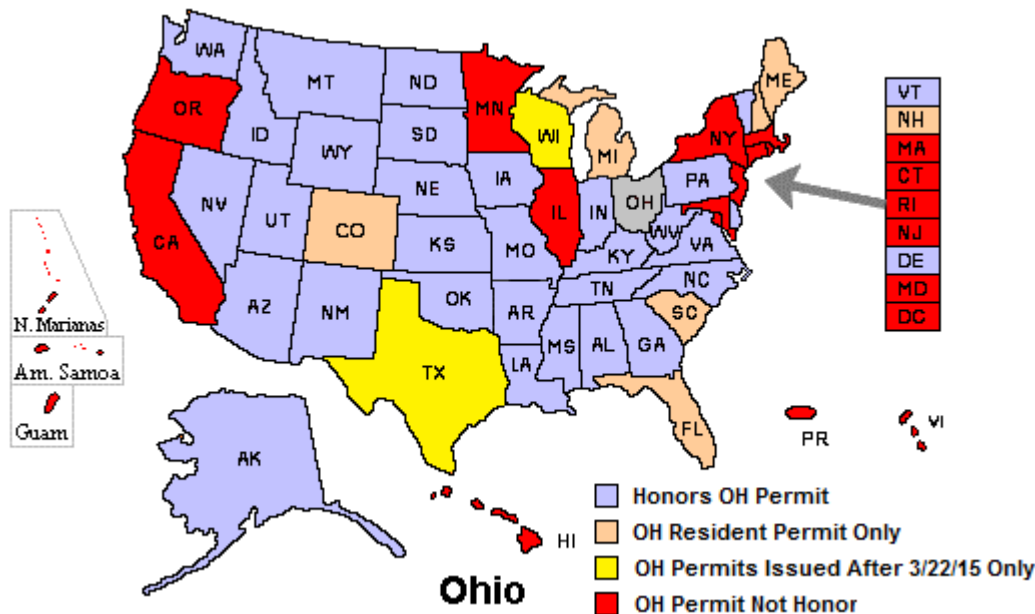


# Ohio

**Shall Issue**

**Must Inform Officer by Law: YES**

(See Must Inform Section Below)



## Links

[State CCW Site](#)

[State CCW Pamphlet](#)  
2017 Edition

[CCW Application](#)

[Sheriff FAQ Site](#)

[State Statutes](#)

[State Admin Rules](#)

[State Reciprocity Info](#)

[Condensed Guide to Ohio CCW Laws](#)

[State Attorney General](#)

[2<sup>nd</sup> CCW Info Site](#)

[Secretary of State](#)

[Last Updated: 3/21/17](#)

**Note:** [Alaska](#), [Arizona](#), [Kansas](#), [Maine](#), [Mississippi](#), [Missouri](#), [New Hampshire](#), [Vermont](#) and [West Virginia](#) have “Permitless Carry.” Anyone who can legally possess a firearm may carry it concealed in those states without a Permit/License. Check each states page for more information and any restrictions that may apply.

## Permits/Licenses This State Honors Listed Below

Ohio Honors all other states resident and non-resident permit/licenses. [Analysis of HB 234 3/23/15](#)

### Reciprocity/How This State Honors Other States Permit/Licenses

**Title 1 Sec. 109.69. (A)(1)** The attorney general shall negotiate and enter into a reciprocity agreement with any other license-issuing state under which a concealed handgun license that is issued by the other state is recognized in this state, except as provided in division (B) of this section, if the attorney general determines that both of the following apply:

(a) The eligibility requirements imposed by that license-issuing state for that license are substantially comparable to the eligibility requirements for a concealed handgun license issued under section 2923.125 of the Revised Code.

(b) That license-issuing state recognizes a concealed handgun license issued under section 2923.125 of the Revised Code.

(2) A reciprocity agreement entered into under division (A)(1) of this section also may provide for the recognition in this state of a concealed handgun license issued on a temporary or emergency basis by the other license-issuing state, if the eligibility requirements imposed by that license-issuing state for the temporary or emergency license are substantially comparable to the eligibility requirements for a concealed handgun license issued under section 2923.125 or 2923.1213 of the Revised Code and if that license-issuing state recognizes a concealed handgun license issued under section 2923.1213 of the Revised Code.

(3) The attorney general shall not negotiate any agreement with any other license-issuing state under which a concealed handgun license issued by the other state is recognized in this state other than as provided in divisions (A)(1) and (2) of this section.

(B)(1) If, on or after the effective date of this amendment, a person who is a resident of this state has a valid concealed handgun license that was issued by another license-issuing state that has entered into a reciprocity agreement with the attorney general under division (A)(1) of this section or the attorney general determines that the eligibility requirements imposed by that license-issuing state for that license are substantially comparable to the eligibility requirements for a concealed handgun license issued under section 2923.125 of the Revised Code, the license issued by the other license-issuing state shall be recognized in this state, shall be accepted and valid in this state, and grants the person the same right to carry a concealed handgun in this state as a person who was issued a concealed handgun license under section 2923.125 of the Revised Code.

