

Carrying firearms in a vehicle without a permit/license is legal in some states. Those states listed below are ones we believe you can legally carry in with or without some restrictions as noted without a permit/license to carry from that state or a permit/license that is honored by that state. . This is not legal advice and you should check with the proper authorities before transporting firearms in any state.

### States Not Listed

**For all states not listed below you must have a Permit/License** to carry a loaded firearm anywhere in the vehicle. If you do not have a permit to legally carry in the state you are in and it is not listed below the firearm must be unloaded and not accessible to anyone in the vehicle. Do be aware that every state has different laws even when you have a permit/license issued or honored by any state. It is your responsibility to know and obey the law.

### Federal Law on Interstate Transportation of Firearms

#### Code of Federal Regulations

Title 18 - Part I - Chapter 44 - § 926a

#### § 926A. Interstate transportation of firearms

Release date: 2005-08-03

Notwithstanding any other provision of any law or any rule or regulation of a State or any political subdivision thereof, any person who is not otherwise prohibited by this chapter from transporting, shipping, or receiving a firearm shall be entitled to transport a firearm for any lawful purpose from any place where he may lawfully possess and carry such firearm to any other place where he may lawfully possess and carry such firearm if, during such transportation the firearm is unloaded, and neither the firearm nor any ammunition being transported is readily accessible or is directly accessible from the passenger compartment of such transporting vehicle: Provided, That in the case of a vehicle without a compartment separate from the driver's compartment the firearm or ammunition shall be contained in a locked container other than the glove compartment or console.

[http://www4.law.cornell.edu/uscode/html/uscode18/usc\\_sec\\_18\\_00000926---A000-.html](http://www4.law.cornell.edu/uscode/html/uscode18/usc_sec_18_00000926---A000-.html)

### National Parks and National Wildlife Refuges (NWR) Carry

**National Park Carry will go into effect February 10, 2010. That means if you have a permit/license that is legal in the state the National Park is located in you can carry in that National Park. Until that time carry in National Parks is illegal.**

#### Title 36 Chpt. 1 Part 2 § 2.4 Weapons traps and nets.

(h) Notwithstanding any other provision in this Chapter, a person may possess, carry, and transport concealed, loaded, and operable firearms within a national park area in accordance with the laws of the state in which the national park area, or that portion thereof, is located, except as otherwise prohibited by applicable federal law.

#### Chapter 50 Chapter 1 Part 27 § 27.42 Firearms.

(e) Notwithstanding any other provision in this Chapter, persons may possess, carry, and transport concealed, loaded, and operable firearms within a national wildlife refuge in accordance with the laws of the state in which the wildlife refuge, or that portion thereof, is located, except as otherwise prohibited by applicable federal law.

## National Forests

Some states have laws concerning carrying in National Forest. You must know the law.

In most states if it is legal for you to carry a firearm concealed in the state the National Forest is in you can carry your firearm concealed in a National Forest in that state. If it is legal to carry a firearm openly on your hip in the state the National Forest is in you can legally carry it that way in the National Forest in that state. Some states have laws against carrying in National Forests in their state. Look at each states page to see if it is legal to carry in National Forests in that state.

Do be advised that any **Ranger Station** or **Visitors Center** in any National Forest is considered a **Federal Building**. It is illegal to carry any firearm into such a building either concealed or openly even with a CCW from the state the National Forest Ranger Station or Visitors Center is in.

## Alaska

### Must inform Officer

Any person who can legally own a firearm can carry a loaded firearm openly or concealed in a vehicle in Alaska. You must inform any Law Enforcement Office who stops you for any official business that you are carrying a firearm. The Office can take charge of the firearm till the stop is over or instruct you to secure it somewhere else in the vehicle. Failure to inform any Law enforcement Officer and follow his lawful orders on securing the firearm is in violation of the law.

## Arizona

**13-3102.** Misconduct involving weapons; defenses; classification; definitions

A. A person commits misconduct involving weapons by knowingly:

1. Carrying a deadly weapon without a permit pursuant to section 13-3112 except a pocket knife concealed on his person; or

F. Subsection A, paragraph 1 of this section shall not apply to a weapon or weapons carried in a belt holster which holster is wholly or partially visible, or carried in a scabbard or case designed for carrying weapons which scabbard or case is wholly or partially visible or carried in luggage. Subsection A, paragraph 2 of this section shall not apply to a weapon or weapons carried in a case, holster, scabbard, pack or luggage that is carried within a means of transportation or within a storage compartment, trunk or glove compartment of a means of transportation.

