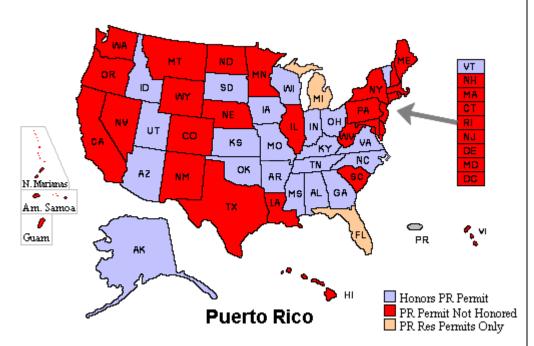
Notice: Obtaining Information from PR is very difficult. Before Traveling to PR Handgunlaw.us highly recommends you have official word from PR Authorities on their Statutes/Rules/Regulations.!

Puerto Rico

Must Inform Officer Immediately: NO

Shall Issue (See Must Inform Section Below)



Note: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wyoming have "Permitless Carry"

Anyone who can legally possess a firearm may carry in these states without a Permit. Check each states page for age or other restrictions that may apply.

Puerto Rico CCW Links√

Puerto Rico PoliceSpanish

Firearm Forms
Scroll Down

Act 168 2019 Amernded 2021

Firearms Application
Spanish/English

Bringing Weapons into PR
Form Spanish

LEOSA ID Card App. Spanish

Puerto Rico Statutes
From Lexis (Spanish)

Puerto Rico Statutes English

Puerto Rico Statutes
From Lexis (English)

2020 Shall Issue Laws

Age to Carry a Firearm

In Other States
Last Updated: 1/8/2024

Permits/Licenses This State Honors

Section 7.03 (25L.P.R.A. § 462b) — Warning in Ports and Airports

The Director of the Puerto Rico Ports Authority shall conspicuously post signs, in English and in Spanish, in every inbound port and airports in Puerto Rico through which arriving passengers must pass. Such signs shall read as follows:

Firearms Warning

Every person, not authorized to have firearms under Puerto Rico laws, and who does not hold a valid weapons permit issued in any State, enclave, possession or territory of the United States of America, who brings a firearm with him/her or in is/her luggage, must give immediate notice to the Ports Authority Security Office and an officer of the Police Bureau of Puerto Rico upon arrival. Noncompliance with this notice may carry prison penalties. The Ports Authority Security Office and/or an Authorized Agent will inform you on how to proceed with your weapon.

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Section 6.25. (25L.P.R.A. § 466x) — Notice by Carrier, Warehouseman, Depository for the Receipt of Firearms; Penalties.

....any commercial airline flying to Puerto Rico with passengers checking firearms and/or ammunition along with their baggage to transport them to any airport within the territorial limits of Puerto Rico shall notify so to the Puerto Rico Police Bureau at the time such firearms and/or ammunition are returned to the passenger. The airline shall require the passenger to provide his name, address, telephone number, and any other contact information, as well as the number, type, caliber, and registration information of the firearms and/or ammunition he is transporting within the territorial limits of Puerto Rico, and provide it to the Puerto Rico Police Bureau. The Puerto Rico Police Bureau shall use the information provided to verify that such transport complies with the applicable laws and regulations of Puerto Rico. Said notification shall be made in accordance with the regulations adopted by the Puerto Rico Police Bureau to enforce the provisions of this Act.

If the consignee does not hold a firearms or firearms dealer license, the carrier, warehouseman, or depository shall immediately notify the Commissioner of such fact, as well as the name and address of the consignee, and the number of firearms or ammunition for delivery. Furthermore, he shall be prohibited from delivering the firearms and/or ammunition to the consignee until he holds an authorization issued by the Commissioner to such effect.

The violation of any obligation herein established shall constitute a felony punishable by imprisonment for a fixed term of twelve (12) years, and by a fine of not less than two thousand (2,000) dollars and not more than ten thousand (10,000) dollars. If there were aggravating circumstances, the fixed penalty established may be increased to a maximum of twenty-four (24) years; if there were mitigating circumstances, the fixed penalty established may be reduced to a minimum of six (6) years.

Note: It is very difficult to get information from PR Authorities. Before traveling to PR with any firearms Handgunlaw.us Highly Recommends you know all the Statutes/Rules/Regulations. Be Very Cautious!