(2) If, on or after the effective date of this amendment, a person who is a resident of this state has a valid concealed handgun license that was issued by another license-issuing state that has not entered into a reciprocity agreement with the attorney general under division (A)(1) of this section, the license issued by the other license-issuing state shall be recognized in this state, shall be accepted and valid in this state, and grants the person the same right to carry a concealed handgun in this state as a person who was issued a concealed handgun license under section 2923.125 of the Revised Code for a period of six months after the person became a resident of this state. After that six-month period, if the person wishes to obtain a concealed handgun license, the person shall apply for a concealed handgun license pursuant to section 2923.125 of the Revised Code.

(3) If, on or after the effective date of this amendment, a person who is not a resident of this state has a valid concealed handgun license that was issued by another license-issuing state, regardless of whether the other license-issuing state has entered into a reciprocity agreement with the attorney general under division (A)(1) of this section, and the person is temporarily in this state, during the time that the person is temporarily in this state the license issued by the other license-issuing state shall be recognized in this state, shall be accepted and valid in this state, and grants the person the same right to carry a concealed handgun in this state as a person who was issued a concealed handgun license under section 2923.125 of the Revised Code.

(C) The attorney general shall publish each determination described in division (B)(1) of this section that the attorney general makes in the same manner that written agreements entered into under division (A)(1) or (2) of this section are published.

(D) As used in this section:

(1) "Handgun," "concealed handgun license," and "valid concealed handgun license" have the same meanings as in section 2923.11 of the Revised Code.

(2) "License-issuing state" means a state other than this state that, pursuant to law, provides for the issuance of a license to carry a concealed handgun.

**Note:** To view the signed agreements that Ohio has go [Here](#) and click on the state.

## How to Apply for a Permit

You apply to the Sheriff in the county you reside in or to the sheriff of a county that abuts the county you reside in. Here is the Process as spelled out by the Washington County Ohio Sheriff. All other Sheriffs use the same or very similar process.

**1.** The applicant must first obtain weapons proficiency training as required by the new law. The Ohio AG States in the [Firearms Pamphlet](#):

The law sets out minimum educational requirements that are a component of the various forms of competency certification as set forth previously. The total time required for training is 8 hours with a

minimum of 2 hours of in-person training that consists of range time and live-fire training. (Check with your local Sheriff, gun shop, sporting goods store, [NRA](#), or gun clubs).

2. Ensure the instructors offering the weapons training have a certificate of training from your state or any national gun advocacy organization. **Note:** Part of the training can be done online but the range time must be in person. **2923.125 (G) (3)(a)**

3. Upon successful completion of the training and receipt of a firearm's training certificate from the training entity, the applicant must obtain:

[CCW Application Form](#)

[AG Firearm Pamphlet/Application Instructions](#)

From the Ohio Attorney General's Office. The forms should be made available to you where you obtained your weapons training or on line at the [Ohio Attorney Generals Site](#). The application forms and pamphlets will also be available in the lobby of the Washington County Sheriff's Office, Civil Division, 205 Putnam Street, (Courthouse) Marietta, OH,

**The Application Form Must Be Completed Prior To A Person Being Processed.** (per Washington Co. OH)

5. Upon appearance at the Washington County Sheriff's Office to process their application, the applicant must have the following items:

- (a) their completed application form
- (b) copies of their firearms training certificate
- (c) a passport size color photo taken within the last thirty-days
- (d) one of the following methods of payment for the NON-REFUNDABLE APPLICATION FEE:
  - (1) money order
  - (2) cashier's check
  - (3) certified bank check in the amount of **\$67.00**

6. The "Ohio Concealed Carry Law Booklet no longer needs to be presented doing training but is available online.

7. One applicant will be processed at a time and their completed application, informational pamphlet and method of payment will be reviewed for completeness and accuracy. Fingerprints will be taken for a records check through BCI&I and the FBI.

**Active Members of the U.S. Armed Forces Do Not Need a Permit/License To Carry** (Specifics Below)

**Sec. 2923.12.** (A) No person shall knowingly carry or have, concealed on the person's person or concealed ready at hand, any of the following:

(2) Division (A)(2) of this section does not apply to any person who, at the time of the alleged carrying or possession of a handgun, either is carrying a valid concealed handgun **license or is an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States and is carrying a valid military identification card and documentation of successful completion of firearms training that meets or exceeds the training requirements described in division (G)(1) of section 2923.125 of the Revised Code**, unless the person knowingly is in a place described in division (B) of section 2923.126 of the Revised Code.

**Sec. 109.731.**

(B) (3) The attorney general shall create and maintain a section on the [attorney general's web](#) site that provides information on firearms laws of this state specifically applicable to members of the armed forces of the United States and a link to the pamphlet described in division (B)(1) of this section.

## Ohio Residents in the Military need to read the Non Resident Section.

The Permit/License is valid for 5 years.

Renewal Cost is \$50.00.

An expired license will be accepted as prima-facie evidence that a person at one time took the training required for purposes of renewal.

**Note:** If you move out of state your Ohio permit/license remains valid until it expires but can't be renewed. Ohio Sheriff's can also issue an emergency license for those with a justifiable need without the training etc if they can demonstrate that need even if you are not a resident of Ohio but present in the state. Talk to your local Sheriff. For more information on Emergency Licenses see **Sec. 2923.1213**.