## Colorado

**18-12-204.** Permit Contents - Validity - Carrying Requirements.

**(3) (a)** a person who may lawfully possess a handgun may carry a handgun under the following circumstances without obtaining a permit and the handgun shall not be considered concealed:  
**(I)** the handgun is in the possession of a person who is in a private automobile or in some other private means of conveyance and who carries the handgun for a legal use, including self-defense...

## Delaware

## Must be Clearly Visible

### TITLE 11

Crimes and Criminal Procedure

Delaware Criminal Code

#### CHAPTER 5. SPECIFIC OFFENSES

**Subchapter VII.** Offenses Against Public Health, Order and Decency

**Subpart A.** Riot, Disorderly Conduct and Related Offenses

§ 1442. Carrying a concealed deadly weapon; class G felony; class E felony.

A person is guilty of carrying a concealed deadly weapon when the person carries concealed a deadly weapon upon or about the person without a license to do so as provided by § 1441 of this title.

Carrying a concealed deadly weapon is a class G felony, unless the accused has been convicted within the previous 5 years of the same offense, in which case it is a class E felony. (11 Del. C. 1953, § 1442; 58 Del. Laws, c. 497, § 1; 59 Del. Laws, c. 547, § 13; 67 Del. Laws, c. 130, § 8; 70 Del. Laws, c. 186, § 1.)

§ 1443. Carrying a concealed dangerous instrument; class A misdemeanor.

(a) A person is guilty of carrying a concealed dangerous instrument when the person carries concealed a dangerous instrument upon or about the person.

(b) It shall be a defense that the defendant was carrying the concealed dangerous instrument for a specific lawful purpose and that the defendant had no intention of causing any physical injury or threatening the same.

(c) For the purposes of this section, disabling chemical spray, as defined in § 222 of this title, shall not be considered to be a dangerous instrument.

(d) Carrying a concealed dangerous instrument is a class A misdemeanor. (11 Del. C. 1953, § 1443; 58 Del. Laws, c. 497, § 1; 59 Del. Laws, c. 547, § 14; 67 Del. Laws, c. 130, § 8; 70 Del. Laws, c. 186, § 1; 71 Del. Laws, c. 374, § 6.)

## Florida

**790.25** Lawful Ownership, Possession, and Use of Firearms and Other Weapons

(5) POSSESSION IN PRIVATE CONVEYANCE.--Notwithstanding subsection (2), it is lawful and is not a violation of s. 790.01 for a person 18 years of age or older to possess a concealed firearm or other weapon for self-defense or other lawful purpose within the interior of a private conveyance, without a license, if the firearm or other weapon is securely encased or is otherwise not readily accessible for immediate use. Nothing herein contained prohibits the carrying of a legal firearm other than a handgun anywhere in a private conveyance when such firearm is being carried for a lawful use. Nothing herein contained shall be construed to authorize the carrying of a concealed firearm or other weapon on the person. This subsection shall be liberally construed in favor of the lawful use, ownership, and possession of firearms and other weapons, including lawful self-defense as provided in s. 776.012.

**790.001 Definitions.**--As used in this chapter, except where the context otherwise requires:

(17) "Securely encased" means in a glove compartment, whether or not locked; snapped in a holster; in a gun case, whether or not locked; in a zippered gun case; or in a closed box or container which requires a lid or cover to be opened for access.

## Georgia

### Title 16, Chapter 11, Section 126

(c) This Code section shall not permit, outside of his or her home, [motor vehicle](#), or place of business, the concealed carrying of a pistol, **revolver**, or concealable [firearm](#) by any person unless that person has on his or her person a valid license issued under Code Section [16-11-129](#) and the pistol, revolver, or firearm may only be carried in a shoulder holster, waist belt holster, any other holster, hipgrip, or any other similar device, in which event the weapon may be concealed by the person's clothing, or a handbag, [purse](#), [case](#), briefcase, or other closed container. Carrying on the person in a concealed manner other than as provided in this subsection shall not be permitted and shall be a violation of this Code section.

No Permit License Is needed to carry the firearm inside your Motor Vehicle either openly or concealed.

