



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY

Department of Criminal Justice Information Services

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Practical Effects of New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen

This document is intended to be read in conjunction with the Joint Advisory Regarding the Massachusetts Firearms Licensing System After the Supreme Court’s Decision in *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen*, which advisory was issued on July 1, 2022 by the Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General and the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (the “Advisory”). Each licensing authority should review the Advisory as well as the decision in *Bruen* with its own counsel to ensure that its procedures are in compliance with the requirements of the Second and Fourteenth Amendments described therein.

This document is intended only as a practical guide for using the Department of Criminal Justice Information Service’s (“DCJIS”) Massachusetts Instant Record Check System (“MIRCS”) to comply with the requirements of *Bruen*.

- 1. Whose responsibility is it to remove restrictions?** If a Massachusetts licensing authority needs to remove any restriction on any licenses to carry firearms (“LTC”) which it has issued, then it is the responsibility of the licensing authority to use MIRCS to remove the restriction.
- 2. When do I need to remove restrictions?** Whether and when you need to re-issue existing restricted licenses so that they no longer display a restriction on them are questions that you will need to answer after reviewing the Advisory as well as the decision in *Bruen* with your own counsel.
- 3. How do I use MIRCS to remove restrictions?** Licensing authorities can remove restrictions in MIRCS through the “Update the Restriction of a License” queue. Once the license is updated and restrictions are removed, the Firearms Records Bureau will process, print, and mail the license to the licensing authority.
- 4. Will the Firearms Records Bureau continue to print licenses with restrictions?** No. The Firearms Records Bureau will no longer print licenses with restrictions. LTCs with restrictions that are currently “pending activation by FRB” and any subsequent licenses submitted with restrictions will be sent back for review by the licensing officer to re-submit with a restriction of “none.”

FAQ UPDATED: July 5, 2022