## Non-Resident Permits

### Ohio Military Personnel and Spouses

**2923.125. (F)(1)(b)** A person on active duty in the armed forces of the United States or in service with the peace corps, volunteers in service to America, or the foreign service of the United States is exempt from the license requirements of this section for the period of the person's active duty or service and for six months thereafter, provided the person was a licensee under this section at the time the person commenced the person's active duty or service or had obtained a license while on active duty or service. The spouse or a dependent of any such person on active duty or in service also is exempt from the license requirements of this section for the period of the person's active duty or service and for six months thereafter, provided the spouse or dependent was a licensee under this section at the time the person commenced the active duty or service or had obtained a license while the person was on active duty or service, and provided further that the person's active duty or service resulted in the spouse or dependent relocating outside of this state during the period of the active duty or service. This division does not prevent such a person or the person's spouse or dependent from making an application for the renewal of a concealed handgun license during the period of the person's active duty or service.

### Employed in Ohio or Moving Out of State

**2923.125. (F) (4)** An applicant for a renewal concealed handgun license under this section shall submit to the sheriff of the county in which the applicant resides or to the sheriff of any county adjacent to the county in which the applicant resides, or in the case of an applicant who resides in another state to the sheriff of the county that issued the applicant's previous concealed handgun license, a nonrefundable license fee as described in either of the following:

- (a) For an applicant who has been a resident of this state for five or more years, a fee of fifty dollars;
- (b) For an applicant who has been a resident of this state for less than five years or who is not a resident of this state but who is employed in this state, a fee of fifty dollars plus the actual cost of having a background check performed by the federal bureau of investigation.

(5) The concealed handgun license of a licensee who is no longer a resident of this state or no longer employed in this state, as applicable, is valid until the date of expiration on the license, and the licensee is prohibited from renewing the concealed handgun license.

**Note:** If employed in Ohio you can get an Ohio Permit/License. You apply just like a resident but must prove employment in Ohio. If you move out of state your Ohio permit/license remains valid until it expires but can't be renewed.

**Note:** Ohio Sheriff's can also issue an [Emergency License](#) for those with a justifiable need without the training etc if they can demonstrate that need. Even if you are not a resident of Ohio but present in the state. Talk to your local Sheriff. For more information on Emergency Licenses See **Sec. 2923.1213**.

## Places Off-Limits Even With a Permit/License

See "[Condensed Guide to Ohio's CCW Laws](#)," for detailed information on all Ohio Laws.

### [Sec. 2923.126. \(B\)](#) ... Prohibited Places.

#### From the Ohio Attorney General

The law sets forth several places where your license does not allow you to carry a handgun. Under the law, you may not carry a concealed handgun into the following places:

- Police stations
- Sheriffs' offices
- Highway Patrol posts
- Premises controlled by BCI
- Correctional institutions or other detention facilities
- Past Security at Airports
- Facilities for the care of mentally ill persons
- Courthouses or buildings in which a courtroom is located
- Universities, unless locked in a motor vehicle or in the process of being locked in a motor vehicle.
- Places of worship, unless the place of worship permits otherwise
- Child Day-Care Centers (Only If Posted)
- Licensed Class D liquor permit premises if you are consuming beer or intoxicating liquor or are under the influence. If you are **not** consuming, you may carry unless there is a conspicuous sign prohibiting carry. Possession of a concealed firearm is allowed in a retail store with a D-6 or D-8 permit as long as the concealed carry license holder is not consuming liquor. Class D permits are generally issued to an establishment that sells alcohol for consumption on the premises. In any event, do not consume beer or intoxicating liquor before carrying a concealed **handgun into a licensed premises**.
- Government facilities that are not used primarily as a shelter, restroom, parking facility for motor vehicles, or rest facility and are not a courthouse or a building or structure in which a courtroom is located.

#### School Safety Zones

A person may convey a handgun into, or possesses a handgun in, a school safety zone if at the time of that conveyance, attempted conveyance, or possession of the handgun all of the following apply:

#### **Sec. 2923.122. (A)**

(a) The person is carrying a valid concealed handgun license or the person is an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States and is carrying a valid military identification card and documentation of successful completion of firearms training that meets or exceeds the training requirements described in division (G)(1) of section 2923.125 of the Revised Code .

(b) The person leaves the handgun in a motor vehicle.

(c) The handgun does not leave the motor vehicle.

(d) If the person exits the motor vehicle, the person locks the motor vehicle.

(10) Firearms or other weapons, concealed or otherwise, are prohibited within the capitol buildings and grounds without the express written permission of the board.

