

PART 2006 - MANAGEMENT

Subpart PP - Rural Development Prohibited and Controlled Items

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§ 2006.2051 General.

(a) Executive Order (EO) 12977 established the Interagency Security Committee (ISC) to enhance the quality and effectiveness of security in and protection of buildings and facilities in the United States occupied by Federal employees for nonmilitary activities (''Federal facilities''), and to provide a permanent body to address continuing government-wide security for Federal facilities.

(b) The ISC developed a Standard that establishes a guideline process for detailing control of prohibited items into Federal facilities and identifies responsibilities for denying entry to those individuals who attempt to enter with such items.

(c) Items Prohibited from Federal Facilities: An Interagency Security Committee Standard (ISC Standard) establishes a guideline process for detailing control of prohibited items and controlled items into Federal facilities and identifies responsibilities for denying entry to those individuals who attempt to enter with such items. An established list of prohibited items and controlled items provides consistency and prevents confusion. The Standard provides a baseline list of prohibited items and controlled items that can be tailored to meet the risk faced by the facility. The items listed in the Standard are prohibited from entering a Federal facility, regardless of whether the facilities have a screening checkpoint, unless granted an exception or exemption by the Facility Security Committee (FSC).

(d) The Rural Development (RD) mission of helping improve the economy and quality of life in rural America requires interaction with the public, while also protecting the information of our customers and providing security for our employees. RD recognizes the need to limit the entry of prohibited items and controlled items into our facilities. As such, it is necessary for RD to draft and enforce a comprehensive prohibited items and controlled items policy for all RD facilities.

(e) This Instruction is not intended to conflict with any Federal Laws or regulations. This policy applies to all items entering RD occupied space and facilities and the individuals who attempt to enter with such items.

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(f) All FSCs must implement controls to prevent the entry of prohibited items and controlled items to reduce the risk of threats to RD employees, facilities, and assets.

(g) Security is a primary management obligation. FSCs have the responsibility to apply appropriate security measures to protect USDA assets, including personnel, property, and information.

(h) The Rules and Regulations Governing Conduct on Federal Property are found at [41 C.F.R. Part 102-74, Subpart C](#). The GSA notice must be posted at each public entrance to each Federal Facility.

(i) Additional measures may be taken at vehicular, service, and/or loading dock entrances. These measures may be more restrictive based on facility or lead agency or GSA rules or regulations. The list in the ISC Standard is not intended to be all-inclusive for all federal facilities (e.g., facilities co-located with courts may have more restrictive requirements).

(j) This policy does not cover every item that may be prohibited or controlled in every portion of each facility.

(k) This policy does not cover mail handling and screening. For information relating to mailroom best practices, please reference the [ISC's Best Practices for Mail Screening and Handling](#) and RD Instruction 2030-A.

(l) The FSC may implement more restrictive control of prohibited items and controlled items within their facility but may not implement or apply or allow standards less stringent than provided for in this policy. FSCs implementing more stringent control of prohibited items and controlled items within their particular facility notify their RD State Director in writing of the additional restrictions and the rationale for such restrictions.

(m) RD State Directors ensure each RD facility has a prohibited items and controlled items list and that the list is reviewed annually with all individuals duty-stationed at the facility. This review may occur concurrent with the annual Occupant Emergency Plan training.

(n) All terms used in this Instruction have the meanings defined in the ISC Standard, or the Risk Management Process: An Interagency Committee Standard.

§ 2006.2052 Authorities and References.

(a) Title 41, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 102-74, Subpart C. Conduct on Federal Property. (<https://www.gsa.gov/policy-regulations/regulations/federal-management-regulation-fmr/i449022>).

(b) [Executive Order \(EO\) 12977](#) - Interagency Security Committee, October 19, 1995.

(c) Items Prohibited from Federal Facilities: An Interagency Security Committee Standard, February 2013. <https://www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/isc-items-prohibited-federal-facilities-feb-2013-508.pdf>

(d) 18 U.S. Code § 930 Possession of firearms and dangerous weapons in Federal facilities.

(e) The Risk Management Process: An Interagency Security Committee Standard, November 2016. <https://www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/isc-risk-management-process-2016-508.pdf>

(f) Rules and Regulations Governing Conduct on Federal Property, US General services Administration, November 2005. [https://www.gsa.gov/cdnstatic/GSA\\_Rules\\_Reg\\_1105.pdf](https://www.gsa.gov/cdnstatic/GSA_Rules_Reg_1105.pdf)

§ 2006.2053 Prohibited Items.

(a) The list of prohibited items in the ISC Standard is the baseline list of prohibited items for RD facilities. Each FSC can modify the baseline list, using a process for exceptions and exemptions defined in this policy, to mitigate facility risk. The items on the prohibited items list are not allowed in RD facilities unless specifically approved by the FSC for a defined use and time period.

