the incident after the police report is complete, will be conducted by the Head of School.

Campus Security Officers should be aware that their firearm may be confiscated by the State Police as evidence.

Violation of rules of The Woodstock Academy, Connecticut or federal law, may result in termination of employment and may subject the Security Officer to civil or criminal action. Security Officers shall be indemnified while acting as agents for The Woodstock Academy and in the performance of their duty.

#### Use of Force Other Than Deadly Force

The use of force other than deadly force by a Campus Security Officer is permitted but only under circumstances when necessary to protect themselves or a third party, and the use of other means were unsuccessful and physical force is deemed necessary by the security officer. The force used shall not be greater than what is necessary and reasonable to prevent potential physical injury to themselves or a third party.

Campus Security Officer should use their physical presence and verbal commands whenever feasible before using physical contact of any type.

Security Officers shall not carry any other weapons unless approved by the Head of School.

All use of force incidents shall be reported to the Campus Security Officers Supervisor who will notify the Head of School and the Associate Head of School as soon as practical.

Emergency medical assistance shall be requested in any incident where physical injury is evident.

#### Weapon and Holsters

The Woodstock Academy will provide a stipend to each officer who is certified and qualified to purchase an approved firearm, holster, and ammunition.

Campus Security Officer will carry their fully loaded firearm at all times while on duty. Only approved ammunition will be utilized. It shall be the responsibility of the Officer to properly store firearm in a safe manner, in accordance with Connecticut law and firearm safety practices.

Campus Security Officers will be considered the owner of the approved firearm. Security Officers' firearms will be periodically inspected for serviceability and maintenance. Upon the return to the regular school schedule in the fall, old ammunition will be replaced with new ammunition. The old ammunition will be used during firearms training.

Only approved weapons and holsters will be carried while working as a Woodstock Academy Campus Security Officer.

#### Training and Qualifications

To hold a position as a Campus Security Officer at The Woodstock Academy the individual must possess or complete the following and any additional regulations or laws required by the State of Connecticut:

1. Must possess and maintain a valid Connecticut state pistol permit.
2. Must be a retired police officer or federal law enforcement official in good standing.
3. Must qualify with their duty pistol to the standard set by the State of Connecticut a minimum of once per year with an approved firearms instructor.
4. Must complete the Connecticut Police Academy annual training as require by state law to carry a firearm at a school.
5. Must pass psychological testing when hired and at least every five years, or any other time deemed necessary by the Head of School.
6. Must complete any additional training deemed necessary by The Woodstock Academy Head of School or his/her designee.

Campus Security Officers failing to attend mandatory training or failing to meet any of the qualifications listed above will face revocation of authorization to carry a firearm and may face termination.

#### Definitions

1. **Deadly Force** is that degree of force which can be reasonably expected to cause death or serious physical injury.
2. **Minimum Amount of Force** is that degree of force that will permit officers to render the situation non-threatening, while still maintaining a high level of safety for themselves and others.
3. **Serious Physical Injury** means physical injury which creates substantial risk of death, or which causes serious disfigurement, serious impairment of health or serious loss or impairment of the function of any bodily organ.
4. **Physical Injury** means impairment of physical condition or pain.
5. **Reasonable Belief** that which is sufficient to warrant a person of reasonable caution and prudence to believe that a situation exists.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

Public Act 13-188

53-18 Use of reasonable physical force or deadly physical force general.

53a-19 Use of physical force in defense of a person.

53a-20 Use of physical force in defense of premises.

53a-21 Use of physical force in defense of property.

53a-22f Use of physical force in making an arrest or preventing escape.

Policy Adopted: August 23, 2016

The Woodstock Academy  
Woodstock, Connecticut