

# **Concealed Carry Program for New Prospect Baptist Church**

## **I. Purpose**

In the interests of the safety of our members and guests, the following Policy regarding who may carry a firearm on the property of New Prospect Baptist Church, located at 9321, Highway 9, Inman, SC (hereinafter "church" or "the church") is adopted and implemented by the deacons as of April 22, 2018.

## **II. General Prohibition Against Possession of Firearms on Church Property**

With the exception of active duty law enforcement officers, no person may carry a firearm on the property of New Prospect Baptist Church without obtaining permission (Written Authorization) as specifically provided in this Policy.

This prohibition shall apply regardless if such person has a Concealed Weapons Permit (CWP). Specifically, while South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended, authorizes certain persons having a Concealed Weapons Permit (CWP) to carry a firearm, under such laws a person must still obtain the church's permission to carry a firearm on church property. Without such permission, even a CWP holder is prohibited from carrying a firearm on church property. Accordingly, this Policy shall constitute the only means by which a CWP holder may carry a firearm on church property with permission as required by S.C. Code § 23-31-215(M)(8).

## **III. Program (CCP) Oversight and Process**

A. A Program is hereby created for providing authority and oversight for who may carry a firearm on the property of New Prospect Baptist Church. This Program shall be referred to as the Concealed Carry Program of New Prospect Baptist Church or "CCP."

B. The CCP shall be overseen by an active deacon or a person chosen by the board of deacons, hereinafter the "CCP Administrator," as authorized in a meeting of the deacons. The CCP Administrator shall report to, and serve at the discretion of, the board of active deacons.

C. A person carrying a firearm lawfully on the property of the church must meet all of the following requirements:

- a. a member of the church for at least one year and in good standing;
- b. holder of an unexpired South Carolina CWP;
- c. selected by the CCP administrator;
- d. undertake and meet the Training and Shooting Qualifications as set forth herein;

- e. having insurance as set forth herein;
- f. be approved by the board of deacons;
- g. carry a firearm on church property only as set forth herein; and
- h. agree to serve on the church's Safety Team and to promptly inform the Safety Team, the Deacon of the Week, or the CCP Administrator whenever the member is carrying a firearm on church property on the Lord's Day.

D. The CCP Administrator shall present a written report to the deacons identifying a member meeting the above requirements. After receiving official approval from the board of deacons, a member will be provided with Written Authorization indicating that such member is authorized to carry a firearm on church property (hereinafter "Authorized Member"). Such Authorized Member shall maintain a copy of such Written Authorization. The CCP Administrator shall maintain a written record of all Authorized Members having Written Authorization, including the date of issuance, and shall provide a copy of such written record to the senior pastor or board of deacons upon request.

a. Written Authorization will be valid for one year only and will expire automatically if not renewed by a subsequent Written Authorization from the board of deacons. The Written Authorization will specifically list the firearm(s) the Authorized Member is authorized to carry.

b. Authorization may be renewed annually by issuing another Written Authorization as provided herein. Any member seeking such renewal must requalify and meet all requirements of this Policy.

c. Authorization may be revoked by the board of deacons or the senior pastor at any time for any reason. Any such revocation shall be communicated to the CCP Administrator and the board of deacons. Such revocation may be provided to a member orally, shall be effective immediately, and will be confirmed in writing.

d. The CCP Administrator may revoke any Authorized Member's authorization to carry a firearm if in his/her sole judgment the individual has violated any firearms safety protocol, any other provisions of this policy, or the CCP Administrator decides for any other reason such authorization should be revoked. The CCP Administrator will report this revocation to the deacon board, which will have final decision making authority over any matter involving CWP carry and authorization. Such revocation by the CCP Administrator may be provided to a member orally, shall be effective immediately, and will be confirmed in writing.

#### **IV. Training and Shooting Qualifications**

A. The following Training and Shooting Qualifications must be met by any member seeking Written Authorization under this policy, whether such is a renewal or a first-time Authorization. In the case of a renewal, a member must repeat the following Training and Shooting qualifications annually before Written Authorization is renewed. In the case of a first-time Authorization, before receiving such Written Authorization, the member must complete the following Training and Shooting qualifications. Whether renewal or a first-time authorization, the member must provide the CCP Administrator with proof of completion of EACH of the following

BEFORE Written Authorization will be provided so as to become an Authorized Member or before Written Authorization will be renewed to remain an Authorized Member:

B. The following Training and Shooting Qualifications training must be conducted by one or more of the following persons approved by the CCP Administrator: i) a certified CWP instructor under South Carolina law, ii) a law enforcement officer (active or retired if credentialed), or iii) a certified firearms instructor. To be authorized to carry under the CCP, the member must provide the CCP Administrator with written proof of completion of EACH of the following BEFORE becoming an Authorized Member or before being renewed as an Authorized Member:

- a. a signed, written record of qualification on a gun range using each of the same firearms, ammo, and holster the member intends to use in carrying a firearm under the CCP (such firearm(s) shall be specifically identified in the signed, written record). For each such firearm, the member must fire at least fifty (50) shots as follows, without a rest or other prop, without assistance from the Range Officer or anyone else, and with at least 80% accuracy (at least 80 percent of all shots must hit the target and meet the requirements of each stage as verified in the sole discretion of the Range Officer, who shall either be the CCP Administrator or his designee):

**Stage 1 - Each starting from the holster (for this stage, ALL shots must fall in the 0 or -1 section of the Official IDPA target)**

- i) 3 shots at 3 yards in 5 seconds
- ii) 3 shots at 3 yards in 5 seconds
- iii) 3 shots at 3 yards in 5 seconds
- iv) 3 shots at 3 yards in 5 seconds

**Stage 2 – Each starting from the holster**

- i) 3 shots at 7 yards in 10 seconds
- ii) 3 shots at 7 yards in 10 seconds
- iii) 3 shots at 7 yards in 10 seconds

**Stage 3 – Reload at 10 yards**

The member will begin with a weapon in the holster having only 4 rounds, one of which is in the chamber and will have a spare magazine with four rounds loaded and carried on the member's body. Upon being instructed to commence by the Range Officer, the member will draw and fire 4 rounds at 10 yards. The member will then reload using the spare magazine and fire 4 more rounds at 10 yards. Total allowed time for this stage is 15 seconds.

