



RRCA School Marshal Policy (adopted April 19, 2018)

Background

HB 1009, passed by the 83rd legislature, allows public school districts and open enrollment charter schools to appoint School Marshals. The 84th legislature passed SB 386 to include Public two year junior colleges in the list of institutions that can appoint School Marshals. The 85th legislature passed HB 867, which allows private schools to appoint School Marshals.

A RRCA School Marshal may make arrests and exercise all authority given to peace officers under Section 2, Chapter 2, Article 2.127, Code of Criminal Procedure, but only to the extent necessary to prevent or abate the commission of an offense that threatens serious bodily injury or death on school premises. A RRCA School Marshal may act only as defined by the written regulations adopted by the RRCA Board of Directors.

After making application with the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement, a qualifying institution must send the candidate to an 80 hour training course, conducted by a law enforcement academy that has been specifically prepared to provide the school marshal curriculum. Among the topics covered in the School Marshal course are: physical security, improving the security of the campus, use of force, active shooter response, and weapon proficiency. No other course can be substituted or exempt an individual from the specific school marshal training course.

Application and Selection Process

The Appointing Entity is the RRCA Board of Directors. The RRCA Board will first submit the completed Appointing Entity Number Application to the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE). This form designates all authorized signatures on forms and paperwork to follow. *(This process was slightly changed in 2.1.2016 with HB 2684, Rule 211.16, Establishment of an Appointing Entity, which removed the requirement of submitting the agency number when applying for an agency. The number is always issued after the application has been approved.)*

Next, the RRCA Board will select the candidate(s) for School Marshal.

- Candidate(s) must be an employee(s) of Round Rock Christian Academy.
- Candidate(s) must hold a valid License to Carry, issued through the Texas Department of Public Safety. (Copy submitted to TCOLE).
- Candidate(s) must pass a psychological exam (TCOLE will provide this form).
- Candidate(s) attends/completes TCOLE approved 80 hour School Marshal course.

RRCA will then submit the School Marshal Appointment Form and Fee. Once approved, a School Marshal license will be issued to the candidate(s). He or she will then be authorized to act as a School Marshal, per the written regulations as described in this policy.

Implementation

Once the School Marshal(s) has completed the above steps, he/she will begin actively serving as a marshal at RRCA.

- The marshal may carry a concealed handgun on his/her person, unless the primary duty of the school marshal involves regular, direct contact with students; in that case, the school marshal must place the handgun in a locked and secured safe on the physical premises of the school and within the marshal's immediate reach.
- A school marshal may access a handgun only under circumstances that would justify the use of deadly force for the safety or protection of others as provided by the law.
- The marshal may only use frangible duty ammunition approved for the purpose of TCOLE Tex. Educ. Code 37.0811.

- RRCA School Marshal(s) will be knowledgeable of all RRCA Emergency Procedures regarding an active threat to the campus or students.

Ongoing Inspection and Training

The school marshal will abide by the following guidelines with regard to coordination with local police authorities:

- The marshal will meet any annual inspection and registration procedures for the duty handgun that are required by Round Rock Police Department (RRPD).
- The marshal will take advantage of any applicable training opportunities that are provided by RRPD annually.
- The marshal will complete and pass the TCOLE weapons qualification course of fire at RRPD annually, if required by RRPD.

Inactive Status

A RRCA employee's status as a school marshal becomes inactive upon:

- Expiration of the employee's school marshal license under Occupations Code 1701.260
- Suspension or revocation of the employee's license to carry a handgun.
- Termination of the employee's employment contract with RRCA.
- Notice from the RRCA Board that the employee's services as a school marshal are no longer required.

Right to Know About School Marshal

The Texas Education Code section 37.0811(h) states that if an enrolled student's parent inquires in writing, the school shall provide the parent written notice indicating whether any employee of the school is currently appointed as a school marshal. The notice may not disclose confidential information identifying the individual.

Revisions approved by Board members May 1, 2018 via email