

Palm Beach County Courthouse Security Brief

ATTENTION Visitors and Employees

*** EFFECTIVE JANUARY 2009 ***

The Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office recognizes that threats and acts of violence directed at private citizens, witnesses, jurors, litigants, attorneys, court personnel, and judges in court facilities within the State of Florida and throughout the United States are ever present. The Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office concludes that there remains a continuing need to provide security within the Palm Beach County Courthouse and all branch courthouses located within Palm Beach County.

For the safety and well being of every employee and visitor who enter courthouse facilities, every person will be screened by magnetometers and all other items will be x-rayed. This process is no different than that of passing through airport security and will not pose significant delays in entering these facilities. However, in an effort to make the transition more smoothly, we are introducing "AMNESTY BOXES" in all Courthouse facilities. These boxes will be utilized to house all prohibited items

ALL PERSON(S) ENTERING WILL HAVE TWO OPTIONS:

- (1) Return to their vehicle and leave the prohibited item
- (2) To drop the prohibited item into the Amnesty box, once dropped into the box the item WILL NOT be returned.

The Sheriff's Office realizes that the implementation of these Amnesty boxes may cause some delays in entering the building, but being prepared for the change, will help ease the process

"REMINDER"

****ITEMS DEPOSITED IN AMNESTY BOXES WILL NOT BE RETURNED ****

PLEASE REVIEW THE LIST OF ITEMS THAT WILL NOT BE PERMITTED INTO THE COURTHOUSE.

Knives

Pocketknives
Kitchen knives
Razor knives
Safety razors

Other objects

Screwdrivers
Scissors..... any type
Pliers.....any type
Wrenches .. any type

Box cutters

Carpenter knives

Coupon razor cutters

Penknives

Razor blades.....any type

Switchblades

Or any spring activated knives

P38 Can openers

Shears

Sprays (Pressurized)

Hair sprays

Mace sprays

Pepper sprays

Or any pressurized container that is

Flammable.....any size

Glass objects

Glass bottles drinks

Wire Cutters

Kitchen forks

Kitchen spoons

Laser pointers

Fingernail clippers **with files**

Fingernail files

Nails..... any type

Screws.....any type

Letter openers

Can openers

Knitting needles

Flashlights (not to exceed 3")

Metal Comb Picks

Wine openers

Weapons

Firearms.....any type

Ammunition.....any type

Handcuff keys...any type*

Fireworks (explosives)

Brass Knuckles

Nuchakkas

Kubaton

Flex Cuffs

Or any contraband item

* The only exception to the above is for
Sworn police officers here on official duties.

The prohibited items listed are not intended to be all-inclusive and is updated as necessary. To ensure everyone's security, the screener may determine that an item not on the prohibited items list is prohibited. In addition, the screener may also determine that an item is dangerous and therefore may not be brought through the security checkpoint.

For more information please contact:
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