The GA Court of Appeals ruled in (Hubbard v. State, 210 Ga. App. 141, 143-44 1993) that if you do not have a permit/license honored in GA you can only carry a firearm in **“Your Own Vehicle.”** This means you can carry in **“Your Own Vehicle”** without a permit/license but if you are riding in a vehicle that is **not yours** you must have a GA permit/license or a permit/license that GA honors to carry a loaded firearm in the motor vehicle.

## Idaho

**Must be in plain view.**

### 18-3302.

(9) While in any motor vehicle, inside the limits or confines of any city, a person shall not carry a concealed weapon on or about his person without a license to carry a concealed weapon. This shall not apply to any firearm located in plain view whether it is loaded or unloaded. A firearm may be concealed legally in a motor vehicle so long as the weapon is disassembled or unloaded.

**527.020** Carrying concealed deadly weapon.

(8) A firearm or other deadly weapon shall not be deemed concealed on or about the person if it is located in a glove compartment, regularly installed in a motor vehicle by its manufacturer, regardless of whether said compartment is locked, unlocked, or does not have a locking mechanism. No person or organization, public or private, shall prohibit a person from keeping a firearm or ammunition, or both, or other deadly weapon in a glove compartment of a vehicle in accordance with the provisions of this subsection. Any attempt by a person or organization, public or private, to violate the provisions of this subsection may be the subject of an action for appropriate relief or for damages in a Circuit Court or District Court of competent jurisdiction.

9/21/06 KY Supreme Court ruled that the console in a vehicle is not the same as the Glove Compartment. They ruled a Glove Compartment is installed in the dash of a vehicle.

**RS 14:95.6**

§95.6. Firearm-free zone; notice; signs; crime; penalties

A. A "firearm-free zone" is an area inclusive of any school campus and within one thousand feet of any such school campus, and within a school bus.

**B. The provisions of this Section shall not apply to:**

- (1) A federal, state, or local law enforcement building.
- (2) A military base.
- (3) A commercial establishment which is permitted by law to have firearms or armed security.
- (4) Private premises where a firearm is kept pursuant to law.
- (5) Any constitutionally protected activity within the firearm-free zone, such as a firearm contained entirely within a motor vehicle.

The below question and answer is from the Louisiana Concealed Handgun Permit Unit FAQ page.  
<http://www.lsp.org/pdf/chFAQ.pdf>

**CAN I CARRY MY HANDGUN IN MY VEHICLE?**

Louisiana law does not expressly prohibit the carrying of handguns in vehicles. This is a complicated issue. We suggest that you refer to Louisiana Revised Statutes (L.R.S.) Title 14 Sections 95; 95.1; 95.2; 95.6; 95.7; 95.8. Information on these statutes can be obtained at <http://www.legis.state.la.us/> or in the "Laws and Rules" section of our web page.

**SEC. 97-37-1.** Deadly weapons; carrying while concealed; use or attempt to use; penalties.

(2) It shall not be a violation of this section for any person over the age of eighteen (18) years to carry a firearm or deadly weapon concealed in whole or in part within the confines of his own home or his place of business, or any real property associated with his home or business or within any motor vehicle.

## Missouri

### 571.030.

1. A person commits the crime of unlawful use of weapons if he or she knowingly:

(1) Carries concealed upon or about his or her person a knife, a firearm, a blackjack or any other weapon readily capable of lethal use

(3). Subdivisions (1), (5), (8), and (10) of subsection 1 of this section do not apply when the actor is transporting such weapons in a nonfunctioning state or in an unloaded state when ammunition is not readily accessible or when such weapons are not readily accessible. Subdivision (1) of subsection 1 of this section does not apply to any person twenty-one years of age or older transporting a concealable firearm in the passenger compartment of a motor vehicle, so long as such concealable firearm is otherwise lawfully possessed, nor when the actor is also in possession of an exposed firearm or projectile weapon for the lawful pursuit of game, or is in his or her dwelling unit or upon [business] premises over which the actor has possession, authority or control, or is traveling in a continuous journey peaceably through this state.

## Montana

Montana Attorney Web Site states the following:

“Montana has no prohibitions against carrying a weapon in a motor vehicle, although federal rules may apply in national parks.”

According to the AG you can carry a firearm inside your vehicle without a permit The Definition of concealed in Montana is "wholly or partially covered by clothing or wearing apparel".

