

FILED 5/27/10
ENTERED 11:30 a.m.
MARIE ANDERSON, COUNTY CLERK
Jw

Resolution No. 6-10-11
Requested by Commissioner Mary Brockman
Commissioner Arlene Cooke

A RESOLUTION TO PROHIBIT HANDGUNS IN COUNTY PARKS, RECREATION AREAS AND OTHER SIMILAR PUBLIC PLACES OWNED OR OPERATED BY WILLIAMSON COUNTY AND USED IN ANY MANNER BY WILLIAMSON COUNTY SCHOOLS OR FRANKLIN SPECIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

WHEREAS, prior to September 1, 2009, *Tennessee Code Annotated*, § 39-17-1311 made carrying weapons in county owned parks, playgrounds, civic centers, or other building facilities a Class A misdemeanor; and

WHEREAS, Public Chapter 428 of the 2009 Public Acts of the 106th General Assembly, as adopted, removed the above-mentioned prohibitions on handguns in public parks; and

WHEREAS, this Act of the 106th General Assembly permits county governments to prohibit, by resolution, the carrying of handguns while within a public park or other recreational areas that are owned or operated by a county; and

WHEREAS, the changes effected by Public Chapter 428, if Williamson County does not act to continue to opt out of its provisions, could result in inconsistent application of the law due to the various statutes governing handguns on school property, within recreational facilities and on playgrounds, and otherwise; thus potentially creating confusion among citizens and causing difficulty in enforcement by the County's law enforcement officers in attempting to consistently apply this Public Chapter; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the County Legislative Body to limit the prohibition on carrying of handguns only to those county parks, recreational areas, and other similar public places owned or operated by Williamson County and used in any manner by Williamson County Schools or the Franklin Special School District; and

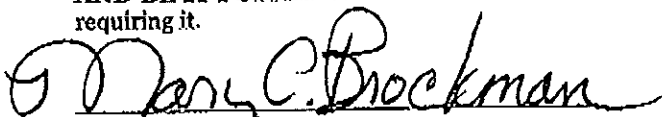
WHEREAS, the County Legislative Body of Williamson County is committed to preservation of 2nd Amendment rights, but desires to prohibit the carrying of handguns in county parks, recreation areas, and other similar public places owned or operated by Williamson County and used in any manner by Williamson County Schools or the Franklin Special School District, because of the use of these areas by large numbers of children and because of the concern of inconsistent application of the law as described above:


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners, meeting in regular session, this the 14th day of June, 2010, that any person authorized to carry a handgun under *Tennessee Code Annotated* § 39-17-1351, is prohibited from possessing any handgun while within a public park, recreation area, or other similar public place that is owned or operated by Williamson County and that is used in any manner by the Williamson County Schools or the Franklin Special School District;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County shall display signs in prominent locations about the public recreational properties, at least six inches (6") high and fourteen inches (14") wide, stating:

MISDEMEANOR. STATE LAW PRESCRIBES A MAXIMUM PENALTY OF ELEVEN (11) MONTHS AND TWENTY-NINE (29) DAYS AND A FINE NOT TO EXCEED TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$2,500.00) FOR CARRYING WEAPONS ON OR IN THIS PUBLIC RECREATIONAL PROPERTY.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect upon passage, the welfare of the County requiring it.


County Commissioner


County Commissioner

COMMITTEES REFERRED TO & ACTION TAKEN:

Property Committee For 2 Against 4
Law Enf./Public Safety For _____ Against _____
Parks & Recreation Committee For _____ Against _____
Commission Action Taken: For _____ Against _____ Pass _____ Out _____

Commission Action Taken:

For _____ Against _____ Pass _____ Out _____

(2)

Elaine Anderson, County Clerk

Houston Naron, Jr. - Commission Chairman

Rogers C. Anderson - County Mayor

Date: _____