### **Public/Private Colleges/Universities or Other Institutions of Higher Education.**

#### **Sec. 2923.126.**

(B) A valid concealed handgun license does not authorize the licensee to carry a concealed handgun in any manner prohibited under division (B) of section 2923.12 of the Revised Code or in any manner prohibited under section 2923.16 of the Revised Code. A valid license does not authorize the licensee to carry a concealed handgun into any of the following places:

(5) Any premises owned or leased by any public or private college, university, or other institution of higher education, unless the handgun is in a locked motor vehicle or the licensee is in the immediate process of placing the handgun in a locked motor vehicle or unless the licensee is carrying the concealed handgun pursuant to a written policy, rule, or other authorization that is adopted by the institution's board of trustees or other governing body and that authorizes specific individuals or classes of individuals to carry a concealed handgun on the premises;

### **Definitions of Capitol Grounds**

(A) "Capitol buildings" shall include the capitol, atrium connector and senate building

(B) "Capitol grounds" shall be defined as the property surrounding the capitol buildings bounded by High street on the west, Third street on the east, Broad street on the north and State street on the south side of the capitol and accompanying steps leading to the capitol buildings.

**Sec. 2923.126(C)** allows private employers to prohibit the presence of firearms on their property or in motor vehicles owned by the employer.

#### **Sec. 2923.16.**

(F) (7) Nothing in this section prohibits or restricts a person from possessing, storing, or leaving a firearm in a locked motor vehicle that is parked in the state underground parking garage at the state capitol building or in the parking garage at the Riffe center for government and the arts in Columbus, if the person's transportation and possession of the firearm in the motor vehicle while traveling to the premises or facility was not in violation of division (A), (B), (C), (D), or (E) of this section or any other provision of the Revised Code.

#### **105.41**

(N) Any person may possess a firearm in a motor vehicle in the state underground parking garage at the state capitol building, if the person's possession of the firearm in the motor vehicle is not in violation of section 2923.16 of the Revised Code or any other provision of the Revised Code. Any person may store or leave a firearm in a locked motor vehicle that is parked in the state underground parking garage at the state capitol building, if the person's transportation and possession of the firearm in the motor vehicle while traveling to the garage was not in violation of section 2923.16 of the Revised Code or any other provision of the Revised Code.

**Sec. 2923.126. (C)(3)(a)** . . . . If a person knowingly violates a posted prohibition of that nature and the posted land or premises primarily was a parking lot or other parking facility, the person is not guilty of

criminal trespass under section 2911.21 of the Revised Code or under any other criminal law of this state or criminal law, ordinance, or resolution of a political subdivision of this state, and instead is subject only to a civil cause of action for trespass based on the violation.

**(C)(3) (b)** A landlord may not prohibit or restrict a tenant who is a licensee and who on or after September 9, 2008, enters into a rental agreement with the landlord for the use of residential premises, and the tenant's guest while the tenant is present, from lawfully carrying or possessing a handgun on those residential premises.

### **Transporting in Motor Vehicles**

**2923.16 (E)** No person who has been issued a concealed handgun license, who is the driver or an occupant of a motor vehicle that is stopped as a result of a traffic stop or a stop for another law enforcement purpose or is the driver or an occupant of a commercial motor vehicle that is stopped by an employee of the motor carrier enforcement unit for the purposes defined in section [5503.34](#) of the Revised Code, and who is transporting or has a loaded handgun in the motor vehicle or commercial motor vehicle in any manner, shall do any of the following:

**(1)** Fail to promptly inform any law enforcement officer who approaches the vehicle while stopped that the person has been issued a concealed handgun license and that the person then possesses or has a loaded handgun in the motor vehicle;

**(2)** Fail to promptly inform the employee of the unit who approaches the vehicle while stopped that the person has been issued a concealed handgun license and that the person then possesses or has a loaded handgun in the commercial motor vehicle;

**(3)** Knowingly fail to remain in the motor vehicle while stopped or knowingly fail to keep the person's hands in plain sight at any time after any law enforcement officer begins approaching the person while stopped and before the law enforcement officer leaves, unless the failure is pursuant to and in accordance with directions given by a law enforcement officer;

**(4)** Knowingly have contact with the loaded handgun by touching it with the person's hands or fingers in the motor vehicle at any time after the law enforcement officer begins approaching and before the law enforcement officer leaves, unless the person has contact with the loaded handgun pursuant to and in accordance with directions given by the law enforcement officer;

**(5)** Knowingly disregard or fail to comply with any lawful order of any law enforcement officer given while the motor vehicle is stopped, including, but not limited to, a specific order to the person to keep the person's hands in plain sight.

### **Sec. 2923.16. (K)**

**(5)(a)** "Unloaded" means with respect to a firearm other than a firearm described in division (K)(6) of this section, that no ammunition is in the firearm in question, no magazine or speed loader containing ammunition is inserted into the firearm in question and one of the following applies:

**(i)** There is no ammunition in a magazine or speed loader that is in the vehicle in question and that may be used with the firearm in question.

**(ii)** Any magazine or speed loader that contains ammunition and that may be used with the firearm in question is stored in a compartment within the vehicle in question that cannot be accessed without leaving the vehicle or is stored in a container that provides complete and separate enclosure.

**(b)** For the purposes of division (K)(5)(a)(ii) of this section, a "container that provides complete and separate enclosure" includes, but is not limited to, any of the following:

**(i)** A package, box, or case with multiple compartments, as long as the loaded magazine or speed loader and the firearm in question either are in separate compartments within the package, box, or case, or, if they are in the same compartment, the magazine or speed loader is contained within a separate enclosure in that compartment that does not contain the firearm and that closes using a snap,

button, buckle, zipper, hook and loop closing mechanism, or other fastener that must be opened to access the contents or the firearm is contained within a separate enclosure of that nature in that compartment that does not contain the magazine or speed loader;

(ii) A pocket or other enclosure on the person of the person in question that closes using a snap, button, buckle, zipper, hook and loop closing mechanism, or other fastener that must be opened to access the contents.

