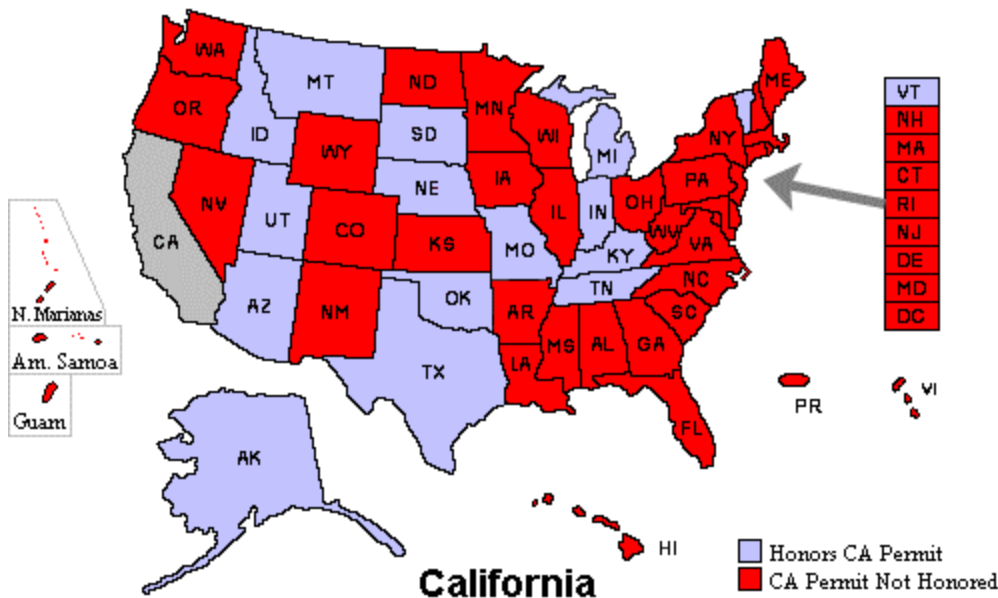


California

May Issue

Must Inform Officer: **NO**



Links

- [State CCW Site](#)
- [State CCW Pamphlet](#)
- [CCW Application](#)
- [State FAO Site](#)
- [State Statutes](#)
- [State Admin Rules](#)
- [State Reciprocity Info](#)
- [State Attorney General](#)
- [2nd CCW Info Site](#)
- [Secretary of State](#)

Last Updated: 11/10/09

Permits/Licenses This State Honors

California does not honor any other states Permits/Licenses.

How to Apply for A Permit

Your Local Sheriff or Chief of Police Issues Permit/Licenses

Information on how to apply is [“Here”](#).

Term of the Permit/License is 2 years

Cost of Permit/License is \$10.00 when application is filed plus a follow up fee when you receive your permit.

12050. (a) (1) (A) The sheriff of a county, upon proof that the person applying is of good moral character, that good cause exists for the issuance, and that the person applying satisfies any one of the conditions specified in subparagraph (D) and has completed a course of training as described in subparagraph (E), may issue to that person a license to carry a pistol, revolver, or other firearm capable of being concealed upon the person in either one of the following formats:

- A license to carry concealed a pistol, revolver, or other firearm capable of being concealed upon the person.
- Where the population of the county is less than 200,000 persons according to the most recent federal decennial census, a license to carry loaded and exposed in that county a pistol, revolver, or other firearm capable of being concealed upon the person.

Non-Resident Permits

California does not issue Non-Resident Permit/Licenses.

Places Off-Limits Even With A Permit/License

Firearms and Picketing Activity

From the California Attorney Generals [Web page](#) on Firearms.

It is unlawful for any person to carry a loaded firearm upon his or her person or within any vehicle under his or her control or direction while engaged in picketing activity. (Penal Code § 12590(a)(2) Picketing activity means any informational activities conducted in a public place relating to a concerted refusal to work.

General Exceptions Are Not Applicable

The exceptions regarding loaded firearms provided for peace officers, bank guards, armored vehicle guards, licensed hunters or fishermen, private investigators, and other persons in Section 5. Loaded Firearms of this publication, do not apply if such individuals are engaged in picketing activities as described above. (Penal Code § 12590(c).