---

This is from Gary Marbut, President Montana Shooting Sports Association <http://www.mtssa.org> author, Gun Laws of Montana

There is some misinformation on the Montana DOJ Website you link to for Montana at:

<http://doj.mt.gov/enforcement/concealedweapons.asp>  
<http://doj.mt.gov/enforcement/criminaljustice/concealedweapons.asp>

In its first paragraph, DOJ states the case to make Montana law sound much more restrictive than it really is. In Montana, nobody needs a permit to carry concealed outside the limits of a city or town, which is 99.4% of Montana. Inside city limits, a permit is required to legally carry concealed, but a permit is not required in one's home or place of business. And, Montana recognizes permits from most (40) other states.

Further, the definition of "concealed" in Montana is not a dictionary definition, such as "hidden." Rather, the definition is specific to Montana CCW law and is "wholly or partially covered by clothing or wearing apparel." Thus, in a vehicle glove box or under the seat is not considered "concealed" for the purposes of the Montana CCW law, nor is inside a briefcase, backpack, or even in a woman's purse (no reliable definition for a fannypack, but I'd argue that it's the same as a woman's purse - an accessory or luggage, not "clothing or wearing apparel").

So, a person may have a firearm in the glove box of a car, even inside city limits in Montana, without a permit.

## **Nevada**

Nevada law is silent on carrying firearms in vehicles. Any citizen who can own a firearm may carry it their vehicle. There is no way for the average citizen to get an official answer to this question. Do be advised that local governments may have regulations against carry in a vehicle without a permit. North Las Vegas and Bolder City are two cities that have such laws. There could be more. Use extreme caution.

## **New Mexico**

New Mexico has an extended domain law. Vehicles are considered an extension of your home, anything you can do in your home, you can do in a vehicle in New Mexico.

### **From the Department of Public Safety FAQ.**

**Q.** I will be traveling through New Mexico in a private automobile, are there any laws that address the issue of having a gun in my automobile?

**A.** New Mexico law allows a person to have a concealed loaded firearm in his/her vehicle (including motorcycles and bicycles). If you are not licensed to carry concealed in this State, you may not have the weapon concealed on your person when you exit your vehicle or motorcycle.

## **North Carolina**

## **Must inform Officer**

### **Transporting Weapons**

Roy Cooper  
Attorney General

Given this general prohibition of carrying concealed weapons, individuals must be ever vigilant to ensure that their particular situation cannot be construed as concealing a weapon either on or about them without being properly authorized to do so with a valid North Carolina concealed handgun permit. Therefore, the person's accessibility to the weapon is of prime importance. It is for these reasons, that when transporting a weapon in a vehicle, even greater care must be exercised to ensure that the weapon is not concealed and within the ready access to an occupant of the vehicle. North Carolina law does not specifically address how to transport a weapon in an automobile. Therefore, the central question becomes: when is the weapon concealed and readily accessible to an occupant of the automobile? Obviously, a weapon would be concealed and readily accessible, and therefore in violation of our law, if it were placed in such areas of a vehicle as, under the seat of the automobile; in a bag in the back seat; in an unlocked glove compartment; or in some other manner is covered or hidden within the easy reach of an occupant of the vehicle. A previous opinion from this office was that a weapon would not be concealed if it were placed in a locked glove compartment, unless the key to the glove compartment was in the lock and the person was in close proximity and had ready access to it. A concern with this mode of transportation however is that it is quite susceptible to different interpretations, based on the various factors involved. Therefore, this may not be the most legally defensible method of transporting a weapon, and is discouraged.

While a weapon carried openly in an automobile would not be concealed, there are other problems attendant to this method of carrying a weapon. The principal drawback, of course, is in the event of a person being stopped by a law enforcement official, the officer may not readily know that person's purpose and intent for carrying a weapon. As such, it is imperative that a person immediately notify an officer of the presence of any weapon in the automobile, for the officer's and the vehicle's occupants' safety. Another obvious drawback is that a valuable weapon may be in plain view for potential thieves to see. The prohibition to carrying concealed weapons applies not only to handguns and other weapons commonly thought of as being easily hidden, but also to "long guns" as well. Therefore, shotguns and rifles concealed behind the seat of pickup trucks, and elsewhere in other vehicles, could similarly violate our law.

As to those vehicles with no easily discernible trunk area, for example vans, the question turns on a factual determination of when the weapon is within ready and easy access to an occupant of the vehicle. If the weapon is concealed near, in close proximity to, or within the convenient control and access of an occupant, which would allow him to use the weapon quickly, then a fair probability exists that the occupant is in violation of the law. Therefore, care must be exercised by any occupant of a vehicle to ensure that the weapons are securely locked away in as remote an area as possible in relation to the passenger compartment of the vehicle. It is important to emphasize that these prohibitions apply to passengers, as well as the driver of a vehicle.

