March 17, 2016

William H. McRaven, Chancellor
Office of the Chancellor
The University of Texas System
601 Colorado Street
Austin, Texas 78701

SUBJECT: CAMPUS CARRY RULES

Dear Chancellor McRaven:

During the last legislative session, Governor Greg Abbott signed into law Senate Bill 11 allowing license holders to carry concealed handguns on public college campuses in the State of Texas. The legislation, which goes into effect August 1, 2016, provides an opportunity for each individual campus to recommend to its Board of Regents rules, policies and practices associated with the law's implementation. To that end, I convened last semester a campus task force to guide the implementation of the law. Their work led to the development of the attached report, which I have reviewed and fully support.

The report identifies campus spaces where concealed handguns should be excluded; outlines policies and communication strategies associated with educating faculty, staff, students and visitors about the new law; and recommends safety and enforcement practices that will ensure the rights of all campus constituents. I greatly appreciate the extraordinary efforts of the task force to ensure an open, inclusive and transparent process.

From the outset, and together with so many of my colleagues across the State, I have voiced our concerns about how the law will impact our campuses. At UTEP, we will carefully monitor its implementation and, if needed, we will make adjustments consistent with the law and our responsibility to ensure campus safety.

Thank you for your review of UTEP’s Campus Concealed Carry report.

Sincerely,

Diana Natalicio
President

Enclosure

cc: Steven Leslie
    David Daniel