From the California Dept of Justice [Standard Application](#) for License to Carry a Concealed Weapon (CCW)

While exercising the privileges granted to the licensee under the terms of this license, the licensee shall not, when carrying a concealed weapon:

- Consume any alcoholic beverage.
- Be in a place having a primary purpose of dispensing alcoholic beverages for on-site consumption.
- Be under the influence of any medication or drug, whether prescribed or not.
- Refuse to show the license or surrender the concealed weapon to any peace officer upon demand.
- Impede any peace officer in the performance of his/her duties.
- Present himself/herself as a peace officer to any person unless he/she is, in fact, a peace officer as defined by California law.
- Unjustifiably display a concealed weapon.
- Carry a concealed weapon not listed on the permit
- Carry a concealed weapon at times or circumstances other than those specified in the permit.

Pursuant to U.S. Government Code - Title 49, Chapter 26, Section 1472 (1) and Federal Aviation Regulation 121.583, a license to carry a concealed weapon does not authorize a person to carry a firearm, tear gas, or any dangerous weapon aboard commercial airlines. Further, a person must declare that he/she is carrying such firearm, tear gas, or dangerous weapon BEFORE entering the boarding area of an air terminal where the security checks are made. Such violation can result in arrest by law enforcement.

Sheriffs can also put on other restrictions. If this is legal or not is still an open question.

Carrying Firearms: [From the CA Attorney General](#)

Any person over the age of 18 who is not prohibited from possessing firearms, and if otherwise lawful, may keep and carry a firearm or have a firearm loaded at his or her place of residence, temporary residence, campsite, or on private property owned or lawfully possessed by the person. (Penal Code §§ 12026, 12031(h) and (l).) Any person engaged in any lawful business (including nonprofit organizations) or any officer, employee, or agent authorized for lawful purposes connected

with the business may possess a loaded firearm within the place of business if that person is over 18 years of age and not otherwise prohibited from possessing firearms. (Penal Code §§ 12026, 12031(h).)

NOTE: A person's place of business, residence, temporary residence, campsite, or private property may be located in areas where possession of handguns or other firearms, whether loaded or unloaded, is otherwise prohibited. Such areas include, but are not limited to, state, federal, or private game reserves or refuges, federal and state parks, and other public lands. Questions regarding the applicability of such laws should be directed to your sheriff or chief of police, federal or state fish and game officers, or federal or state park rangers.

Carry In State Parks/State & National Forests/WMA/Road Side Rest Areas

Carry Allowed in these Areas:

State Parks: **YES** (See Notes area at bottom of this Document for additional information)

State/National Forests: **YES** 14 CCR s 1413

WMA's: **NO** F/G Code 10500

Road Side Rest Areas: **YES** per CHP

RV/Car Carry Without A Permit/License

You must have a Permit/License to carry a loaded handgun in any vehicle.

State Preemption

California Government Code 53071

It is the intention of the Legislature to occupy the whole field of regulation of the registration or licensing of commercially manufactured firearms as encompassed by the provisions of the Penal Code, and such provisions shall be exclusive of all local regulations, relating to registration or licensing of commercially manufactured firearms, by any political subdivision as defined in Section 1721 of the Labor Code.

Deadly Force Laws

California Penal Code Section 196-199

196. Homicide is justifiable when committed by public officers and those acting by their command in their aid and assistance, either

197. Homicide is also justifiable when committed by any person in any of the following cases:

198. A bare fear of the commission of any of the

198.5. Any person using force intended or likely to cause death or great bodily injury within his or her residence

199. The homicide appearing to be justifiable or excusable, the person indicted must, upon his trial, be fully acquitted and discharged.

Knife Laws State/Cities

To access State/Local Knife Laws Click [“Here”](#)

Carry in Restaurants That Serve Alcohol

YES

Note: What is defined as carry in a restaurant that serves alcohol is a place like Friday’s or Red Lobster. This does not mean a bar or the bar area of a restaurant. Handgunlaw.us believes you should never consume alcohol when carrying your firearm. In some states it is illegal to take even one drink while carrying a firearm.

Chemical Sprays/Stun Gun/Higher Capacity Magazine Laws

Large Capacity Magazines

With limited exceptions, California law prohibits any person from manufacturing, importing into the state, keeping for sale, offering or exposing for sale, giving, or lending any large capacity magazine. Cal. Penal Code § 12020(a)(2), (b). A "large capacity magazine" is defined as any ammunition feeding device with the capacity to accept more than ten rounds, but does not include any .22 caliber tube ammunition feeding device, any feeding device that has been permanently altered so that it cannot accommodate more than ten rounds, or any tubular magazine that is contained in a lever-action firearm. Section 12020(c)(25). California does not ban the *possession* of large capacity magazines.