(From: <http://www.jus.state.nc.us/NCJA/ncfirearmslaws.pdf>)

## Oregon

166.250 Unlawful possession of firearms. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section or ORS 166.260, 166.270, 166.274, 166.291, 166.292 or 166.410 to 166.470, a person commits the crime of unlawful possession of a firearm if the person knowingly:

- (a) Carries any firearm concealed upon the person;
- (b) Possesses a handgun that is concealed and readily accessible to the person within any vehicle; or
- (c) Possesses a firearm and:
  - (A) Is under 18 years of age;
  - (B)(i) While a minor, was found to be within the jurisdiction of the juvenile court for having committed an act which, if committed by an adult, would constitute a felony or a misdemeanor involving violence, as defined in ORS 166.470; and
  - (ii) Was discharged from the jurisdiction of the juvenile court within four years prior to being charged under this section;
  - (C) Has been convicted of a felony or found guilty, except for insanity under ORS 161.295, of a felony;
  - (D) Was committed to the Department of Human Services under ORS 426.130; or
  - (E) Was found to be mentally ill and subject to an order under ORS 426.130 that the person be prohibited from purchasing or possessing a firearm as a result of that mental illness.

(2) This section does not prohibit:

(a) A minor, who is not otherwise prohibited under subsection (1)(c) of this section, from possessing a firearm:

(A) Other than a handgun, if the firearm was transferred to the minor by the minor's parent or guardian or by another person with the consent of

the minor's parent or guardian; or

(B) Temporarily for hunting, target practice or any other lawful purpose; or

(b) Any citizen of the United States over the age of 18 years who resides in or is temporarily sojourning within this state, and who is not within the excepted classes prescribed by ORS 166.270 and subsection (1) of this section, from owning, possessing or keeping within the person's place of residence or place of business any handgun, and no permit or license to purchase, own, possess or keep any such firearm at the person's place of residence or place of business is required of any such citizen. **As used in this subsection, "residence" includes a recreational vessel or recreational vehicle while used, for whatever period of time, as residential quarters.**

**(3) Firearms carried openly in belt holsters are not concealed within the meaning of this section.**

(4) Unlawful possession of a firearm is a Class A misdemeanor.  
[Amended by 1979 c.779 §4; 1985 c.543 §3; 1989 c.839 §13; 1993 c.732 §1; 1993 c.735 §12; 1999 c.1040 §1; 2001 c.666 §§33,45; 2003 c.614 §8]

## **Pennsylvania**

### **From the PA State Police FAQ's.**

#### **Are there exceptions to carrying a firearm without a Pennsylvania License to Carry?**

A License to Carry Firearms is issued to carry a firearm concealed on one's person or in a vehicle within this Commonwealth. Any person who carries a firearm concealed on or about his person except in his place of abode or fixed place of business without a valid and lawfully issued license commits a felony of the third degree.

A person who is otherwise eligible to possess a valid license under this chapter but carries a firearm in any vehicle or any person who carries a firearm concealed on or about his person, except in his place of abode or fixed place of business, without a valid and lawfully issued license and has not committed any other criminal violation commits a misdemeanor of the first degree.

Listed below are exceptions as outlined in 18 Pa.C.S. § 6106. (2) (b) Exceptions:

**(11)** Any person while carrying a firearm in any vehicle, which person possesses a valid and lawfully issued license for that firearm which has been issued under the laws of the United States or any other state.

**(12)** A person who has a lawfully issued license to carry a firearm pursuant to section 6109 (relating to licenses) and that said license expired within six months prior to the date of arrest and that the individual is otherwise eligible for renewal of the license.

**(13)** Any person who is otherwise eligible to possess a firearm under this chapter and who is operating a motor vehicle which is registered in the person's name or the name of a spouse or parent and which contains a firearm for which a valid license has been issued pursuant to section 6109 to the spouse or parent owning the firearm.

**(14)** A person lawfully engaged in the interstate transportation of a firearm as defined under 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(3) (relating to definitions) in compliance with 18 U.S.C. § 926A (relating to interstate transportation of firearms).

