

**PROVIDENCE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**HEADQUARTERS**

209 FOUNTAIN STREET PROVIDENCE, RI 02903

**COLONEL URBANO PRIGNANO, JR.**

**CHIEF OF POLICE**

March 6, 2000

**MEMORANDUM #9  
SERIES OF 2000**

**TO COMMANDING OFFICERS:**

This department has received correspondence from Chief Justice Joseph R. Weisberger regarding an Executive order issued by him regarding carrying firearms in the courthouses of the State of Rhode Island.

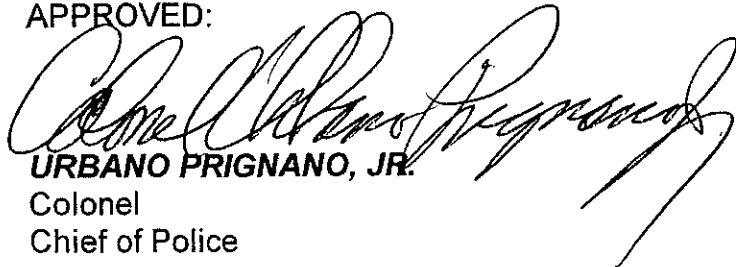
Attached is the Executive Order as issued.

To avoid any confusion, a review of the points follow:

All sworn law enforcement officers will be required to sign in at all state courthouses in the State of Rhode Island.

If the officer is at the courthouse on personal business, as a spectator, or is a party in a non job related incident, that officer will be required to surrender his/her weapon to a Capitol Police Officer upon entry, and it will be returned upon exiting the courthouse.

APPROVED:

  
**URBANO PRIGNANO, JR.**  
Colonel  
Chief of Police

Supreme Court

No. 99-06

**EXECUTIVE ORDER**  
**Carrying of Firearms in Courthouses**

In accordance with the authority conferred upon me by G.L. 1956 § 8-15-2, I hereby issue the following Executive Order.

1. No litigant (party) or spectator shall carry a firearm into any of the courthouses of the unified judicial system whether or not that person is a law enforcement officer.

2. In order to assure that no litigant (party) or spectator carries a firearm into a courthouse, all law enforcement officers who are carrying firearms will sign a sheet which will indicate the purpose of his/her entry into the courthouse with the capitol police officer on duty at the entrance to the courthouse.

If he/she states that he/she is a litigant (party) or spectator, the law enforcement officer will surrender the firearm to the capitol police officer who will safeguard the weapon during the stay of the law enforcement officer and will return it upon his/her departure.

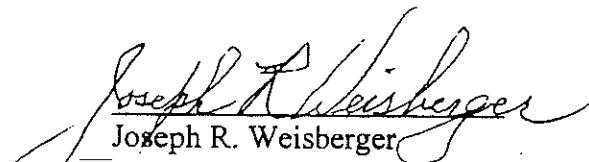
3. Each capitol police officer will be furnished with a sign-up sheet indicating the name, the address, and the official position of any person who seeks to enter carrying a firearm. The sheet will also disclose the purpose of the entry of the law enforcement officer into the courthouse as well as time of entry and departure.

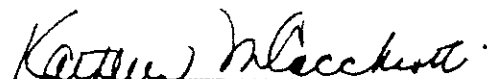
This Order shall be effective as of July 5, 1999.

Entered as an Executive Order of this Court this 4th day of June 1999.

Enter:

By Order,

  
Joseph R. Weisberger  
Chief Justice

  
Kathleen Macchiarri  
Clerk