(c) For the purposes of divisions (K)(5)(a) and (b) of this section, ammunition held in stripper-clips or in en-bloc clips is not considered ammunition that is loaded into a magazine or speed loader.

(6) "Unloaded" means, with respect to a firearm employing a percussion cap, flintlock, or other obsolete ignition system, when the weapon is uncapped or when the priming charge is removed from the pan.

**Note:** When carrying a firearm with a CHL in a vehicle the firearm must not be accessible to children or persons under firearm disability. You must carry the handgun in a manner so they do not have access to it. That means you can't keep it in the Glove Box or on the seat if unauthorized person by law can access it. Keeping it on your person would keep you within the law.

**Note:** Motorcycles fall under the definition of motor vehicles. Thus, the same requirements apply to licensees who carry a handgun while on a motorcycle.

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For Federal Restrictions on Firearms see the [USA Page](#).

## Parking Lot Storage Law

**Sec. 2923.1210. (A)** A business entity, property owner, or public or private employer may not establish, maintain, or enforce a policy or rule that prohibits or has the effect of prohibiting a person who has been issued a valid concealed handgun license from transporting or storing a firearm or ammunition when both of the following conditions are met:

- (1) Each firearm and all of the ammunition remains inside the person's privately owned motor vehicle while the person is physically present inside the motor vehicle, or each firearm and all of the ammunition is locked within the trunk, glove box, or other enclosed compartment or container within or on the person's privately owned motor vehicle;
- (2) The vehicle is in a location where it is otherwise permitted to be.

(B) No business entity, property owner, or public or private employer shall be held liable in any civil action for damages, injuries, or death resulting from or arising out of another person's actions involving a firearm or ammunition transported or stored pursuant to division (A) of this section including the theft of a firearm from an employee's or invitee's automobile, unless the business entity, property owner, or public or private employer intentionally solicited or procured the other person's injurious actions.

### **Sec. 2923.126.**

(B) A valid concealed handgun license does not authorize the licensee to carry a concealed handgun in any manner prohibited under division (B) of section 2923.12 of the Revised Code or in any manner prohibited under section 2923.16 of the Revised Code. A valid license does not authorize the licensee to carry a concealed handgun into any of the following places:

(5) Any premises owned or leased by any public or private college, university, or other institution of higher education, unless the handgun is in a locked motor vehicle or the licensee is in the immediate process of placing the handgun in a locked motor vehicle or unless the licensee is carrying the concealed handgun



pursuant to a written policy, rule, or other authorization that is adopted by the institution's board of trustees or other governing body and that authorizes specific individuals or classes of individuals to carry a concealed handgun on the premises;

## Do “No Gun Signs” Have the Force of Law?

“YES”

**R.C. 2923.126(C)(3)** (a) Except as provided in division (C)(3)(b) of this section, the owner or person in control of private land or premises, and a private person or entity leasing land or premises owned by the state, the United States, or a political subdivision of the state or the United States, may post a sign in a conspicuous location on that land or on those premises prohibiting persons from carrying firearms or concealed firearms on or onto that land or those premises. Except as otherwise provided in this division, a person who knowingly violates a posted prohibition of that nature is guilty of criminal trespass in violation of division (A)(4) of section [2911.21](#) of the Revised Code and is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If a person knowingly violates a posted prohibition of that nature and the posted land or premises primarily was a parking lot or other parking facility, the person is not guilty of criminal trespass under section [2911.21](#) of the Revised Code or under any other criminal law of this state or criminal law, ordinance, or resolution of a political subdivision of this state, and instead is subject only to a civil cause of action for trespass based on the violation.

**Note:** Handgunlaw.us believes when you come across a business that is posted that you not just walk away. That business needs to know that they lost your business because of their “No Gun” sign. Giving them a “No Firearms = No Money” card would do just that. You can print free “No Firearms = No Money” cards by going [Here](#).

## Must Inform Officer Immediately on Contact By Law?

“YES”

### Sec. 2923.16.

(E) No person who has been issued a concealed handgun license or who is an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States and is carrying a valid military identification card and documentation of successful completion of firearms training that meets or exceeds the training requirements described in division (G)(1) of section 2923.125 of the Revised Code, who is the driver or an occupant of a motor vehicle that is stopped as a result of a traffic stop or a stop for another law enforcement purpose or is the driver or an occupant of a commercial motor vehicle that is stopped by an employee of the motor carrier enforcement unit for the purposes defined in section 5503.34 of the Revised Code, and who is transporting or has a loaded handgun in the motor vehicle or commercial motor vehicle in any manner, shall do any of the following:

- (1) Fail to promptly inform any law enforcement officer who approaches the vehicle while stopped that the person has been issued a concealed handgun license or is authorized to carry a concealed handgun as an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States and that the person then possesses or has a loaded handgun in the motor vehicle;
- (2) Fail to promptly inform the employee of the unit who approaches the vehicle while stopped that the person has been issued a concealed handgun license or is authorized to carry a concealed handgun as an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States and that the person then possesses or has a loaded handgun in the commercial motor vehicle;
- (3) Knowingly fail to remain in the motor vehicle while stopped or knowingly fail to keep the

person's hands in plain sight at any time after any law enforcement officer begins approaching the person while stopped and before the law enforcement officer leaves, unless the failure is pursuant to and in accordance with directions given by a law enforcement officer;

(4) Knowingly have contact with the loaded handgun by touching it with the person's hands or fingers in the motor vehicle at any time after the law enforcement officer begins approaching and before the law enforcement officer leaves, unless the person has contact with the loaded handgun pursuant to and in accordance with directions given by the law enforcement officer;

## Carry In State Parks//WMA/Road Side Rest Areas & St. /Nat. Forests

### Carry Allowed in these Areas:

**State Parks: YES** Buildings are off limits unless used as a comfort station. Restrooms outside of regular buildings, Picnic Shelters and other outdoor type covered areas used for comfort.

**State/National Forests: YES** Buildings are off limits. (See State Parks for Buildings Off-Limits)

**State WMA's: YES** Buildings are off limits. (See State Parks for Buildings Off-Limits)

**Road Side Rest Areas: YES**

## RV/Car Carry Without a Permit/License

It is illegal to carry a loaded firearm in any vehicle without a valid Permit/License.

### 2923.16 Improperly Handling Firearms in A Motor Vehicle.

(A) No person shall knowingly discharge a firearm while in or on a motor vehicle.

(B) No person shall knowingly transport or have a loaded firearm in a motor vehicle in such a manner that the firearm is accessible to the operator or any passenger without leaving the vehicle.

(C) No person shall knowingly transport or have a firearm in a motor vehicle, unless the person may lawfully possess that firearm under applicable law of this state or the United States, the firearm is unloaded, and the firearm is carried in one of the following ways:

(1) In a closed package, box, or case;

(2) In a compartment that can be reached only by leaving the vehicle;

(3) In plain sight and secured in a rack or holder made for the purpose;

(4) If the firearm is at least twenty-four inches in overall length as measured from the muzzle to the part of the stock furthest from the muzzle and if the barrel is at least eighteen inches in length, either in plain sight with the action open or the weapon stripped, or, if the firearm is of a type on which the action will not stay open or which cannot easily be stripped, in plain sight.

(D) No person shall knowingly transport or have a loaded handgun in a motor vehicle if, at the time of that transportation or possession, any of the following applies:

(1) The person is under the influence of alcohol, a drug of abuse, or a combination of them.

(2) The person's whole blood, blood serum or plasma, breath, or urine contains a concentration of alcohol, a listed controlled substance, or a listed metabolite of a controlled substance prohibited for persons operating a vehicle, as specified in division (A) of section 4511.19 of the Revised Code, regardless of whether the person at the time of the transportation or possession as described in this division is the operator of or a passenger in the motor vehicle.

(E) No person who has been issued a license or temporary emergency license to carry a concealed handgun under section 2923.125 or 2923.1213 of the Revised Code or a license to carry a concealed handgun that was issued to the person by another state with which the attorney general has entered into a reciprocity agreement under section 109.69 of the Revised Code, who is the driver or an occupant of a motor vehicle that is stopped as a result of a traffic stop or a stop for another law enforcement purpose or is the driver or an occupant of a commercial motor vehicle that is stopped by an employee of the motor carrier enforcement unit for the purposes defined in section 5503.34 of the Revised Code, who is transporting or has a loaded handgun in the motor vehicle or commercial motor vehicle in any manner, shall do any of the following:

(1) Fail to promptly inform any law enforcement officer who approaches the vehicle while stopped that the person has been issued a license or temporary emergency license to carry a concealed handgun and that the person then possesses or has a loaded handgun in the motor vehicle;

(2) Fail to promptly inform the employee of the unit who approaches the vehicle while stopped that the person has been issued a license or temporary emergency license to carry a concealed handgun and that the person then possesses or has a loaded handgun in the commercial motor vehicle.

(3) Knowingly fail to remain in the motor vehicle while stopped or knowingly fail to keep the person's hands in plain sight at any time after any law enforcement officer begins approaching the person while stopped and before the law enforcement officer leaves, unless the failure is pursuant to and in accordance with directions given by a law enforcement officer;

(4) Knowingly have contact with the loaded handgun by touching it with the person's hands or fingers in the motor vehicle at any time after the law enforcement officer begins approaching and before the law enforcement officer leaves, unless the person removes, attempts to remove, grasps, holds, or has contact with the loaded handgun pursuant to and in accordance with directions given by the law enforcement officer;

(5) Knowingly disregard or fail to comply with any lawful order of any law enforcement officer given while the motor vehicle is stopped, including, but not limited to, a specific order to the person to keep the person's hands in plain sight.

### Open Carry (Without a Valid Permit/License)

Open Carry is legal but you must have a valid permit/license to carry to carry a handgun in a vehicle. Places as listed in the "Places Off Limits" above apply to those who open carry. See the "RV/Car Carry Without a Permit" section for carrying in a vehicle.