**(15)** Any person who possesses a valid and lawfully issued license or permit to carry a firearm

which has been issued under the laws of another state, regardless of whether a reciprocity agreement exists between the Commonwealth and the state under section 6109(k), provided:

(i) The state provides a reciprocal privilege for individuals licensed to carry firearms under section 6109.

## **Rhode Island**

### **TITLE 11**

#### **Criminal Offenses**

#### **CHAPTER 11-47 Weapons**

#### **SECTION 11-47-8**

§ 11-47-8 License or permit required for carrying pistol – Possession of machine gun. – (a) No person shall, without a license or permit issued as provided in §§ 11-47-11, 11-47-12 and 11-47-18, carry a pistol or revolver in any vehicle or conveyance or on or about his or her person whether visible or concealed, except in his or her dwelling house or place of business or on land possessed by him or her or as provided in §§ 11-47-9 and 11-47-10. The provisions of these sections shall not apply to any person who is the holder of a valid license or permit issued by the licensing authority of another state, or territory of the United States, or political subdivision of the state or territory, allowing him or her to carry a pistol or revolver in any vehicle or conveyance or on or about his or her person whether visible or concealed, provided the person is merely transporting the firearm through the state in a vehicle or other conveyance without any intent on the part of the person to detain him or herself or remain within the state of Rhode Island. No person shall manufacture, sell, purchase, or possess a machine gun except as otherwise provided in this chapter. Every person violating the provision of this section shall, upon conviction, be punished by imprisonment for not less than one nor more than ten (10) years, or by a fine up to ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), or both, and except for a first conviction under this section shall not be afforded the provisions of suspension or deferment of sentence, nor a probation.

(If you have a permit from another state you can keep the firearm on your hip or elsewhere in the vehicle while passing through the state. If you stop it must be put away)

## **South Carolina**

## **Must inform Officer**

### **SECTION 16-23-10. Definitions.**

When used in this article:

(1) “Handgun” means any firearm designed to expel a projectile and designed to be fired from the hand, but shall not include any firearm generally recognized or classified as an antique, curiosity, or collector’s item, or any that does not fire fixed cartridges.

(10) “Luggage compartment” means the trunk of a motor vehicle which has a trunk; however, with respect to a motor vehicle which does not have a trunk, the term “luggage compartment” refers to the area of the motor vehicle in which the manufacturer designed that luggage be carried or to the area of the motor vehicle in which luggage is customarily carried. In a station wagon, van, hatchback vehicle, or sport utility vehicle, the term “luggage compartment” refers to the area behind, but not under, the rearmost seat. In a truck, the term “luggage compartment” refers to the area behind the rearmost seat, but not under the front seat.

**SECTION 16-23-20. Unlawful carrying of handgun; exceptions.**

It is unlawful for anyone to carry about the person any handgun, whether concealed or not, except as follows, unless otherwise specifically prohibited by law:

- (1) regular, salaried law enforcement officers, and reserve police officers of a state agency, municipality, or county of the State, uncompensated Governor's constables, law enforcement officers of the federal government or other states when they are carrying out official duties while in this State, deputy enforcement officers of the Natural Resources Enforcement Division of the Department of Natural Resources, and retired commissioned law enforcement officers employed as private detectives or private investigators;
- (2) members of the Armed Forces of the United States, the National Guard, organized reserves, or the State Militia when on duty;
- (3) members, or their invited guests, of organizations authorized by law to purchase or receive firearms from the United States or this State or regularly enrolled members, or their invited guests, of clubs organized for the purpose of target shooting or collecting modern and antique firearms while these members, or their invited guests, are at or going to or from their places of target practice or their shows and exhibits;
- (4) licensed hunters or fishermen who are engaged in hunting or fishing or going to or from their places of hunting or fishing while in a vehicle or on foot;
- (5) a person regularly engaged in the business of manufacturing, repairing, repossessing, or dealing in firearms, or the agent or representative of this person, while possessing, using, or carrying a handgun in the usual or ordinary course of the business;
- (6) guards authorized by law to possess handguns and engaged in protection of property of the United States or any agency of the United States;
- (7) members of authorized military or civil organizations while parading or when going to and from the places of meeting of their respective organizations;
- (8) a person in his home or upon his real property or a person who has the permission of the owner or the person in legal possession or the person in legal control of the home or real property;
- (9) a person in a vehicle if the handgun is secured in a closed glove compartment, closed console, closed trunk, or in a closed container secured by an integral fastener and transported in the luggage compartment of the vehicle; however, this item is not violated if the glove compartment, console, or trunk is opened in the presence of a law enforcement officer for the sole purpose of retrieving a driver's license, registration, or proof of insurance;
- (10) a person carrying a handgun unloaded and in a secure wrapper from the place of purchase to his home or fixed place of business or while in the process of changing or moving one's residence or changing or moving one's fixed place of business;
- (11) a prison guard while engaged in his official duties;

