

Guns Now Banned in Portion of Hiawatha City Hall

**(KNZA)--Guns are now banned in the Hiawatha City Commission chambers and Municipal Courtroom at City Hall.**

**On the recommendation of Police Chief John Defore and Municipal Judge Mike Riley, the City Commission took action earlier this month to exempt the city from a state law allowing the open and concealed-carry of firearms into a public building.**

**The law allows local municipalities to seek an exemption for all or part of a public building provided adequate security measures are in place.**

**From now on, a police officer will use a metal detector wand to check those attending Commission meetings and Municipal Court for firearms. Municipal Court is held in the Commission chambers on the second floor of City Hall.**

**The practice was used for the first time during this week's City Commission meeting.**

**A sign is posted on the chamber doors that guns are prohibited.**

**Defore says the Kansas Attorney General's office has indicated they have no issue with the city's security plan.**

Many Signals Communications