The state preempts all firearm laws in the state and local authorities can't have Laws/Ordinances against open carry. Remember that if you enter any property and the owner/responsible person ask you to leave you must leave. Failure to leave can result in Trespass Charges. I am hearing that open carry is becoming more common in Ohio. You can read the Staff Notes the Cincinnati Police Chief sent out to his Officers in 2012 on Open Carry [Here](#). Cleveland Police Bulletin on Open Carry [Here](#). The Minimum age for Open Carry is 21.

In some states Open Carry is forbidden in places where those with a valid permit/license can carry. This is not the last word on Open Carry in this state. Check at [www.opencarry.org](http://www.opencarry.org) or go to Google and type in State Name Open Carry or Open Carry State Name for a search for open carry info in this state. Check with the [State's RKBA](#) Organization/s. Also see "Attorney General Opinions/Court Cases" Section for any written opinions/Cases on Open Carry.

## State Preemption

**Sec. 9.68. (A)** The individual right to keep and bear arms, being a fundamental individual right that predates the United States Constitution and Ohio Constitution, and being a constitutionally protected right in every part of Ohio, the general assembly finds the need to provide uniform laws throughout the state regulating the ownership, possession, purchase, other acquisition, transport, storage, carrying, sale, or other transfer of firearms, their components, and their ammunition. Except as specifically provided by the United States Constitution, Ohio Constitution, state law, or federal law, a person, without further license, permission, restriction, delay, or process, may own, possess, purchase, sell, transfer, transport, store, or keep any firearm, part of a firearm, its components, and its ammunition.

**(B)** In addition to any other relief provided, the court shall award costs and reasonable attorney fees to any person, group, or entity that prevails in a challenge to an ordinance, rule, or regulation as being in conflict with this section.

**(C)** As used in this section:

**(1)** The possession, transporting, or carrying of firearms, their components, or their ammunition include, but are not limited to, the possession, transporting, or carrying, openly or concealed on a person's person or concealed ready at hand, of firearms, their components, or their ammunition.

## Deadly Force Laws

### Title 23: Chapter 2305

- § 2305.40. Immunity of owner, lessee or renter of real property as to self-defense or defense of others.
- § 2307.60 Civil action for damages for criminal act.
- § 2307.601 No duty to retreat in residence or vehicle.
- § 2901.05 Burden of proof - reasonable doubt - self-defense.
- § 2901.09 No duty to retreat in residence or vehicle.

## Knife Laws State/Cities

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

## Carry in Restaurants That Serve Alcohol

**YES**

**2923.121**

**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

There are now no magazine limits in Ohio. Ohio has redefined a “Machine Gun” as a firearm that fires more than one round with one press of the trigger and removed the reference stating anything that could fire more than 31 rounds without reloading was the same as a machine gun.

**Note:** Some Ohio cities have laws concerning Stun Devices. Legal, subject to restrictions.

## LEOSA State Information

See Ohio State Code Sec. [2923.126\(E\)](#) through [Sec.2923.126\(G\)](#) for law on Ohio Agencies must issue Retired Credentials when retiring.

See the LEOSA Section on the [USA Page](#) at Handgunlaw.us for more LEOSA Information.

## Attorney General Opinions/Court Cases

- [Ohio AG - County Buildings and No Gun Signs](#)
- [Ohio AG - LEO Off Duty Carry and CCW](#)
- [Ohio Supreme Ct Ruling on Carry in City Parks](#)
- [Ohio Supreme Ct Ruling on Preemption](#)
- [Ohio AG – Opinion on First Renewal After 30 Days Expired](#)
- [Ohio Ct of Appeals 1<sup>st</sup> Appellate Ruling on Castle Doctrine in Another Persons Vehicle](#)
- [US 6<sup>th</sup> Circuit Ct of Appeals - Open Carry is Legal in Ohio.](#)

## Airport Carry/Misc. Information

**Airport Carry:** Sec. 2923.126. (B) (1) Terminal/Parking Lot OK

**Training Valid for:** 3 Years

For Law Enforcement/Military the Ohio AG in their **Concealed Carry Laws Pamphlet** is not stating any time period if using your Police or Military training. Ohio Statutes states 10 years.

**Time Period to Establish Residency:** Upon obtaining an Ohio Drivers License or State Issued ID.

**Minimum Age for Permit/License:** 21

**Permit/License Info Public Information:** NO

**State Reciprocity/How They Honor Other States Statute:** 109.69

**State Fire arm Laws:** 2923.11 thru 2923.25

**State Deadly Force Laws:** 2305.4

**State Knife Laws:** 2923.11 & 2923.12. & - 2923.20

**Chemical/Electric Weapons Laws:** No laws found in state law. Cities may regulate.

**Body Armor Laws:** 2941.1411.

**Does Your Permit Cover Other Weapons Besides Firearms?** **NO** 2923.125

**Is carrying of a Concealed Firearm with Permit/License for Defensive Purposes Only While Hunting Legal?** **YES** Hunting & Fishing Regulations

## Notes

### What Does OH Consider A Loaded Firearm?

#### 2923.16 (K) (5) "Unloaded" Means Any of the Following:

(5)(a) "Unloaded" means with respect to a firearm other than a firearm described in division (K)(6) of this section, that no ammunition is in the firearm in question, no magazine or speed loader containing ammunition is inserted into the firearm in question and one of the following applies:

(i) There is no ammunition in a magazine or speed loader that is in the vehicle in question and that may be used with the firearm in question.