(12) a person who is granted a permit under provision of law by the State Law Enforcement Division to carry a handgun about his person, under conditions set forth in the permit, and while transferring the handgun between the permittee's person and a location specified in item (9);

(13) the owner or the person in legal possession or the person in legal control of a fixed place of business, while at the fixed place of business, and the employee of a fixed place of business, other than a business subject to Section 16-23-465, while at the place of business; however, the employee may exercise this privilege only after: (a) acquiring a permit pursuant to item (12), and (b) obtaining the permission of the owner or person in legal control or legal possession of the premises;

(14) a person engaged in firearms related activities while on the premises of a fixed place of business which conducts, as a regular course of its business, activities related to sale, repair, pawn, firearms training, or use of firearms, unless the premises is posted with a sign limiting possession of firearms to holders of permits issued pursuant to item (12);

(15) a person while transferring a handgun directly from or to a vehicle and a location specified in this section where one may legally possess the handgun.

(16) Any person on a motorcycle when the pistol is secured in a closed saddlebag or other similar closed accessory container attached, whether permanently or temporarily, to the motorcycle.

#### **South Dakota**

**Must be in plain view.**

§ 22-14-9 Carrying pistol or revolver without a permit as misdemeanor.

Any person, other than a law enforcement officer when acting as such, is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor if he:

(2) Carries a pistol or revolver, loaded or unloaded, concealed in any vehicle operated by him, without a permit as provided in chapter § 23-7.

The Attorney General gave an Unofficial Opinion on Car Carry on September 17, 2004. The Attorney General Stated that South Dakota Law allowed anyone to carry a loaded Firearm inside a vehicle without a permit as long as the firearm was visible. You can read the Attorney Generals Opinion at: <http://www.sdsos.gov/adminservices/adminpdfs/scan.pdf>

#### **Texas**

**Must be Concealed**

**[From the Texas DPS FAQ Page:](#)**

**Q. Can I carry a handgun without a license when driving or traveling in a Motor Vehicle?**

A. Effective September 1, 2007 a person who can legally possess a firearm may possess or carry a handgun in motor vehicle (including a recreational vehicle with living quarters) that is owned by or under the lawful control of the person. However, the firearm must be concealed, the person may not be engaged in criminal activity, and also may not be a member of "Criminal Street

Gang.” The person may also carry the firearm to and from his vehicle without a license. (See Texas Penal Code 46.02 (a). However, DPS recommends that you seek the advice of an attorney with any questions regarding the unlicensed carrying of firearms.

**Note:** The law as written is below.

## **Title 10 . Section 1**

### **Section 46.02**

- (a) A person commits an offense if the person [he] intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly carries on or about his or her person a handgun, illegal knife, or club if the person is not:
  - (1) on the person's own premises or premises under the person's control; or
  - (2) inside of or directly en route to a motor vehicle that is owned by the person or under the person's control.
  
- (a-1) A person commits an offense if the person intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly carries on or about his or her person a handgun in a motor vehicle that is owned by the person or under the person's control at any time in which:
  - (1) the handgun is in plain view; or
  - (2) the person is:
    - (A) engaged in criminal activity, other than a Class C misdemeanor that is a violation of a law or ordinance regulating traffic;
    - (B) prohibited by law from possessing a firearm;or
  - (C) a member of a criminal street gang, as defined by Section 71.01
  
- (a-2) For purposes of this section, "premises" includes real property and a recreational vehicle that is being used as living quarters, regardless of whether that use is temporary or permanent. In this subsection, "recreational vehicle" means a motor vehicle primarily designed as temporary living quarters or a vehicle that contains temporary living quarters and is designed to be towed by a motor vehicle. The term includes a travel trailer, camping trailer, truck camper, motor home, and horse trailer with living quarters.

