



H.3594 – “South Carolina Constitutional Carry, Second Amendment Preservation Act of 2024”

As signed by the Governor on March 7, 2024, H.3594 authorizes individuals who are not otherwise prohibited from possessing a firearm, to legally possess a firearm openly or concealed without training and without a concealed weapons permit issued by SLED. This legislation leaves in place the CWP program run by SLED for individuals who wish to continue carrying a firearm pursuant to a permit.

- Individuals 18 years old and older who are not otherwise prohibited by law may carry firearms openly or concealed without a permit. Additionally, they are now eligible to apply for a CWP.
- There are no restrictions of guns inside vehicles. Guns can be stored anywhere inside the vehicle openly or concealed.
- Possession of a firearm alone is **NOT** a reason to stop an individual. To make a stop, there must be reasonable and articulable suspicion a crime has occurred. Law enforcement officers cannot conduct a stop solely because a firearm is visible. 

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- A CWP holder or a person carrying a firearm without a permit pursuant to this law **DOES NOT** have a duty to notify a law enforcement officer that they are carrying a firearm.
- Insofar as there is no longer a CWP requirement, a CWP holder is not required to carry his/her CWP or disclose his/her status as a CWP holder to a law enforcement officer.
- Firearms are still prohibited in many locations, including inside schools, churches, law enforcement facilities including detention and correctional facilities, anywhere medical procedures are performed, courthouses, public buildings, and any place clearly marked with a sign prohibiting the carrying of a firearm.
- Establishes State Funded Firearms Training Administered by SLED and CWP Instructors.
- Establishes Increased Graduated Penalties for Unlawful Possession/Carry of a Firearm. 

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- Establishes an Increased Penalty for a Person who Commits a Crime Involving a Firearm and Does Not Possess a CWP and Establishes an Informative Statewide Advertising Initiative.
- Establishes a Requirement to Report a Lost or Stolen Firearm.
- Advantages for still obtaining a CWP:
 - Complete a SLED certified class incorporating South Carolina statutory and case law relating to handguns and the use of deadly force; proper storage practices for handguns to reduce potential injury to a child; handgun use and safety; and basic marksmanship skills.
 - Maintain reciprocity with applicable states.
 - Simplify firearm purchases from a FFL dealer.



South Carolina Concealed Weapon Permit Course

This course is designed to satisfy the requirements to receive a Concealed Weapon Permit (CWP) in the state of South Carolina.

It includes the eleven essential subjects required by state law, and incorporates Basic Pistol elements. This provides you a greater depth of knowledge, skill, and attitude so that you leave with much more than a concealed weapon permit application and qualification.

As the student, you must acknowledge a working understanding of the topics instructed in this class. You will be graded on a 50 question written test and a live fire test that consists of firing 25 rounds of ammunition at multiple distances. You must pass each test with a minimum score of 70%.



South Carolina Concealed Weapon Permit Course

It is the responsibility of the Concealed Weapon Permit applicant to demonstrate and maintain a **working understanding** of South Carolina statutory and case law relating to handguns and the use of deadly force; proper storage practices for handguns to reduce potential injury to a child; handgun use and safety; and basic marksmanship skills.

It is the responsibility of the CWP instructor to ensure that the student has a good **working knowledge** of the above fundamentals as outlined and required by SLED.

All CWP holders are expected to maintain a reasonable level of proficiency with their handgun.

Now, let's get started!



Course Outline

- Section 1: Pistol Knowledge, Safe Gun Handling, Concealment/Open Carry Techniques and Storage.
- Section 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation techniques and strategies.
- Section 3: Ammunition Knowledge, Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting, and Pistol Maintenance.
- Section 4: Shooting Positions, Range Safety and Fundamentals Reinforcement.
- Section 5: SLED Mandated Qualification Course.
- Section 6: Testing and Review with Students.



SECTION 1: Pistol Knowledge, Safe Gun Handling, Concealment/Open Carry Techniques and Storage

Learning Objectives:

1. Identify the principal parts of a pistol and the types of actions and understand how they function.
2. Name, explain, apply, and adopt the rules for safe gun handling.
3. Demonstrate how to handle pistols in a safe manner.
4. Review and understand various concealment/open carry techniques.
5. Understand the importance of and be able to apply safe firearm storage measures.



SECTION 1: Pistol Knowledge, Safe Gun Handling, Concealment/Open Carry Techniques and Storage

Safety Rules: The major causes of gun accidents are **Ignorance** (lack of knowledge) and **Carelessness** (having knowledge but failing to apply it)

SLED's Four Cardinal Rules of Firearm Safety:

1. Treat all firearms as if they are always loaded.
2. Always keep the muzzle of the firearm pointed in a safe direction.
3. Keep your finger outside the trigger guard until the firearm is pointed at the target and you have decided to fire.
4. Be sure of your target and what is beyond it.





