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October 28, 2012
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Wisconsin Department of Administration Announces Concealed Carry Policies for State Facilities

MADISON – Wisconsin Department of Administration Secretary Michael Huebsch today announced that concealed carry will be permitted in state facilities, including the State Capitol, with few exceptions.

“State law ensures that citizens with licenses are able to carry concealed weapons and that law extends to state facilities,” Secretary Huebsch said. “Wisconsin is the forty-ninth state to put a concealed carry law into place. Individuals with licenses are law-abiding citizens and we must respect their right to keep and bear arms under the U.S. and Wisconsin Constitutions.”

As a general rule, state employees who are licensed to carry a concealed weapon will be allowed to do so, unless their assigned building prohibits the carrying of concealed weapons. If a weapon would inhibit a specific state employee from carrying out assigned job duties, a state agency may notify that individual that they may not carry a concealed weapon under the law during work hours.

“The Department has an obligation to uphold the intent and spirit of the law and, therefore, strong justification was required to prohibit concealed carry in state facilities. We looked closely at the wide range of services and programs the state provides, and have identified a limited number of locations that weapons will not be permitted.”

State-owned buildings that will be posted with signs prohibiting concealed carry include:

- Buildings used by the Department of Health Services to provide services to persons with diminished mental capacity or mental illnesses.
- Buildings used by the Department of Corrections and the offices of the State Public Defender that provide services to persons who have criminal histories or who are accused of crimes.
- Buildings or portions of buildings used for the storage or testing of combustible materials.

In addition, buildings or facilities where concealed carry is prohibited by statute will also be posted. Posting such places is not required by law, but they will be posted to avoid confusion for law-abiding citizens. These places include portions of buildings, such as the State Capitol Police station and the court room of the Supreme Court of Wisconsin.