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(b) The ISC Standard lists prohibited items, which includes firearms, weapons, explosives, or other destructive devices (including their individual parts or components) that are designed, modified, used, intended for use, or readily converted to cause injury, death, or property damage. The FSC shall not allow the removal of an item from the prohibited items list if the item is prohibited by Federal, State or tribal law, see 18 U.S.C. § 930 and Title 41, CFR Part 102-74 Subpart C. This list applies to all RD facility occupants: employees, contractors, and visitors, and is to be used in conjunction with all other ISC standards and applicable Federal, State, local, and tribal laws. Exemptions, such as lawful performance of official duties by an officer, see 18 U.S.C. § 930 : US Code - Section 930: Possession of firearms and dangerous weapons in Federal facilities, paragraph (d) Subsection shall not apply to -

(1) the lawful performance of official duties by an officer, agent, or employee of the United States, a State, or a political subdivision thereof, who is authorized by law to engage in or supervise the prevention, detection, investigation, or prosecution of any violation of law;

(2) the possession of a firearm or other dangerous weapon by a Federal official or a member of the Armed Forces if such possession is authorized by law.

§ 2006.2054 Controlled Items.

(a) Controlled items are items that are considered potentially dangerous. The baseline list of controlled items is found in the ISC Standard.

(b) Visitors are prohibited from bringing controlled items into RD facilities. While not prohibited for use by RD employees and contractors, controlled items represent a legitimate risk as they could be used as weapons. Controlled items require advance notification and approval from the FSC for entry. These items include tools of the trade and sporting equipment.

§ 2006.2055 Exceptions and Exemptions of Prohibited and Controlled Items.

(a) The prohibited items and controlled items list in the ISC Standard may include items that may have some legitimate and lawful purpose and/or use in RD facilities, such as tools of the trade (i.e., a maintenance worker bringing tools to perform their duties, or accommodations for compliance with specific civil rights and civil liberties under Federal laws including, but not limited to, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Rehabilitation Act, and the Religious Freedom Restoration Act. These items require advance written notification and approval from the FSC prior to admittance to a facility.

(b) Each FSC has the responsibility for the security policies of their facility and approves exceptions (temporary in nature and granted for specific occurrences or a defined time period) and exemptions (permanent in nature until rescinded) for prohibited items and controlled items. The FSC approves/disapproves exemptions and exceptions in writing and each request, approval/disapproval includes the requirements listed in Exhibit A.

(c) Recommended factors to consider when determining and approving exceptions and exemptions include the mission of the particular tenant agency, the status of the requestor asking for an exception or exemption, and if the exception or exemption creates a vulnerability to the security or safety of the facility and its occupants. For example, a higher risk facility security level, based on the mission of its occupants, might require heightened scrutiny in approving exceptions and exemptions; and a Federal employee or contractor who has been subjected to and successfully passed a security background check or suitability for employment, might require less scrutiny for an exception or exemption than a member of the general public.

(d) The FSC will carefully consider whether to grant or deny an exception or exemption to an individual for an item that is otherwise prohibited from the RD facility, but may have a legitimate and lawful use.

(e) Until a decision is made by the FSC, the prohibited items or controlled items are not allowed in the RD facility.

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(f) If applicable, the FSC provides a copy of all approved exceptions and exemptions to each screening checkpoint and security element.

(g) Records Management - All approval or denials of requests for exception or exemption are documented in writing with copies maintained by the FSC and the requestor. Records are destroyed 30 days following the end of the exemption or exception or denial of the exemption or exception.

§§ 2006.2056 - 2006.2100 [Reserved]

Attachment: Exhibit A.

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Information Required to Request an Exception or Exemption

(a) A written (hard copy) or email request for an Exemption or Exception to a prohibited item or a controlled item in an RD facility must contain at a minimum the following information:

- (1) Name of the RD facility the request is submitted for.
- (2) The name of the requestor (last, first, middle initial).
- (3) If the request is for an exception (temporary in nature and granted for specific occurrences or a defined time period) or an exemption (permanent in nature until rescinded).
- (4) The item(s) the request is being submitted for.
- (5) Justification for the request.
- (6) The requested time period for the exception.
- (7) Signature of the requesting individual.

(b) Approval or denial of a request for exception or exemption must be in writing or email and contain the following information:

- (1) Approving/Disapproving Official full name.
- (2) Approving/Disapproving Official signature.
- (3) Reason for approval or disapproval.
- (4) If applicable, the approved exception temporary time period of start and end date.
- (5) If applicable, the exemption start date.

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