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STATE OF OHIO

Concealed-Weapons Law Fact Sheet

www.ag.state.oh.us

- The law goes into effect on April 8.
- The Attorney General's Office must submit rules governing the permit process within 30 days after April 8 to the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review, but the Attorney General's Office is working on getting the rules implemented earlier than this.
- Within 30 days of the rules taking effect, the application form, instructional pamphlet and license form must be available to county sheriffs.
- Once the materials are available to the sheriffs, citizens can apply to his or her sheriff or the county sheriff adjacent to his or her county.
- When a citizen applies for a permit, he or she cannot carry a gun into the sheriff's office.
- The law states that the permit will cost up to \$45. However, if a federal criminal history check is made of an applicant who has been an Ohio resident for less than five years, the fee can be the actual cost of the federal check, plus up to \$45. The cost of the permit is separate from the cost of the required training.
- The permit process consists of the review of the citizen's age, background, fingerprints, residency period, addresses, criminal records and mental competency.
- The Attorney General's Office and the Buckeye State Sheriffs' Association are working on how the mental competency records can be protected while using it to meet the requirements of the law.
- Once the permit is issued, the county sheriff is responsible for keeping the information. All supporting documents used to obtain a permit that are not public record must be destroyed within 20 days.
- The permit and all information on it is a public record, which can be accessed by the media.

- The Attorney General's Office must keep statistical information about permits. The first report will be issued no later than July 8, 2005.
- Since the law will soon go into effect, the demand for permits will be high, therefore it could take 21 to 28 days to obtain a permit. By this time next year, the process could take as little as seven days.
- It is recommended that citizens obtain the required training now.
- If a citizen has undergone the required training within three years before their application for a permit, no further training is required.
- A minimum of 12 hours of training is required, including two hours on a firing range.
- Non-military and non-law enforcement can get certified training from instructors certified by the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission and the National Rifle Association.
- Active and retired law enforcement and military personnel can get certified training from the Department of Natural Resources Peace Officer Training School.
- Citizens may contact their local firing range or the National Rifle Association at **<http://www.nra.org>** for a licensed instructor.
- Citizens must carry a permit if he or she has a gun on his or her person or in his or her vehicle.
- If a citizen is stopped by an officer and has a concealed weapon, he or she must inform the officer that a gun is on his or her person or in his or her vehicle. Officials recommend that anyone, with a weapon or not, put their hands on the steering wheel of their vehicle. Do not reach for anything. Doing so may suggest to an officer that you are reaching for a gun.
- Weapons are prohibited at some locations such as schools and government buildings. Local businesses will decide whether to allow guns on their property and employers will decide whether employees can bring guns to work.
- Companies that do not allow guns may post a sign saying so at the entrance to its facility. Carrying a weapon onto property where such a prohibition is posted is a criminal offense.