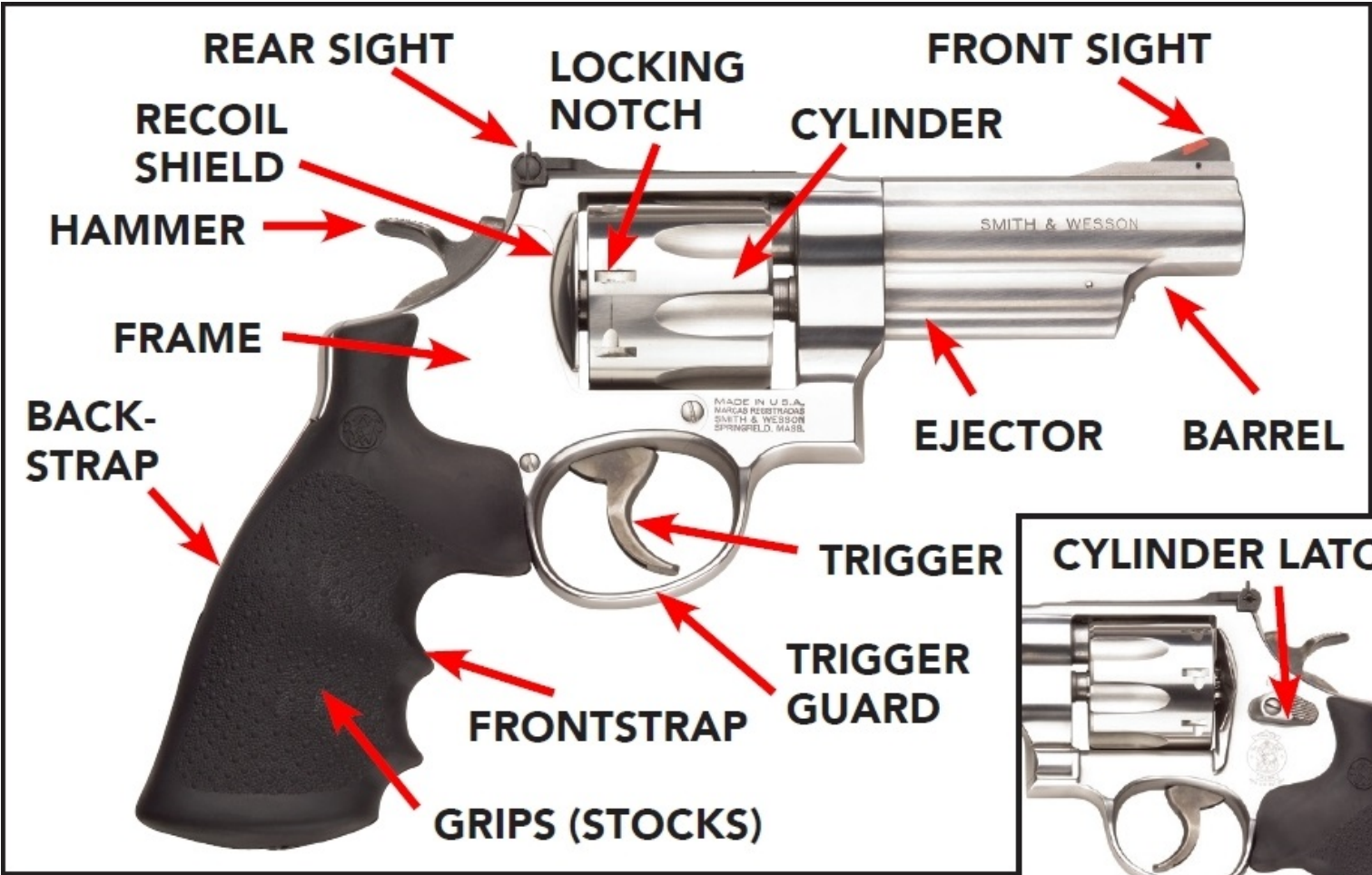
SECTION 1: Pistol Knowledge, Safe Gun Handling, Concealment/Open Carry Techniques and Storage

Revolver Knowledge: A revolver is a pistol that has a rotating cylinder containing a number of chambers. The action of the trigger will line up a chamber with the barrel and firing pin. When the trigger is pressed the hammer will drop, firing the cartridge.

A **revolver** consists of three major components:

1. The frame - the backbone to which all other parts are attached (grip panels & backstrap, trigger guard & rear sight)
2. The barrel - the metal tube through which the bullet passes (bore, rifling, muzzle & caliber)
3. The action - a group of moving parts used to load, fire, and unload a pistol (trigger, hammer, cylinder, cylinder release latch, ejector & rod)





SECTION 1: Pistol Knowledge, Safe Gun Handling, Concealment/Open Carry Techniques and Storage

Revolver Knowledge:

Types of Revolver Action –

1. Single-action only. Old time cowboy type revolver.
2. Double-action/Single-action, or Double-action only (DAO).
3. Note - There are three types of revolver hammers. Fully exposed, partially exposed and “hammerless”. Concealed hammers are DAO, whereas exposed hammers are DA/SA.
4. Discuss pros and cons for a revolver for concealed carry.