How to Apply for A Permit

Note: Handgunlaw.us recommends you read all of Section 2 of the Administrative Rules.

Weapons License to Own and Carry a Concealed Firearm

Section 2.02. (25L.P.R.A. § 462a) — Firearms License.

The Division of Arms Registry and License Issuance will issue arms licenses to all petitioners who meet the following requirements:

- 1. Be twenty-one (21) years of age.
- **2.** Have a negative criminal record and not be accused and pending or in trial for some of the crimes listed in article 2.09 of the aforementioned law 168-2019 or equivalents, both in Puerto Rico and in any United States Jurisdiction, at the federal level or in any foreign country.
- 3. Not be addicted to controlled substances or habitual drunk.
- **4.** Not be declared mentally incapable by a court with jurisdiction.
- **5.** Not have been discharged from the United States Armed Forces or the Puerto Rico Police Bureau under dishonorable conditions (Dishonorable Discharge.)

2

- **6.** Do not incur or belong to organizations that commit acts of violence or directed to overthrow of the constituted government.
- 7. Not be under a court order, or have been at any time during the past twelve (12) months prior to the www.handgunlaw.us

application date, that prohibits you from harassing, spying, threatening or approaching an intimate partner any family member of his or any person.

- **8.** Be a citizen or legal resident of the United States of America.
- **9.** Not be a person prohibited from receiving, transporting, or shipping firearms or ammunition under the Federal Gun Control Act of 1968

Note: The License to Own is also your license to carry a Concealed Firearms. The License is valid for 5 years and initial cost minus Fingerprinting and Training Class is \$200. Renewal is \$100. You will be fingerprinted and it looks like it is Electronic Fingerprinting. The Police will certify instructors for the required training and should have a list of certified trainers. (We can't find a list of Certified Instructors on the <u>Puerto Rico Police Dept</u> online page.

Puerto Rico has 45 days in the first year of the law to issue 30 days after the first year. (Law took effect 1/1/20) You will fill out a **Firearms Application** (Spanish/English)

Section 2.02. (25L.P.R.A. § 462a) — Firearms License.

- (e) A valid firearms license is required for the applicant to be able to acquire, purchase, transport, sell, donate, lend, transfer, own, possess, keep custody, carry, use, and operate weapons, firearms, ammunition, and any other pertinent accessory allowed by this Act in any place subject to the jurisdiction of the Government of Puerto Rico, Provided, That:
 - (1) A firearms license shall be required to carry a firearm; such firearm shall be carried concealed and not be brandished.
 - (i) Firearms may be carried only one at a time.
 - (ii) Transportation of more than one firearm at a time is permitted when the other firearms are unloaded, securely encased not showing the contents, and out of plain sight.
 - (2) Licensed persons may only purchase ammunition of a caliber that is compatible with the weapons they own and have registered to their name, unless they rent weapons of a caliber different from the weapons they own and have registered to their name in a gun shop with a shooting range in order to be used solely in said premises. The purchase of ammunition shall not be limited; however, when a licensed person acquires over twenty thousand (20,000) ammunition within a period of one year, the dealer shall notify the Firearms Licensing Office and the person shall be subject to police reviews on the use of said ammunition. The Firearms Licensing Office may revoke the firearms dealer license to any dealer who fails to comply with this obligation.
- (h) A licensed person who wishes to renew his license may begin the renewal process six (6) months before and shall have up to thirty (30) days after the expiration date of the firearms license to renew it without being subject to fines. Failure to renew the firearms license after the aforementioned thirty (30) days shall entail a civil fine of twenty-five (25) dollars per month up to a maximum of six (6) months, which amount shall be paid as a renewal requirement.

Section 2.07. (25L.P.R.A. § 462f) — Operation and Handling Certificate.

Training on firearms operation and handling shall be required to apply for, or renew a firearms license. The Puerto Rico Police Bureau shall certify and qualify the persons who shall offer the firearm operation and handling courses. The Police Bureau shall recognize the instructor certificates issued by private institutions that meet the minimum requirements prescribed by the Commissioner through regulations. The person certified to offer the courses by the Police Bureau shall issue a firearm operation and handling certificate attesting to the participation and completion of the firearm operation and handling course. The firearm operation and handling course shall contain both a theoretical element and a practical element. The www.handgunlaw.us

Commissioner shall prescribe by regulations all other aspects related to the firearm operation and handling course.

