

FIREARMS
(No.21 May 2016)

6446

Responsibility

**Camp Commander
Superintendent**

Use or deployment of firearms within the camp shall be done under direction of the Camp Commander/Superintendent or senior CDCR officer. Unauthorized introduction of firearms and/or ammunition into camp under any other circumstances is a felony.

Each camp shall establish an operational procedure for safe storage of firearms and ammunition when temporarily brought into the camp by duly appointed peace officers.

FIREARM STORAGE: CAMP ADJACENT TO AN INSTITUTION 6446.1
(No.21 May 2016)

Responsibility

**Camp Commander
Superintendent**

When camps are located adjacent to a correctional institution, CDCR weapons will be stored at that institution's armory.

CDCR weapons stored in the armory will be inventoried monthly by the Camp Commander/Superintendent or his/her designee.

**FIREARM STORAGE: CAMP NOT ADJACENT
TO INSTITUTION** 6446.2
(No.21 May 2016)

Responsibility

**Camp Commander
Superintendent**

When camps are not located adjacent to a correctional institution, weapons should be issued to each CDCR custody staff for storage at their residence (DAI), or in the armory per policy (DJJ). These weapons are to be utilized for escapes or other camp or departmental emergencies. Under no circumstances are departmental issued weapons to be used for personal use.

CDCR weapons stored at individual residences must be unloaded and placed in a safe location (preferably under lock and key). All weapons shall have a trigger lock.

Where circumstances prohibit residential storage, CDCR weapons shall be stored at the local police, sheriff, or fire station. The Camp Commander/Superintendent will conduct a monthly inventory of weapons assigned to his/her camp by having CDCR employees sign a monthly (DAI), daily (DJJ) weapons inventory sign-off sheet. A physical inventory of all CDCR weapons assigned to the camp will be conducted annually by the Camp Commander/Superintendent or designee. The Camp Commander/Superintendent, or designee, will check each weapon's serial number against the weapons inventory sheet.

Division Chief

Storage of CAL FIRE-issued weapons is governed by the procedures stated in CAL FIRE Law Enforcement Procedures Handbook [Section 9452.6](#).

All

State firearms issued to, or approved for, CAL FIRE or CDCR staff assigned to a camp will not be stored at the camp. CAL FIRE peace officers may be authorized to regularly bring state approved weapons into the camp by written agreement(s) between the Warden of the parent institution/Superintendent and the CAL FIRE Region Chief. Also, CAL FIRE peace officers assigned to a camp may bring state approved weapons into the camp on a case-by-case basis when specifically authorized to do so by the Camp Commander/Superintendent for situations such as impending or occurring offender insurrection or protection of staff and offenders from outside threats.

Armed CAL FIRE peace officers entering camp will comply with the same policies applicable to any other armed peace officer having business at camp. The CAL FIRE officer will immediately consult with the Camp Commander/Superintendent upon arrival in camp to determine the security measures to be implemented.

All CDCR and CAL FIRE vehicles brought into conservation camps for maintenance, painting, etc. will be searched by the driver and CDCR staff prior to entering the maintenance area. Weapons and personal items will be removed from the vehicle and stored according to procedure.

PERSONAL WEAPON STORAGE

6446.3

(June 2000)

Responsibility

All

Under no circumstances will camp staff be allowed to store their personal weapons in camp or in personal vehicles in camp.

VISITING PEACE OFFICER WEAPONS

6446.4

(No.21 May 2016)

Responsibility

Camp Commander

Superintendent

Division Chief

It is recognized that certain Peace Officers who use firearms in their assignments will find it necessary to enter a conservation camp. Every possible effort shall be made to advise these persons to store their weapons before entering the camp. When this is not feasible or practical, these weapons shall be stored under the control of the Camp Commander/Superintendent, or designee, in either a locked safe or evidence locker for a time period not to exceed one shift.

If at all possible, visiting Peace Officers should notify the camp in advance of their time of arrival so offender workers can be removed from the immediate storage area. There will always be at least two Peace Officers in the immediate area where weapons are stored.

WEAPONS AT WORK PROJECT SITES

6446.5

(No.21 May 2016)

Responsibility

All

CAL FIRE staff will advise project sponsors that weapons are not permitted in the immediate presence of crews. When CAL FIRE crews are requested to perform project work at facilities or locations where weapons may be present, including CAL FIRE facilities, the person making the request will indicate on the FC-32 Project Request and Record whether or not Peace Officers and stored weapons will be present at the project site at the same time as the crew and the procedures that will be in effect to maintain weapons security.