Concealed Hammer



Smith & Wesson Model 642
.38 Special +P Revolver



Concealed Hammer



**Ruger LCR 5401
.38 Special +P Revolver**



SLIDE/PRESS FORWARD



BRANDS

Smith & Wesson
Taurus
Charter Arms
Rossi

SLIDE/PULL REARWARD



BRANDS

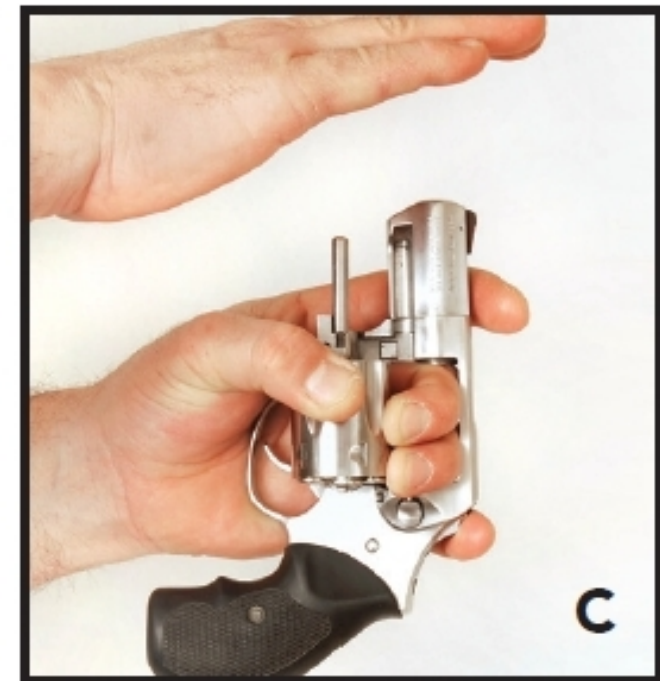
Colt
Armscor
Rock Island Armory

PRESS INWARD



BRANDS

Ruger
Kimber



To unload a double-action revolver, grasp the gun in the right hand and disengage the cylinder latch (A). The cylinder is pushed out to the left, in the same manner as when starting the loading procedure. The ejector rod is then pushed fully rearward (B) with the left-hand thumb to extract the spent cartridge cases or live cartridges, which may then be removed manually. Alternatively, the revolver may be pointed upward, and the ejector rod pressed smartly with the right hand (C) to drop the empty cartridge cases and live cartridges out of the chambers.

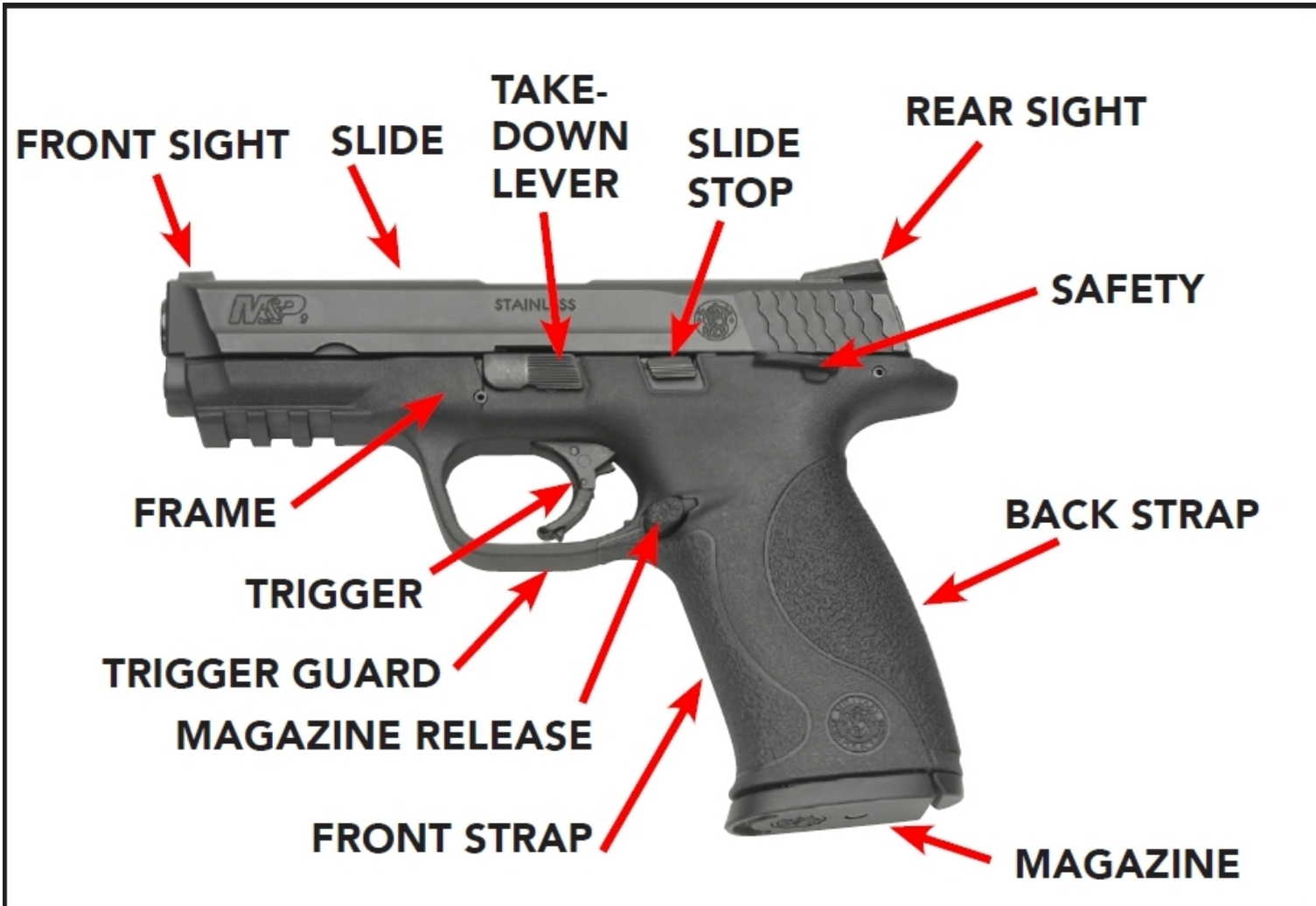
SECTION 1: Pistol Knowledge, Safe Gun Handling, Concealment/Open Carry Techniques and Storage

Semi-Automatic Pistol Knowledge: A semi-automatic pistol fires a single cartridge each time the trigger is pressed, automatically extracts and ejects the empty case, and inserts a new cartridge into the chamber.