Section 2.14 (25L.P.R.A. § 462m) — Expedited Firearms License and Carry Permit Procedures for Victims of Domestic Violence and Stalking.

The Commissioner, in conjunction with the Department of Justice, shall establish an expedited procedure through which it shall issue special firearms licenses to victims of domestic violence and stalking who so request and to whom a competent court has issued a protective order. This special license shall be issued free of charge and shall be valid for ninety (90) days; Provided, That the victims of domestic violence or stalking to whom the license herein provided for is granted shall apply for the regular firearms license within this period and such license shall be issued free of charge if they meet all other requirements of this Act. If he victim does not apply for the firearms license within the period provided, the victim shall surrender any firearms possessed pursuant to the provisions of this Act. This license shall be renewed as provided in this Act with regards to such matter.

Non-Resident Permits

Section 2.02. (25L.P.R.A. § 462a) — Firearms License.

Nonresidents must enclose with their application an affidavit sworn before a person authorized to administer oaths within their state or territory, which shall be ratified in Puerto Rico before a notary through the process provided therefor.

Note: Non-Residents would apply the same as Residents but looks like they can do it by mail. See how to apply section.

Places Off-Limits Even With A Permit/License

Section 7.03 (25L.P.R.A. § 467b) — Warning in Ports and Airports

The Director of the Puerto Rico Ports Authority shall conspicuously post signs, in English and in Spanish, in every inbound port and airports in Puerto Rico through which arriving passengers must pass. Such signs shall read as follows:

Firearms Warning

Every person, not authorized to have firearms under Puerto Rico laws, and who does not hold a valid weapons permit issued in any State, enclave, possession or territory of the United States of America, who brings a firearm with him/her or in is/her luggage, must give immediate notice to the Ports Authority Security Office and an officer of the Police Bureau of Puerto Rico upon arrival. Noncompliance with this notice may carry prison penalties. The Ports Authority Security Office and/or an Authorized Agent will inform you on how to proceed with your weapon.

Section 1.02. (25L.P.R.A. § 461a) — **Definitions.**

For purposes of this Act, the following terms shall have the meaning stated below:

(q) "Firearms License" – means that license issued by the Gun Licensing Office that authorizes a person to possess and carry firearms and their ammunition.

- (ee) "Brandishing a firearm" Means the act of carrying a firearm ostentatiously and in a challenging manner.
- (gg) "Carry weapons" Means carrying or keeping one or more loaded or unloaded firearms on one's person or within close proximity and readily accessible. Readily accessible shall be understood to be within his reach and the transportation thereof.
- (oo) "School zone" Means the private or public school grounds, that are in use, during or outside school hours, its parking and green areas as well as every section of a public road located in front of a school, in addition to the section of the public road at each side in front of a school and with a variable length, duly identified with the appropriate traffic signals and within a one hundred (100) meter perimeter from the school, whichever distance is greater.
- (pp) "University zone" Means the premises of the university campus and/or higher education technical institute, whether public or private, its parking and green areas, and those off-campus buildings that belong to the higher education institution, and at any distance within a one hundred (100) meter perimeter from the campus or the university buildings outside the campus.

Note: Handgunlaw.us believes there is no reason for them to define Schools/University in their firearm laws unless they were off limits. Schools/Universities could be partly covered by § 693 below.

Title 18 – Part I - Chapter 8 - Public Schools § 141a. Definitions

For the purposes of this chapter, the following terms shall have the meaning expressed hereinbelow:

(a) Corps. — The School Security Corps created by this chapter. No. 26, p. 85, § 3, eff. July 1, 1985

§ 141d. Powers and functions

The Corps shall have the following powers and duties under the direction of the Secretary:

- (a) To protect the life and property of the school community.
- (b) To protect and watch over the peace and public safety in the school buildings and grounds.
- (6) Hold, confiscate and attach any material such as: controlled substances, weapons, motor and towing vehicles, alcoholic beverages or any equipment used in violation of the laws administered by the Department, or the specific laws related to the purposes of this chapter. All confiscations shall be carried out pursuant to the provisions of §§ 1 and 2 of Act June 4, 1960, No. 39.
- (7) With respect to clauses (3), (4), (5) and (6) of this subsection, the Corps shall limit itself to those cases in which its members have personal knowledge of the existence of the objects to be confiscated, their nature and origin; and the search or confiscation is carried out in the school as determined by this chapter. Outside of these limits, these interventions shall be carried out by the Police Corps of Puerto Rico.