Upon a showing of good cause, the California Department of Justice may issue permits for the possession, transportation, or sale of large capacity ammunition magazines between a licensed California firearms dealer and an out-of-state customer. Section 12079(a). This requirement applies for only the out-of-state importation and exportation of large capacity ammunition magazines, including the transportation of such magazines as necessary to complete a transfer to or from an out of state source. See Cal. Code Regs. tit. 11, § 978.40.

Large capacity magazines may be manufactured for any federal, state, or local government or law enforcement agency, or for use by agency employees in the discharge of their official duties, whether on or off duty. Section 12020(b)(30). Large capacity magazines may also be purchased or loaned for the sole use as a motion picture, television or video prop. Section 12020(b)(31), (32)(A). Such magazines may also be resold to law enforcement agencies, government agencies, or the military, pursuant to applicable federal regulations. Section 12020(b)(32)(C).

For additional large capacity ammunition magazine regulations, see Cal. Code Regs. tit. 11, §§ 978.40-978.44.

Stun Devices/Electric Weapons:

5 CCR § 100015

Stun guns and TASERS are not permitted on the property of any state universities.

PC Part 1 Title 7 Chpt. 7 - Part 171b

Illegal to have stun guns within any state or local public building or at any meeting required to be open to the public

Chemical Sprays:

Penal Code 12403.7 Misuse of tear gas in California comes with state penalties of up to a \$1000 fine and/or up to three years in prison. Minors, drug addicts or persons convicted of felonies, assault or misuse of tear gas are legally prohibited from possessing tear gas. To be legally purchased, possessed or used in California, any canister must have a label that says "WARNING: The use of this substance or device for any purpose other than self-defense is a crime under the law. The contents are dangerous--use with care." The maximum legal net weight for a canister is 2.5 ounces, or 70 grams of OC.

LEOSA State Information

[California LEOSA Info 1](#)

[California LEOSA Info 2](#)

Attorney General Opinions/Court Cases

- **[California AG - Court Ruling on CCW Issue Standards](#)**
- **[California AG - City Regs on Ammo Sales](#)**

Airport Carry/Misc. Information

Airport Carry: From California Code: Sterile area of Airport (From the Application for a Permit from the state of California) Pursuant to U.S. Government Code - Title 49, Chapter 26, Section 1472 (1) and Federal Aviation Regulation 121.583, a license to carry a concealed weapon does not authorize a person to carry a firearm, tear gas, or any dangerous weapon aboard commercial airlines. **Note:** People have been arrested and guns confiscated for just having them in their vehicle upon driving on LAX property. Handgunlaw.us urges extreme caution and do watch out for signage upon entering any Airport property in California.

Training Valid for: Initial training must be 16 to 24 hours in length. Refresher training must be A minimum of 4 hours. The refresher training can be regulated by the local Issuer of the Permit/License.

Time Period to Establish Residency: None Apparent (Probably Upon Obtaining Drivers License)

Minimum Age for Permit/License: 18

Permit/License Info Public Information: Unknown

State Fire arm Laws: PC 12000 thru 12133

State Deadly Force Laws: PC 196-199

State Knife Laws: PC 12020 & 653k & 626.10 & 12001.1 & 12028

Chemical/Electric Weapons Laws: PC 12401 thru 12426

Body Armor Laws: PC 12360 thru 12370

Does Your Permit Cover Other Weapons Besides Firearms? NO 12050

Notes:

Concerning Carry in California State Parks:

"Itaya, Adrian" AITAY@parks.ca.gov wrote:

To: Name Removed by Handgunlaw.us
My apologies for the delay-

The California Department of Parks and Recreation through its legal section, has determined that CCR 4314 exempts the following:

- 1) California Peace Officers who are otherwise permitted to carry firearms
- 2) Honorably retired California Peace Officers with concealed weapons privileges
- 3) Citizens with concealed firearms privileges

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Adrian E. Itaya
California State Parks
Public Safety Division
(916) 651-0403
aitay@parks.ca.gov

Updates to This Page:

1/16/09 – Airport Carry. Note added about arrests for just having firearms in vehicles.

2/24/09 – State Park Carry updated and Notes section added for explanation.

5/27/09 - AG Link Repaired

8/19/08 – All Links checked and any broken links repaired.

8/31/09 – NE added as state that honors CA Permit.

11/10/09 – Places off limits updated.