A **semi-automatic pistol**, also consists of three major components:

1. The frame - the backbone to which all other parts are attached (grip panels, backstrap, trigger guard, slide stop - *if equipped*)
2. The barrel - the metal tube through which the bullet passes (bore, chamber, rifling, muzzle & caliber)
3. Action - a group of moving parts used to load, fire, and unload a pistol (trigger, hammer/firing pin, sear/firing pin, slide, magazine & release button). Note – typically front & rear sights are mounted to the slide. They can be fixed or adjustable, or a combination of both.







SECTION 1: Pistol Knowledge, Safe Gun Handling, Concealment/Open Carry Techniques and Storage

Types of Semi-Automatic Pistol Action –

1. Single-action only. *
2. Double-action/Single-action.
3. Double-action only.

Types of Semi-Automatic Pistols –

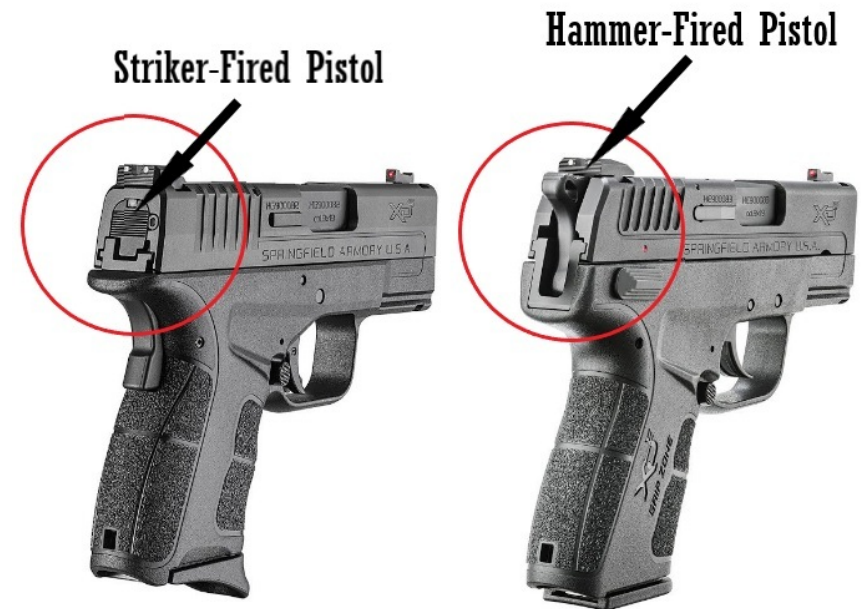
1. Hammer Fired – Hammer & firing pin.
2. Striker Fired – Sear & firing pin (or “striker”).

Operating Semi-Automatic Pistols:

Review the procedures for loading, racking/cocking and unloading a semi-automatic pistol.

Note – Some pistols are equipped with a means for de-cocking a loaded round. Additionally, when equipped, a safe de-cocking procedure will vary depending upon the model and its features.

* Single-action only pistols are unique in that they will only fire if the manual safety is disengaged and the hammer is in the cocked position.



SECTION 1: Pistol Knowledge, Safe Gun Handling, Concealment/Open Carry Techniques and Storage

Unloading Semi-Automatic Pistols:

The following procedure for unloading a semi-automatic pistol is universal. With the pistol pointed in a safe direction and the trigger finger being outside the trigger guard, the proper sequence is:

1. Drop the magazine;
2. Cycle the slide several times to ensure the chamber is clear; and
3. Visually and physically inspect the chamber and magazine well.



SECTION 1: Pistol Knowledge, Safe Gun Handling, Concealment/Open Carry Techniques and Storage

Safety: This is a mechanical device designed to reduce the chance of an accidental discharge (AD). Safeties are either active or passive in nature. Because a safety is a mechanical device that can fail, the prevention of an accident is always the responsibility of the gun handler. Most modern semi-automatic pistols are equipped with at least one passive safety (Ex. trigger safety, drop/firing pin block safety and grip safety). However, not all pistols are equipped with an active safety. If so, they are typically mounted to the frame and in some cases the slide.









MODEL 1911-A1
CAL .45

SPRINGFIELD ARMORY
SINCE 1854

RANGE OFFICER







↑
These are clips

↑
These are magazines



SECTION 1: Pistol Knowledge, Safe Gun Handling, Concealment/Open Carry Techniques and Storage

Knowing How to Carry Your Gun Comfortably & Effectively:

There are two popular types of semi-automatic concealed carry pistols: pocket guns and holstered guns.

Small guns, like .380 ACPs, are ideal for tucking inside a pocket holster. They typically have short barrels and minimal sights. Yet these concealment assets can be liabilities if your intended target is not close. They are also snappy with recoil.

Larger guns are typically worn in belt holsters. Either inside the waistband (IWB) or outside the waistband (OWB). While a larger gun may be much harder to conceal, they are typically more versatile, and more accurate at longer distances. For larger guns, you will need to consider wearing a long untucked shirt or a jacket. In either case, invest in a sturdy belt.

Let's review some examples.







SECTION 1: Pistol Knowledge, Safe Gun Handling, Concealment/Open Carry Techniques and Storage

Whichever size you choose, you will need a holster. Holsters come in three basic varieties: leather, nylon and plastic (typically called Kydex).

Leather has a traditional look and feel, and is ideal for an OWB belt holster. Nylon offers the most flexibility, and is ideal for holsters that fit inside pockets. Kydex is popular for its rigidity and retention. And of course there are hybrid holsters that combine two of these materials.

The key is security. A holster must hold a gun securely, but not so tightly that it cannot be drawn quickly.

Important features to consider include Retention, Comfort and Concealment. And, ensure that the trigger guard is completely covered.

Let's review some examples.