No. 26, p. 85, § 6, eff. July 1, 1985.

Title 23, Part II, Chapter 29 § 466. Power to Carry Firearms (Airport Carry)

Any person authorized to make arrests as provided in the preceding section may carry firearms or other arms within the limits of an airport, as the Executive Director of the Ports Authority may by regulation direct or prescribe.

May 6, 1949, No. 187, p. 590, § 6, eff. 90 days after May 6, 1949.

Note: Handgunlaw.us takes this to mean that only Police can carry inside the terminal of any Airport in Puerto Rico.

Title 1, Chapter 35 § 693. Public Buildings Security Act

- (a) As a part of the minimum security norms to be adopted in all government dependencies, the following behaviors are hereby prohibited:
 - (1) The bearing of any type of weapon shall not be permitted, except for those used by duly identified law enforcement officers, officers assigned to the government dependency in question, as well as those used by private security guards assigned to the same dependency.

 2008, No. 46, § 4.

Title 24, Part VIII, Chapter 201A, SubChapter II

§ 6153s It is hereby prohibited to carry weapons inside any mental healthcare institution. This prohibition excludes Commonwealth police officers and armed security officers in extraordinary public safety conditions, as well as in methadone treatment centers and their mobile or in-house units. If no extraordinary public safety issues should arise so as to warrant the carrying of weapons inside a mental healthcare institution, Commonwealth police officers and other security officers shall be under the obligation to surrender their weapons to the administrator of the institution, who shall see to their safekeeping and return the same to such officers, once they have completed their business within the institution.

Title 16 - Chpt. 57 – Miscellaneous Provisions § 522. Search for Concealed Weapons on Election Day

Any member of the Police of Puerto Rico is hereby authorized and directed to search any person at any place on election day, whom he suspects of carrying any prohibited weapon, and if the weapon is found on him, the same shall be immediately seized and the corresponding complaint shall be sworn to in accordance with law; and if the person carrying the weapon is a voter he shall not be arrested until he has voted.

History —June 29, 1936, No. 3, p. 8, § 5

Open Carry is illegal. Must be Concealed. Can Carry Only One Firearm.

Section 2.02. (25L.P.R.A. § 462a) — Firearms License.

- (e) A valid firearms license is required for the applicant to be able to acquire, purchase, transport, sell, donate, lend, transfer, own, possess, keep custody, carry, use, and operate weapons, firearms, ammunition, and any other pertinent accessory allowed by this Act in any place subject to the jurisdiction of the Government of Puerto Rico, Provided, That:
 - (1) A firearms license shall be required to carry a firearm; such firearm shall be carried concealed and not be brandished.
 - (i) Firearms may be carried only one at a time.
 - (ii) Transportation of more than one firearm at a time is permitted when the other firearms are unloaded, securely encased not showing the contents, and out of plain sight.

Note: Even with a Legal License to carry in Puerto Rico you can only carry one firearm loaded and concealed. You can transport others but they must be unloaded and secured.

For Federal Restrictions on Firearms see the **USA Page**.

Do "No Gun Signs" Have the Force of Law?

"?????" We have not seen anything addressing this issue.

We are unable to determine if "No Gun" signs have the force of law in Puerto Rico. Until we get more information Handgunlaw.us believes you should treat every "No Gun" sign as having the force of law.

Must Inform Officer by Law?

"NO" There is no mention of having to inform immediately in Puerto Statutes. That does not mean

Note: Handgunlaw.us highly recommends you never carry your firearm without carrying your permit with you.

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

Carry Allowed in these Areas:

State Parks: Unknown

State/National Forests: Unknown

State WMA: Unknown

Road Side Rest Areas: Unknown

RV/Car Carry Without A Permit/License

Section 2.02. (25L.P.R.A. § 462a) — Firearms License.