(ii) Any magazine or speed loader that contains ammunition and that may be used with the firearm in question is stored in a compartment within the vehicle in question that cannot be accessed without leaving the vehicle or is stored in a container that provides complete and separate enclosure.

(b) For the purposes of division (K)(5)(a)(ii) of this section, a "container that provides complete and separate enclosure" includes, but is not limited to, any of the following:

(i) A package, box, or case with multiple compartments, as long as the loaded magazine or speed loader and the firearm in question either are in separate compartments within the package, box, or case, or, if they are in the same compartment, the magazine or speed loader is contained within a separate enclosure in that compartment that does not contain the firearm and that closes using a snap, button, buckle, zipper, hook and loop closing mechanism, or other fastener that must be opened to access the contents or the firearm is contained within a separate enclosure of that nature in that compartment that does not contain the magazine or speed loader;

(ii) A pocket or other enclosure on the person of the person in question that closes using a snap, button, buckle, zipper, hook and loop closing mechanism, or other fastener that must be opened to access the contents.

(c) For the purposes of divisions (K)(5)(a) and (b) of this section, ammunition held in stripper-clips or in en-bloc clips is not considered ammunition that is loaded into a magazine or speed loader.

(6) "Unloaded" means, with respect to a firearm employing a percussion cap, flintlock, or other obsolete ignition system, when the weapon is uncapped or when the priming charge is removed from the pan.

### State Emergency Powers

#### 3761.16 Areas Threatened By Riot May Be Cordoned Off.

The chief administrative officer of a political subdivision with police powers, when engaged in suppressing a riot or when there is a clear and present danger of a riot, may cordon off any area or areas threatened by the riot and prohibit persons from entering the cordoned off area or areas except when carrying on necessary and legitimate pursuits and may prohibit the sale, offering for sale, dispensing, or transportation of firearms or other dangerous weapons, ammunition, dynamite, or other dangerous explosives in, to, or from the cordoned off areas. Effective Date: 07-01-1996

**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. The state quoted code may also not be all of the law on Emergency Powers held by the state. You should read the entire code on Emergency Powers etc for this state by following the link to the state code.

**Note:** Ohio also has an Emergency Management System set up. It can be found in the Ohio Statutes [5502.21 thru 5502.51](#). These statutes do not go into any detail on the rules to govern such an Emergency. The Director of Public Safety is charged with setting up the rules on handling any Emergencies that tax local and state resources. Handgunlaw.us did read where those rules would be made available at a disaster site. What those rules contain Handgunlaw.us does not know and an online copy cannot be found.

### Minimum Age for Possessing and Transporting of Handguns.

Ohio 21 Y/O 2923.21 & 2923.211

**18 years of age for Active Duty Member of the Armed Forces** of the United States who has received firearms training that meets or exceeds the training requirements described in division (G)(1) of section 2923.125 of the Revised Code.

This is the minimum age for possessing and transporting a handgun unloaded and secured in a vehicle without any type of permit/license to carry firearms.

**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

Ohio Permits/Licenses are issued by local Sheriffs. There could be a difference in the format from County to County. Every Ohio License I have seen uses the same format with the county of issue name at the top.

 <p><b>GALLIA COUNTY</b> Ohio License to Carry a Concealed Handgun</p> <p><b>Gary Jay Slider</b> 23474 Rosemount Drive West Sand Fork, Ohio 26430 D.O.B.: 11/16/87 Issue Date: 11/30/09 Expiration Date: 11/30/14</p> <p>License Number: 27-GAL-771085</p> <p>Photo</p> <p><i>Gary Jay Slider</i> Signature</p>	<p><b>License Type:</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original <input type="checkbox"/> Replacement <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary Emergency <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary Emergency Replacement <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal</p> <p>The licensee named and whose photo appears on this card is permitted to carry a concealed handgun in the state of Ohio under requirements set forth in Ohio Revised Code Section 2923.125.</p> <p><i>Stacey A. Standiford</i> Sheriff's Signature</p> <p>Stacey A. Standiford / Gallia County Sheriff/County</p>
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This 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

### [Archive of Previous Updates](#)

**1/1/17** – Minnesota No Longer Honors Ohio. Missouri Added as Permitless Carry State to List of States Under Map at Top of Page.

**2/8/17** – All Links Checked and Repaired if Needed.

**2/24/17** – New Hampshire Added as Permitless Carry State to List of States Under Map at Top of Page.

**3/21/17** – The Following Were Added After Passage of SB199. Schools, Day Care Centers and Airport Carry Updated in Places Off Limits Section. Armed Forces Carrying W/O Permit in Ohio Info Added to How to Apply Section. Must Inform Section Updated. Parking Lot Storage Law Section Added.