### **SECTION 2.**

- (b) Section 46.02 does not apply to a person who:
  - (1) is in the actual discharge of official duties as a member of the armed forces or state military forces as defined by Section 431.001, Government Code, or as a guard employed by a penal institution;
  - (2) [is on the person's own premises or premises under the person's control unless the person is an employee or agent of the owner of the premises and the person's primary responsibility is to act in the capacity of a security guard to protect persons or property, in which event the person must comply with Subdivision

(5);

[(3)] is traveling;

(3) [(4)] is engaging in lawful hunting, fishing, or other sporting activity on the immediate premises where the activity is conducted, or is en route between the premises and the actor's residence or motor vehicle, if the weapon is a type commonly used in the activity;

(4) [(5)] holds a security officer commission issued by the Texas [Board of Private Investigators and] Private Security Board [Agencies], if:

(A) the person is engaged in the performance of the person's duties as a security officer or traveling to and from the person's place of assignment;

(B) the person is wearing a distinctive uniform;

and

(C) the weapon is in plain view;

(5) [(6)] is carrying a concealed handgun and a valid license issued under Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code [Article 4413(29ee), Revised Statutes], to carry a concealed handgun of the same category as the handgun the person is carrying;

(6) [(7)] holds a security officer commission and a personal protection officer authorization issued by the Texas [Board of Private Investigators and] Private Security Board [Agencies] and [who] is providing personal protection under Chapter 1702, Occupations Code [the Private Investigators and Private Security Agencies Act (Article 4413(29bb), Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes)]; or

(7) [(8)] holds an alcoholic beverage permit or license or is an employee of a holder of an alcoholic beverage permit or license if the person is supervising the operation of the permitted or licensed premises.

SECTION 3. The following provisions are repealed:

(1) Section 46.15(h), Penal Code; and

(2) Section 46.15(i), Penal Code, as added by Chapter 288, Acts of the 79th Legislature, Regular Session, 2005.

SECTION 4. The change in law made by this Act applies only to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act. An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect when the offense was committed, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the effective date of this Act if any element of the offense was committed before that date.

SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

<http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/> Texas Statutes

## Utah

Utah law **76-10-504, 76-10-505, 76-10-511 and 76-10-523** was amended by HB 357 so that anyone who can legally own a firearm and is 18 years old or older can carry a concealed loaded

defensive handgun on their person, glove box, center console or anywhere in the vehicle without a permit/license. It is still not legal to carry any type of long gun that is loaded and not secured away from the occupants.

[http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/administration/crime\\_records/chl/Traveling.pdf](http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/administration/crime_records/chl/Traveling.pdf)

## **Virginia**

**Must be in plain view.**

Open carry is legal in Virginia and carry in a vehicle without a permit is legal but the firearm must be totally visible. Do be advised that carrying a firearm openly will draw the attention of any Police Officer.

## **West Virginia**

**Must be in plain view.**

### **From the West Virginia State Police FAQ Page:**

**Q.** Is it lawful to carry weapons (e.g. rifles, shotguns, and pistols) in my vehicle when I travel in West Virginia?

**A.** Individuals who possess a valid concealed carry permit may carry a concealed handgun in a motor vehicle for purpose of self-defense only. West Virginia permits anyone who can lawfully possess a handgun to carry an unconcealed handgun. If you choose to carry an unconcealed handgun in your vehicle and are stopped by a law-enforcement officer, you must understand that that the weapon will immediately attract the attention of the police officer. The presence of the weapon may lead to action by the officer to ensure his or her safety such as the drawing of his or her weapon, ordering you from the vehicle, and/or performing a pat-down search. Weapons intended for hunting must be unloaded and in a case when transported in a vehicle. It is strongly recommended that, if you do not have a valid concealed carry permit, while traveling in a vehicle, that all firearms be unloaded and cased in a location in the vehicle that is not readily accessible to any of the occupants. Any ammunition should be stored in a separate location from the firearm.

## **Vermont**

Anyone who can legally own a firearm can carry it concealed in Vermont with no permit/license of any kind.

## **Wyoming**

Anyone who can legally own a firearm can carry it anywhere inside a vehicle loaded or unloaded as long as it is not concealed on your person. Wyoming law states that you can not carry a concealed firearm without a permit. There is no Wyoming law about carrying inside your vehicle.

## **Updates to this Page**

**5/16/09** – Utah Information Added

**6/6/09** – Carry in GA without a license in a vehicle you must be owner of that vehicle Added.

**9/29/09** – TX Info updated with FAQ from DPS

**11/9/09** – PA Info Added.