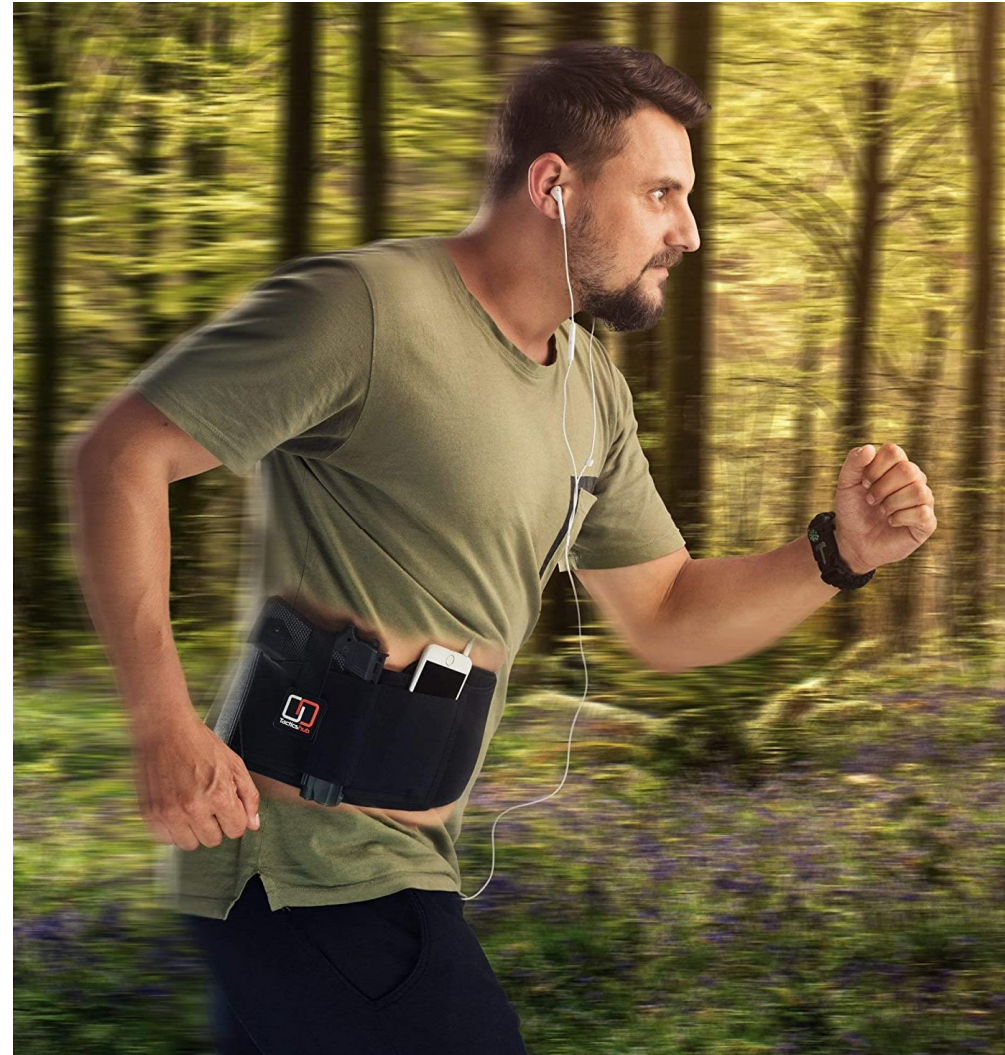




















Off-Body Carry



SECTION 1: Pistol Knowledge, Safe Gun Handling, Concealment/Open Carry Techniques and Storage

Section 23-31-210, Part (5) – “Concealable weapon” means a firearm having a length of less than twelve inches measured along its greatest dimension that may be carried openly on one's person or in a manner that is hidden from public view in normal wear of clothing except when needed for self defense, defense of others, and the protection of real or personal property.

Should you open carry? Consider the circumstance.



SECTION 1: Pistol Knowledge, Safe Gun Handling, Concealment/Open Carry Techniques and Storage

Definition of “Conceal”

<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/conceal>

1. to prevent disclosure or recognition of.
2. to place out of sight.

“Hidden from public view in normal wear of clothing ...”

1. to put out of sight.
2. to keep secret.

SECTION 1: Pistol Knowledge, Safe Gun Handling, Concealment/Open Carry Techniques and Storage

Dressing to Keep Your Weapon a Secret:

Once you've chosen a holster and a gun, you have to hide them both. The trick is keeping the gun both concealed and accessible. The main giveaway is the gun's outline being visible through clothing (this is commonly referred to as "printing".) Wear pants that have enough room in the pocket or in the waist band to comfortably carry the gun. Wear shirts that are meant to be worn untucked, and make sure your shirt extends past your waistband. If you have to tuck in your shirt, there are options available.

If you will be wearing shorts and/or a T-shirt, you will need to consider carrying a small gun. A slim gun in an IWB holster should easily be covered by a shirt. In fall and winter, heavy clothing will allow the concealment of even full sized handguns.



SECTION 1: Pistol Knowledge, Safe Gun Handling, Concealment/Open Carry Techniques and Storage

Drawing from Concealment

1. To draw from concealment, move clothing away, use a shooting grip to draw from the holster, pull the gun up, rotate, join other hand for two-handed grip, and extend.
2. When drawing and holstering the handgun, remember that your firing grip should be maintained and the trigger finger should never be inside the trigger guard.



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Effective August 15, 2021 – Additional Topics Required

- Properly securing a firearm in a holster. Retentions go from Zero, which relies on gravity. To active, which must be disengaged.
- Review Retention Levels.