The Camp Commander/Superintendent and the Camp Division Chief will determine whether or not additional security is needed at the project site or if the project can be performed at all in light of security considerations ([Section 6434.1](#)).

Upon arrival at the project site, the Fire Crew Captain will make a security check of the work area for weapons and other potential security problems. If problems are encountered, the Captain will take steps to have the problems corrected before the crew initiates work on the project.

If, during the course of the project, the crew comes into casual contact with armed officers or citizens, the Fire Captain will immediately advise those persons of the presence of offenders and the need to maintain separation from the offender workers and to maintain weapons security. If those persons fail to comply with the request to maintain site security, the Fire Captain will remove the crew from the presence of the weapons and will request CDCR, CAL FIRE or other law enforcement assistance in re-establishing site security.

INCIDENT BASE/CAMP/MOB-CENTER FIREARM SECURITY 6446.6 **(No.21 May 2016)**

Responsibility

All

There is a legitimate need for the presence of both offenders and armed peace officers at emergency incident bases, incident camps and mobilization centers.

Offenders will be present at the base for feeding, sleeping, rest and relaxation, vehicle service, and incident support activities such as food service, supply loading and unloading, etc.

Armed Peace Officers are assigned to incidents for purposes of fire/crime investigation, camp and property security, evacuation, traffic control, etc.

Secured weapons will, or will not be permitted at incident bases, incident camps, and mobilization centers as agreed to by the Incident Commander and the CDCR Agency Representative. If weapons are to be permitted at these locations, a Security Manager will be assigned.

In establishing incident bases, camps, and mobilization centers, the Incident Commander and Logistics Section staff will meet and confer with the CDCR Agency Representative to jointly develop a written security plan. In so doing, the parties should consider the need for the following:

1. Armed security officers.
2. Establishing and maintaining distinct zones within which even secured weapons are prohibited or for other distinct zones within which offenders are prohibited.
3. Separate parking areas for the Crew-Carrying Vehicles/Emergency Crew Transport and CDCR agency vehicles.
4. Establishing special security procedures for the food serving line and separate eating areas if armed officers are to be fed at the incident base or camp.

If established, "No Weapons Zones" and "No Offender Zones" should be clearly marked and identified to all persons entering the incident base. Such zones should not be contiguous. The Check-In Recorder should advise all persons entering the incident base of the location of such zones, of any special security measures in effect at the incident base or camp, and of the prohibition of unsecured weapons at the facility.

The security plan must be reviewed by the Logistics Chief and approved by the Incident Commander. Once approved, the Security Manager shall enforce the plan. A sign describing these measures should be posted at the Check-In location.

FIREARM SECURITY AT INCIDENT OPERATIONAL SITES **6446.7** (No.21 May 2016)

Responsibility

All

CAL FIRE or other Peace Officers may be required to carry firearms and other weapons in the course of their duties at emergency incident operations sites in order to affect arrest of criminal suspects, provide security for incident origin scene evidence, provide protection for unarmed emergency personnel, etc.

If offenders are present at the incident site, the officer will take reasonable precautions to insure that all weapons on the officer's person and in the officer's vehicle are secure. Also, the Fire Crew Captain or CDCR officer in charge of the crew will advise the Peace Officer of the presence of offenders, will conduct the crew away from the officer's immediate work area, and will monitor crew activities closely relative to the armed officer, structures, vehicles, and other potential security problems.

INCENDIARY LAUNCHER DEVICES **6446.8** (No.21 May 2016)

Responsibility

All

Conservation Camp crews are a critical fire suppression resource and are vital to supporting firing operations. However, due to crew member status as offenders, custodial concerns must be addressed. Under no circumstance should incendiary launcher devices be stored on ECT/CCVs or within any conservation camp.

Launcher devices are an integral tool in many fire control strategies. Should these devices be required by a Fire Crew Captain who is qualified in their use, he/she can obtain them and maintain them in the custody of the crew strike team leader.

FORMS AND/OR FORMS SAMPLES: RETURN TO CAL FIRE LIBRARY HOME PAGE FOR FORMS/FORMS SAMPLES SITE LINK.

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