



GLOBAL SOF FOUNDATION – SOF WEEK WEAPONS EXHIBITS POLICY AND PROHIBITED ITEMS

Document Control
Issue No: 1
Issue Date: 5 Mar 2026

Purpose

The Global Special Operations Forces Foundation (GSOF) prioritizes the safety, security, and legal compliance of all exhibitors, attendees, and staff. This policy governs the exhibition, handling, and storage of firearms at the Tampa Convention Center (TCC) during SOF Week.

All exhibitors must review and comply with the requirements below. Failure to comply will result in enforcement actions, including removal from the event.

Scope and Authorization

- Firearms are **only permitted** within the Tampa Convention Center (TCC).
- **Absolutely no firearm exhibits** are permitted in JW Marriott, Marriott Water Street, Westin, or any other event-associated property.
- All firearms, whether functional, deactivated, or replicas, are subject to inspection and approval prior to display.

Legal Compliance and Documentation

- Exhibitors are solely responsible for ensuring compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws.
- All firearms must meet legal possession, transport, and display requirements.
- The exhibitor must be able to produce, upon request, proof of legal ownership, transportation documentation, and any relevant licenses or permits.

Inspection and Tagging Process

- All firearms must be assessed for **deactivation status** prior to display.
- Qualified Firearm personnel will conduct firearms inspections at:
 - TCC Loading Docks, Dock Door 1
- Following inspection, firearms will be fitted with security tags to confirm authorization for display. Tags must remain intact for the duration of the event.

Display and Security Requirements

- All displayed firearms must be **securely tethered** to the booth to prevent removal or unauthorized handling.
- Magazines, ammunition, and firing pins must be removed prior to inspection.
- Firearms may not be loaded or capable of chambering ammunition at any time during the event.
- Firearms must never be pointed toward attendees or used in demonstrations outside authorized activities.



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Storage and After-Hours Security

- An Arms Room will be provided to secure all firearms during exhibitor move-in, move-out, and outside of exhibition hours.
- The Arms Room will be secured by Tampa PD overnight and is located in the East Hall.
- Exhibitors must store firearms in the Arms Room during non-exhibition hours.

Prohibited Activities

- Displaying or possessing firearms in unauthorized areas.
- Allowing attendees unsupervised handling of firearms.
- Conducting live-fire or simulated-fire demonstrations without prior written approval.
- Modifying or tampering with firearms after inspection.

Enforcement and Penalties

Non-compliance with this policy will result in corrective measures, which may include:

- Immediate removal of firearms from the event floor.
- Revocation of exhibitor credentials.
- Fines and potential referral to law enforcement.
- Permanent restriction from future GSOF events.

Liability Waiver and Indemnification

By participating as an exhibitor and displaying firearms at SOF Week, the exhibitor acknowledges and agrees that:

1. **Assumption of Risk** – The exhibitor voluntarily assumes all risks associated with the transport, handling, and display of firearms, including any risks to their personnel, property, and third parties.
2. **Indemnification** – The exhibitor shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Global Special Operations Forces Foundation, its officers, directors, employees, contractors, and affiliates from and against any and all claims, damages, losses, liabilities, costs, and expenses (including attorney’s fees) arising out of or related to:
 - The exhibitor’s possession, transport, or display of firearms;
 - Any violation of federal, state, or local laws;
 - Any breach of this Firearm Exhibits Policy; or
 - Any negligent, reckless, or intentional act or omission by the exhibitor, its employees, contractors, or representatives.
3. **Responsibility for Compliance** – The exhibitor bears sole responsibility for securing all legal approvals, permits, and documentation required to possess, transport, and display firearms at the event. GSOF assumes no responsibility for obtaining or verifying such documentation.



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4. **Waiver of Claims** – The exhibitor waives any and all claims against GSOF for losses or damages arising from enforcement of this policy, including removal from the event or seizure of firearms in violation of applicable laws.

Prohibited Items and Firearms Display Protocol

All participants, attendees, and exhibitors at 2026 SOF Week must comply with U.S. federal law, Department of Defense regulations, Venue and Event security requirements. Strict enforcement will be in place throughout the event to ensure the safety of all personnel and the integrity of the installation.

Prohibited Items

The following items are strictly prohibited from display, promotion, possession, or transport during 2026 SOF Week:

- Live or operable firearms
- Ammunition (live or inert) unless prior approval is granted
- Explosives or pyrotechnics (including inert replicas e.g. grenades, torpedos etc.)
- Weapon components intended for operational use (e.g., bolts, barrels, firing pins, detonators)
- Improvised weapons or devices
- Riot control agents and devices (e.g., pepper spray, CS gas, tasers)
- Restraints designed for human applications (e.g., leg irons, thumb cuffs, stun belts)
- Unmanned aerial systems (UAS/drones), unless explicitly approved in advance
- Propaganda or materials promoting illegal or sanctioned activities
- Any classified material or export-controlled items not previously cleared for public exhibition

Compliance Statement

GSOF maintains a zero-tolerance policy regarding unauthorized weapons or prohibited items. It is the exhibitor's responsibility to ensure all materials and equipment comply with federal, state, and military regulations. Legal counsel and compliance teams should be consulted prior to shipments or displays of regulated materials.

Failure to comply may result in immediate removal from the event, forfeiture of exhibition privileges, and possible referral to law enforcement or installation command.



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- Waiver of Claims** – The exhibitor waives all claims against GSOF for losses or damages arising from enforcement of this policy, including removal from the event or seizure of firearms in violation of applicable laws.

Exhibitor Acknowledgment

All exhibitors intending to display firearms must acknowledge receipt and acceptance of this policy.

Questions or Concerns

In the event that you wish to make a complaint about anything listed in this policy, or how any violations have been handled, you have the right to lodge a complaint directly with the supervisory authorities.

The details for each of these contacts are below: Supervisory authority contact details		Alternate authority contact details
Contact Name:	Stuart Bradin	Sean Mahabir
Address line 1:	3690 W Gandy Blvd.	3690 W Gandy Blvd.
Address line 2:	#140	#140
Address line 3:	Tampa	Tampa
Address line 4:	FL	FL
Address line 5:	33611	33611
Email:	sbradin@globalsoffoundation.org	smahabir@globalsoffoundation.org
Telephone:	+001-813-530-5184	+001-813-530-5184