- (e) A valid firearms license is required for the applicant to be able to acquire, purchase, transport, sell, donate, lend, transfer, own, possess, keep custody, carry, use, and operate weapons, firearms, ammunition, and any other pertinent accessory allowed by this Act in any place subject to the jurisdiction of the Government of Puerto Rico, Provided, That:
 - (1) A firearms license shall be required to carry a firearm; such firearm shall be carried concealed and not be brandished.
 - (i) Firearms may be carried only one at a time.
 - (ii) Transportation of more than one firearm at a time is permitted when the other firearms are unloaded, securely encased not showing the contents, and out of plain sight.

State Preemption

We can find no Preemption Statutes or Administrative Rules on this Issue. That does not mean one doesn't exist.

Deadly Force Laws

Title 33, Subtitle 4, Part II Chapter 290,

Subchapter III - Causes for Exclusion from Criminal Liability

§ 4653. Allowed risk

§ 4654. Self-defense

§ 4655. State of necessity

§ 4656. Exercise of right or performance of duty

§ 4657. Obedience to superior orders

- § 4658. Error
- § 4659. Entrapment
- § 4660. Intimidation or violence
- § 4661. Insignificant conduct
- § 4662. Provisions applicable to this section

Knife Laws State/Cities

To access State/Local Knife Laws Click "Here"

Carry in Restaurants That Serve Alcohol

Unknown

Note: A "YES" above means you can carry into places like described below. "NO" means you can't. Handgunlaw.us definition of "Restaurant Carry" is carry in a restaurant that serves alcohol. Places like Friday's or Red Lobster unless posted with "No Gun Signs." This may or may not mean the bar or the bar area of a restaurant. But you can carry your firearm into a restaurant that serves alcohol and sit and eat without consuming. Handgunlaw.us recommends you not sit at the Bar or in the Bar area of such restaurants. In some states it is illegal to be in the Bar area of such restaurants. 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. If you want further info on carrying in places that serve alcohol check your state laws.

Chemical Sprays/Stun Gun/Higher Capacity Magazine Laws

Unable to find any laws on Chemical Sprays/Stun Guns or restrictions on Higher Capacity Magazines. The Administrative Rules are not available to the public and they could have restrictions on these items

LEOSA State Information

You can read a translated copy of the Puerto Rico Admin Rules covering LEOSA Here

See the LEOSA Section on the USA Page at Handgunlaw.us for more LEOSA Information

Attorney General Opinions/Court Cases

There are no new cases since their Firearms laws of 2000 were declared Unconstitutional.

Airport Carry/Misc. Information

Airport Carry: NO Title 23, Part II, Chapter 29 § 466.

Training Valid for: 1 Year

Time Period to Establish Residency: Unknown

Minimum Age for Permit/License: 21

Permit/License Info Public Information: Unknown

State Firearm Laws: Title 25 Subts. 1-3 subtitle 1 Parts I-VIII Chs. 51-59 Chpt 51B Subchs. I-VIII

Subcpt I § 461a

State Deadly Force Laws: Title 33. Subtitle 4. Part II Chapter 290. Subchapter 3 - § 4653 - § 4661

State Knife Laws: Title 25, Subtitle 1, Part V, Chpt. 51B Subchapter VI, § 466e & § 466f

Chemical/Electric Weapons Laws: Electric TITLE 25 (Subts. 1 — 3) Subtitle 1 (Pts. I — VIII)

Part V. (Chs. 51 — 59) Chapter 51B. (Subchs. I — VII)

Subchapter VI. (§§ 466 — 466y) § 466d.

Body Armor Laws: Unknown

Does Your Permit Cover Other Weapons Besides Firearms? NO

State Safe Storage/Access by Minors Statute/s: Title 18 - Part I - Chpt.2 - Subchpt. III - § 15(f)

Title 25 – Subtitle 1 – Part V – Chpt. 51B Subchpt. VI - § 4660

State Safe Storage/Access by Minors Statute/s: 25L.P.R.A. § 4660

Is Carrying of a Concealed Firearm With Permit/License for Defensive Purposes Only While Hunting Legal? Unknown

Notes

What Does PR Consider a Loaded Firearm?

Puerto Rico law does not define Loaded. Their firearm laws us the word Loaded or Unloaded but doesn't give a definition.