Holster retention levels indicate how securely a firearm is held in a holster, based on the number of actions required to draw it. Level 1 has one method of retention (like friction), Level 2 has two methods (friction plus a strap or lock), Level 3 has three methods, and Level 4 includes even more security features, typically used in specialized situations.

- “Cocked and locked” carrying of a firearm.
- How to respond to a person who attempts to take your firearm from your holster. Consider an active retention holster.
- De-escalation techniques and strategies (Section 2)



Outside the Waistband (OWB) – Open Carry



Outside the Waistband (OWB) – Open Carry



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Outside the Waistband (OWB) – Open Carry



Outside the Waistband (OWB) – Open Carry



Outside the Waistband (OWB) – Open Carry



GLS



Outside the Waistband (OWB) – Open Carry



ALS

SECTION 1: Pistol Knowledge, Safe Gun Handling, Concealment/Open Carry Techniques and Storage

“Cocked and locked” carrying of a firearm

- This term is typically referring to a single action pistol such as a 1911.
- Condition 1 - Round in the chamber; hammer cocked; thumb safety is ON; full magazine in the gun. This is considered “Cocked and locked”.
- Condition 0 – Round in the chamber; hammer cocked; thumb safety is OFF; full magazine in the gun. This is reserved for imminent defense situations.
- The above Conditions have parallels in safe-action, double/single action, and double-action-only pistols, and hammer fired or striker fired pistols. Anytime you carry chambered, this can be considered “cocked and locked”.
- When carrying “cocked and locked”, regardless if concealed or openly and regardless of the type of pistol; this makes your decision on how to carry that much more important. (Ex. type holster)
- Carrying with a round in the chamber. Is this for you?



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How to respond to a person who attempts to take your firearm from your holster.

With the passage of the South Carolina “Open Carry with Training Act”, as of 08/15/21 you now have the option to openly carry your holstered handgun. But now instead of having your handgun concealed (hidden, kept secret), it is now visible to the public. Now you must consider how you will respond to someone trying to grab your handgun.

Prevention

- Consider the circumstance. Should you open carry? Just because you can does not mean you should?
- Situational Awareness. Make space around you, and maintain that space.
- Where you choose to stand or sit in a restaurant can affect others ability to gain access to your gun.
- Consider holster & belt options, including materials, attachment methods and retention levels.
- Consider the holster position on your body.



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Active grab attempt

- Most gun grab attempts will be from behind.
- Understand that if someone does attempt to take your gun, you may be in a fight for your life.
- Trap - Cover the gun, pinning the subject's hand to the gun with your draw hand while rotating your hips into the direction of the assailant to force his grab hand wrist into an unsustainable position, and finish the fight.
- Drop - Step down or away from the subject in a violent manner to dislodge their hands.
- Attack - If possible, deliver a strike to the forearm to loosen the subject's grip.
- Or, do something like a foot stomp or an elbow to the head or face to stun him.



SECTION 1: Pistol Knowledge, Safe Gun Handling, Concealment/Open Carry Techniques and Storage

Successful grab attempt

- If the cover fails and the grab is complete, it becomes a fight or flight decision.
- If you attempt to fight and disarm, you must gain control of the opponent's gun/wrist while getting out of the muzzle line; and then violently and forcefully rip the gun from the assailant's grasp. Finish the fight.
- Grab the front end of the gun and twist. The barrel end gives you a lot of leverage and you can also push the slide out of battery. For a revolver, you can grab the cylinder and keep it from turning.



SECTION 1: Pistol Knowledge, Safe Gun Handling, Concealment/Open Carry Techniques and Storage

Firearm Storage:

1. Storage must prevent access by unauthorized persons.
 - A. Hiding the firearm usually is not adequate. Children are inquisitive.
 - B. Gun safes, lock boxes, and gun locks are all effective means for securing firearms from children and unauthorized persons.
 - C. All firearms should be stored in a home and vehicle so that they are not accessible to children or unauthorized persons.



SECTION 1: Pistol Knowledge, Safe Gun Handling, Concealment/Open Carry Techniques and Storage

Firearm Storage:

2. Normally, store firearms and ammunition separately.
3. If not stored for personal protection, firearms should be unloaded.
4. A loaded firearm must have special storage precautions. Consider a trigger lock, a lockable case, or other positive device.
5. You must be concerned with both a visitor's access as well as that of an unauthorized resident.
6. Let's review some examples.







\$40

\$70



\$100





\$110



\$280

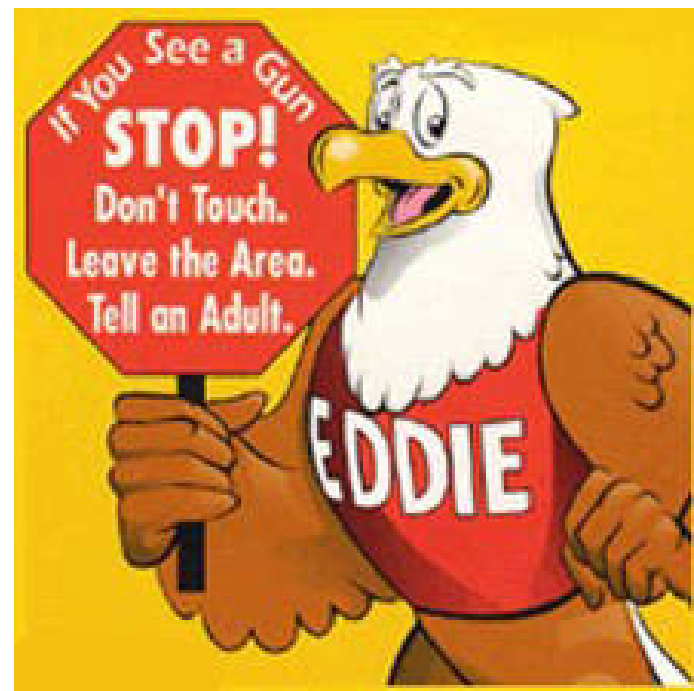


SECTION 1: Pistol Knowledge, Safe Gun Handling, Concealment/Open Carry Techniques and Storage

