

ONE WAY BAPTIST CHURCH

SEARCH POLICY

POLICY STATEMENT

The One Way Baptist Church (OWBC) prohibits in its facilities the possession of illegal drugs (including non-prescribed controlled substances), illegal weapons of any kind, and any substance or instrument that may impede or interfere with members and guest's health, or safety.

PURPOSE

In order to protect the health and safety of its members, guest, staff and any who enter its grounds, or property, it may be necessary to search any belongings and/or any person entering OWBC property.

DEFINITIONS

Illegal Drugs- Any substance, instrument or other element, including prescription drugs that may impede or interfere with member's and guest's safety, or any substance prohibited by law for any person to possess.

Weapons- shall mean a firearm, knife, or anything manifestly designed, made, or adapted for the purpose of inflicting death or injury. The term shall include, but not be limited to, the implements listed and defined in Section 46.01 of the Texas Penal Code. The term shall not include any devise or equipment authorized by OWBC that is carried by an OWBC Safety Team Member for the expressed purpose of being used in the course and scope of the members job duties.

Electronic Security Wand Metal Detector-Metal detectors use electromagnetic fields to passively or actively detect the presence of metallic objects and provide the responder community with an essential tool to screen individuals that may be carrying weapons or contraband containing metallic components.

Search- To look at or examine (a person, object, etc.) carefully in order to find something concealed. Upon entry to the One-Way Baptist Church campus, a search of a person and the personal belongings that the individual is carrying may be necessary.

Necessary Circumstances- Situations or Events where the Safety and Security of the One-Way Baptist Church members or Guest are in question.

PROCEDURES

- A. Church Administration will put persons on notice through signs or other means that they may be subject to searches. Searches will be conducted only in necessary circumstances.

- B. If a Safety Team Member or any member observes any person with a weapon or illegal substance on OWBC property or has reason to believe any person may possess a weapon or illegal substance on OWBC property, the member shall immediately notify OWBC Safety Team Leadership, a Minister or Deacon.
- C. The search procedure may be initiated when guest(s) enters the property. This procedure applies to all items in possession of the guest. The guest is given the option to allow the search of their property, if refused the person will be requested to leave the property. Local Law Enforcement will be contacted if necessary.
 - 1. Guests may be asked to submit to a Metal Detector search in the form of an electronic wand search.
 - 2. If any illegal items or substances are found, the guest will be asked to leave the property. OWBC members or Safety Team members will not confiscate any items. All information can be passed on to the appropriate law enforcement agency if the safety of the church or community is at risk.
- D. An electronic wand search (a non-invasive-hands off search of the persons exterior body) may be conducted when Safety Team Members has reason to believe the guess possesses a prohibited item (s) on his/her person. All Safety Team Members will be trained in the proper method of conducting a wand search. All wand searches will be conducted by a Safety Team Member of the same sex as the guest if possible and in the presence of another Safety Team member or Minister or Deacon in such a manner as to protect guess privacy to the extent possible.

CONCLUSION

Ultimately the final decision whether to conduct a search of an individual or not lies with the sole authority of the Pastor of the One-Way Baptist Church. As such, the Pastor has granted the authority to any Safety Team Member of the One-Way Baptist Church Safety Team to conduct a search as defined in this policy document. It is our prayer that we never encounter an incident that will require our search procedures to be put into use. However, in today's climate of documented acts of violence it is prudent that this policy be in place in order to assure the safety of our members and guests.

Colossians 3: 17- And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.