Note: At least we can't find nothing in Puerto Rico Law that defines Loaded or Unloaded. With no definition on what the state considers a loaded firearm at the minimum I would have no cartridge in the firing chamber, cylinder, internal or attached magazine or attached to the firearm in any way.

State Emergency Powers

Title 25 – Subtitle 3 – Part I – Chapter 335 – Subchapter VI § 3650. Special powers of the Governor of Puerto Rico

In emergency or disaster situations, the Governor of Puerto Rico may declare through a proclamation that a state of emergency or disaster exists, as the case may be, in all of the territory of Puerto Rico or part thereof. The Governor, for the duration of such state of emergency or disaster shall have, in addition to any others conferred by other laws, the following powers:

- (a) May request the President of the United States of America any federal disaster assistance available under the federal legislation in effect, and accept such assistance and use it at his discretion and subject only to the conditions established by the federal legislation under which it was granted.
- **(b)** May prescribe, amend, and revoke any regulations as well as issue, amend, and rescind such orders as deemed convenient which shall be in effect for the duration of the state of emergency or disaster.

Regulations prescribed or orders issued during a state of emergency or disaster shall have force of law for the duration of the state of emergency or disaster.

- (c) May render effective any state regulations, orders, plans, or measures for emergency or disaster situations or modify them at his discretion.
- (d) May order the removal of debris and wreckage resulting from the emergency or disaster, subject to the conditions stipulated hereinafter.
- (e) May acquire by purchase or gift any real or personal property or any right therein that, in his judgment, is deemed useful, convenient, or necessary during an emergency or disaster.
- (f) May acquire through eminent domain such real or personal property or any right thereon that, in his judgment, is deemed useful, convenient, or necessary during an emergency or disaster, in accordance with the provisions of the §§ 2901-2913 of Title 32, known as the "Condemnation Act", and subject to any additional provisions set forth hereinafter.

 History Apr. 10, 2017, No. 20, § 6.10,

Note: Handgunlaw.us can find no specific laws on the "Emergency Powers" of the Governor or other state officials concerning the banning of Firearms carrying or sales etc. That does not mean there are no laws covering this topic. If there are no laws limiting a Governor in what they can or cannot do they can do just about anything they deem appropriate in an Emergency and let things get sorted out after the emergency is past. Looking at New Orleans after Katrina shows you what they can or will do if there are or are not laws restraining State Government(s).

Note: Federal Law can apply if the state is receiving monetary and/or other assistance from the Federal Government. See **US Code 42-5207** for Federal Law as it applies to States of Emergencies.

Minimum Age for Possessing and Transporting of Handguns.

21 Years of Age

Note: It looks like the min age will remain 21 but there is a section of the law that allows minors to obtain a permit shoot at a range etc. and it may allow transport if less than 21. We are still researching this.

You have to have a license to transport a firearm

Note: In some states Possession and Transportation CAN be very restrictive in that you can ONLY possess and transport a handgun to and from a Shooting Range, Gun Shop, property you own or other places you can legally possess a handgun. Some states do not have this restriction.

This is not the last word on possession and transporting of handguns in this, or any other state. Study your state law further for more information. See "RV/Car Carry" Section Above for more information.

Permit/License Image

This is an image of what we believe is the Permit to Carry issued under PR's new firearms laws.



The License Image below is the old Licenses issued before the new law. Handgunlaw.us doesn't know if this will continue to be the Possession/Carry License or they will create a new one.



Tiro Al Blanco means Target Shooting, Portacion Tribunal Means Carry Court.

his Image has been digitally assembled from 2 or more images. It may not be 100% accurate but gives a good representation of the actual Permit/License.

Updates to This Page

70 Links*

Archive of Previous Updates 3

1/1/2023 – Alabama Added Under Map as a Permitless Carry State.

1/24/2023 – Major Updates to Most Sections.

2/25/2023 – All Links Checked.

7/1/2023 - Florida Now Honors the Puerto Rico Permit to Carry. Florida Now A Permitless Carry State. All Links Checked.

8/1/2023 – North Dakota Added as Permitless Carry States Listing Under Map.

9/2/2023 – Nebraska Added as a Permitless Carry State Under Map.

10/15/2023 – All Links Checked.

1/8/2024 – All Links Checked and Repaired if Needed.