Firearm Storage:

Children are inquisitive. Every child should be taught that if they come across a firearm, they should:

1. STOP
2. DON'T TOUCH IT
3. IMMEDIATELY LEAVE THE AREA
4. GO TELL AN ADULT



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

Learning Objectives:

1. Understand current reciprocity & interstate travel laws.
2. Be aware of federal and state laws that pertain to the purchase, ownership, transportation, use, and possession of handguns.
3. Be aware of the federal and state laws that pertain to the use of a firearm for self-defense.
4. Be aware of the means for avoiding criminal attacks.
5. Be aware of De-escalation techniques and strategies.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

SAFETY REVIEW

SLED's Four Cardinal Rules of Firearm Safety:

1. Treat all firearms as if they are always loaded.
2. Always keep the muzzle of the firearm pointed in a safe direction.
3. Keep your finger outside the trigger guard until the firearm is pointed at the target and you have decided to fire.
4. Be sure of your target and what is beyond it.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

Persons who cannot legally own or possess firearms include:

1. Persons who have renounced their U.S. citizenship.
2. Individuals who have been dishonorably discharged from military service
3. Individuals who have been convicted of a felony in Federal, State or local court, or any other crime, punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year (this does not include State misdemeanors punishable by imprisonment of two years or less).
3. Is a fugitive from justice.
4. Unlawful users of narcotics or drugs.
5. Anyone with one of several types of mental illnesses or anyone who has been committed to a mental institution or has been adjudicated mentally ill.
6. Illegal aliens. (Registered aliens can legally own firearms)
7. Persons convicted of crime of domestic violence or subject to a restraining order.