**Stage 4 - Each starting from the holster**

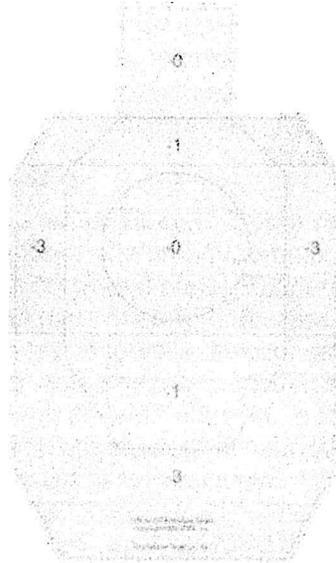
- i) 3 shots at 12 yards in 10 seconds
- ii) 3 shots at 12 yards in 10 seconds
- iii) 3 shots at 12 yards in 10 seconds
- iv) 3 shots at 12 yards in 10 seconds

**Stage 5 – Each starting from the holster**

- i) 3 shots at 25 yards in 30 seconds
- ii) 3 shots at 25 yards in 30 seconds

iii) 3 shots at 25 yards in 15 seconds

The authorized target for each Stage shall be an Official IDPA 18.5" x 30" silhouette, an example of which is shown below:



- b. demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Range Officer knowledge and practice of how to carry and use each firearm safely including use of the safety feature(s) of the firearm, proper holstering and unholstering of the firearm, proper carrying, deployment and concealment of the firearm;
- c. a record of at least one hour of annual training (in a course approved by the CCP Administrator that requires a written test which is passed by a score of at least 80 percent) regarding use-of-force, deadly force, or appropriate equivalent which demonstrates knowledge of the laws of deadly force;
- d. proof of Liability Insurance as set forth below;
- e. any other requirements as determined by the CCP Administrator.

**V. Authorized Firearms, Ammunition, and Holsters**

- A. Authorized Firearms – The following firearms (handguns) are the only firearms authorized for carry under the CCP: .357 Sig, 38 caliber, .38 caliber special, .38+P, .38+P+, .380 semi auto, .40 caliber, .45 caliber, .45 GAP, and 9mm.
- B. Authorized Ammo - Only factory ammunition is authorized for carry and must also be used during the Training and Shooting Qualifications as will be verified by the Range Officer. Self-loaded, reloaded, or black-powder ammunition is not authorized. Ammunition should be jacketed hollow point in construction or frangible. No full metal jacket ammunition shall be allowed.

- C. No other firearms (handguns) and ammunition are authorized for carry. By way of non-limiting examples, the following may not be carried under the CCP: .any rim-fire caliber, 22 caliber, .25 caliber, .357 magnum, .44 magnum, any other magnum caliber, shotguns, rifles, or handguns designed to fire ammunition typically used in rifles or shotguns.
- D. The ammunition and firearm used shall be inspected and approved by the Range Officer and the CCP Administrator as part of the Training and Shooting Qualifications.
- E. Trigger mechanism
  - a. The trigger mechanism must be a standard trigger which was installed by the manufacturer or a standard trigger installed after market by qualified gunsmith.
  - b. No "hair trigger" mechanism is allowed which would cause the firearm to discharge with a very light trigger pull.
  - c. The firearm must have either 1) at least one manual safety whereby the firearm cannot be fired if the safety is in an on position or 2) must be double action capable and carried in the de-cocked configuration.
- F. General
  - a. No firearms, ammunition, holsters, concealment devices or any other equipment will be supplied by the church.
  - b. All firearms, ammunition, holsters, concealment devices or any other equipment cannot be carried until approved by the CCP Administrator.
  - c. At all times, persons authorized to carry a firearm will keep their firearm concealed and hidden from view.
- G. Holsters
  - a. The following holsters may be used: belt holsters, belly-band holsters, shoulder holsters, fanny pack holsters, ankle holsters, and other on-body options for concealed carry. Any holster utilized must completely cover the trigger for safety.
- H. Extra magazines or extra rounds must also be carried concealed at all times.

## **VI. Carry Concealed**

- A. At all times, firearms are to be carried concealed.
- B. Firearms are not to be drawn from the holster to be shown to any person for any reason when inside the church building or in any church area where other people are or may be present.

## **VII. Liability Insurance Coverage**

Persons who are authorized to carry a concealed weapon under the CCP must, at their own expense, purchase an individual liability insurance policy from the National Rifle Association or similar entity which will provide at least \$100,000 individual liability coverage in the event the CCP carrier uses his/her firearm or has an accidental discharge of the firearm. Proof of insurance must be submitted to the CCP Administrator for review prior to CCP

authorization being granted. Such policy must be in effect during the entire time the member is authorized under the CCP.

#### **VIII. Amendments**

Policy amendments: Any amendments, additions, subtractions or other changes to this policy may, from time to time, be approved by board of deacons.