Policy Statement 1—Texas Open Carry
The Library will comply with the Texas Open Carry Law.

1.1 It is illegal for the general public to carry a handgun, whether concealed or not, in a public place – unless they have a special license to carry (Texas Penal Code §46.02).

1.2 Individuals who have a Concealed Handgun License (CHL) to carry a concealed handgun may openly carry the weapon using a shoulder or belt holster at the Library.

1.3 It is illegal to brandish a firearm in any way that might be interpreted as threatening (Texas Penal Code §42.01).

1.4 Staff may not ask a patron who has a holstered weapon to see their CHL permit.

1.5 Staff should contact law enforcement personnel if a person carrying a handgun exhibits alarming behaviors.

Policy Statement 2—Prohibition of Handguns
There are times by Texas Law when handguns are not allowed at the Library.

2.1 Handguns are not allowed at a library, even for licensed carriers, during school-sponsored activities on library grounds (Texas Penal Code §46.03(a)(1)).

2.2 Handguns are not allowed during early voting or on election day if the library is a polling place (Texas Penal Code §46.03(a)(2)).

2.3 Handguns are not allowed during a meeting of a governmental body, but only in the room where the meeting is being held where appropriate signage has been posted (Texas Penal Code §46.035(c)).

Policy Statement 3—Staff and Volunteers
The Library may restrict staff and volunteers from carrying handguns in the library.

3.1 Library staff and volunteers are prohibited from carrying a handgun in the Library whether they have a CHL permit or not.

3.2 Library staff and volunteers who are licensed to carry a handgun may store their weapon in a locked personal vehicle in the parking lot (Texas Labor Code §52.061).