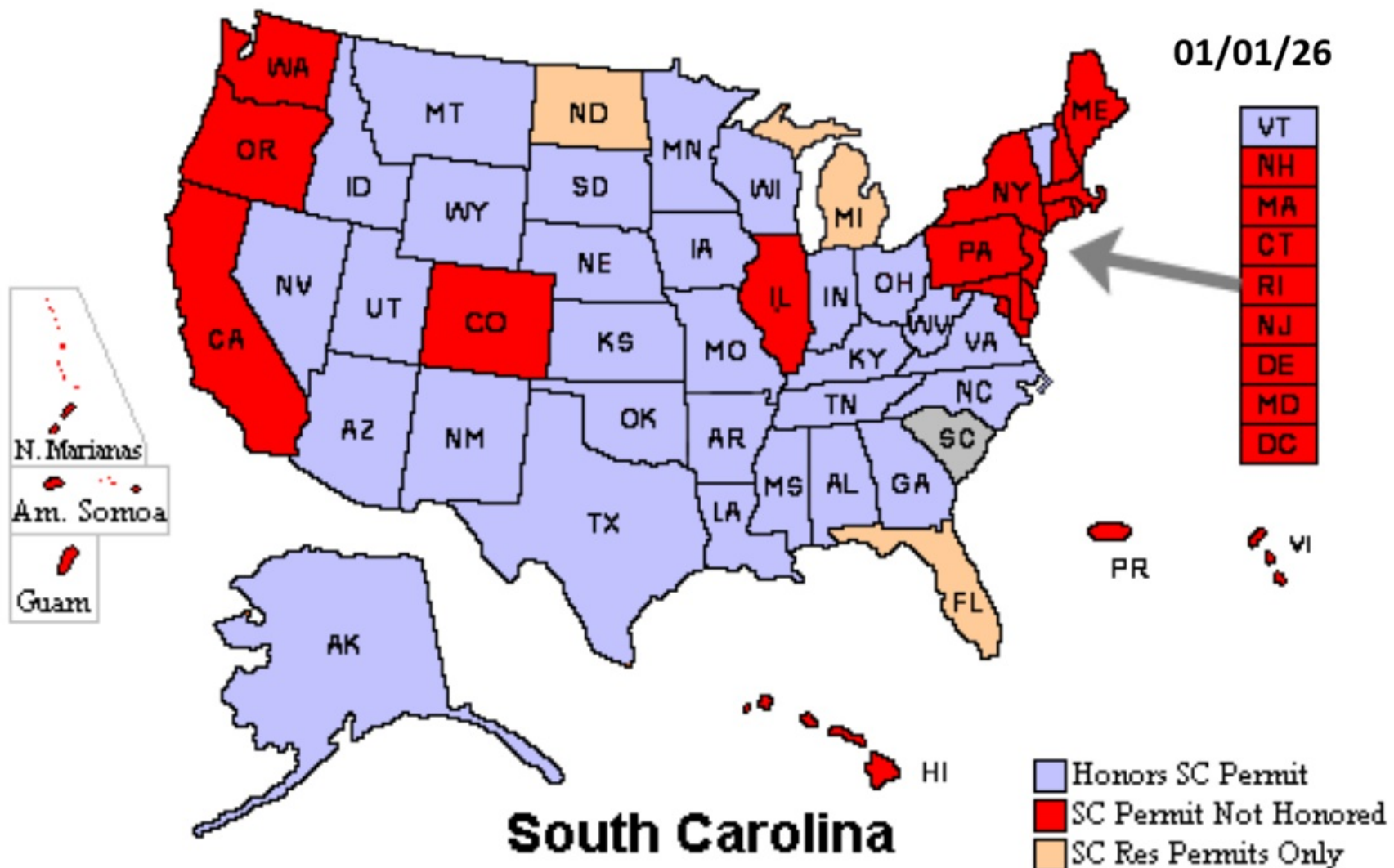


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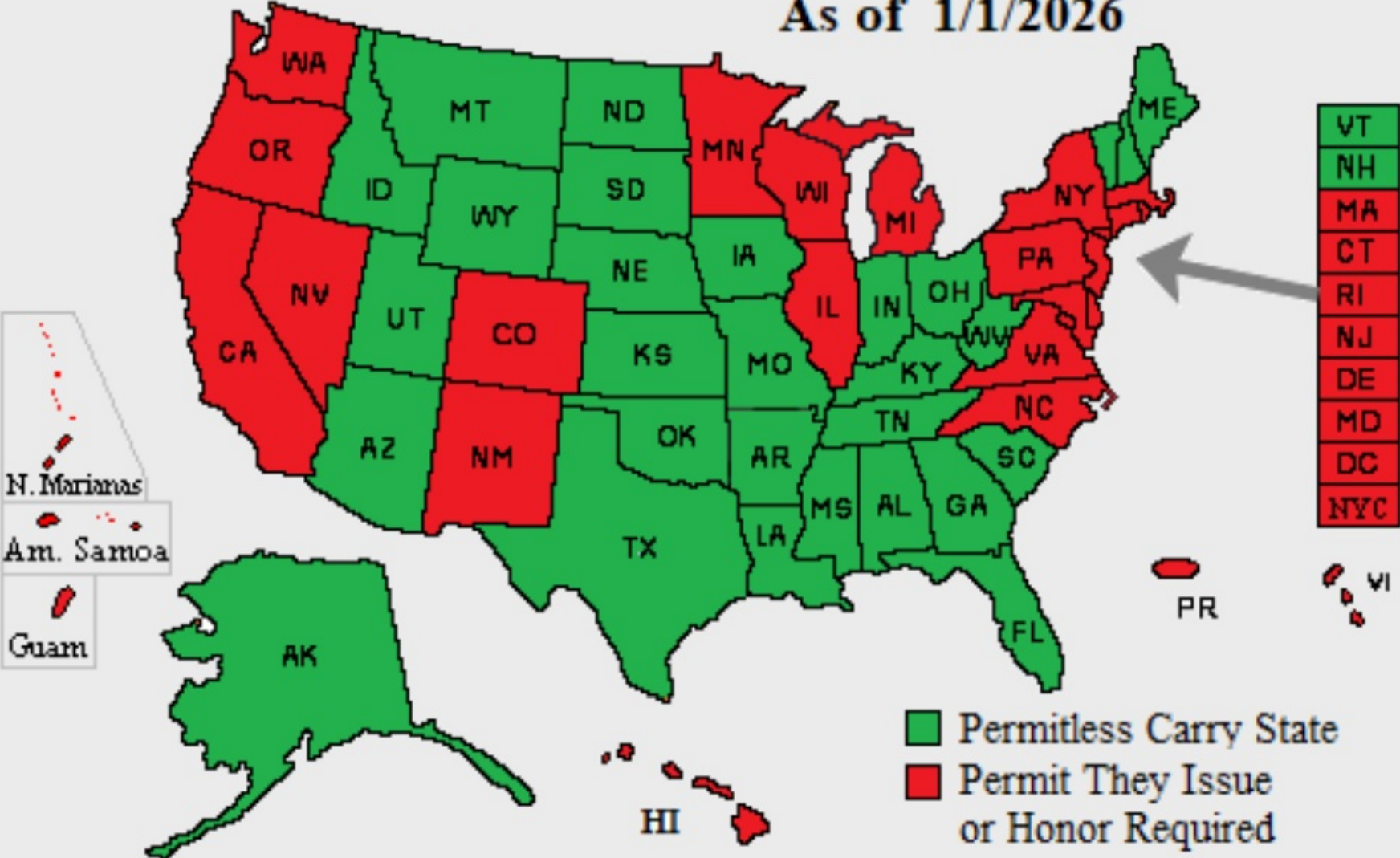
Reciprocity & Interstate Travel:

1. Not all states (including Washington DC) recognize a South Carolina CWP. It is up to each CWP holder to familiarize himself/herself with which states and territories share reciprocity with South Carolina.
2. South Carolina permittees who do carry firearms in reciprocal states are likewise responsible for familiarizing themselves with the applicable laws and regulations of the reciprocal state.
3. Understanding other state laws for transporting a pistol is important because laws may differ from one state to another. Example South & North Carolina.
4. **Handgunlaw.us** provides updated information State-by-State on topics such as: reciprocity, conceal carry law overviews, including car/RV carry information, non-resident permits and links to other handgun related items.





As of 1/1/2026



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

Federal Law:

Carrying with or without a SC CWP will **not** allow you to carry a concealed firearm into a place where carrying of a firearm is prohibited by federal laws. Reference:

1. 18 U.S. Code § 930 - Possession of firearms and dangerous weapons in Federal facilities.
2. 39 CFR 232.1 - Conduct on postal property.

Federal Off-Limit Areas (Even With a Permit):

1. Federal Courthouses*
2. Federal Buildings*



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

3. Any Building Owned, Leased or Rented by the Federal Government. This includes buildings in National Forests which are property of the Federal Government. There is no Federal Law that prohibits carry in National Forests. States control the carrying of firearms in National Forests within their state.
4. Federal Prisons*
5. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*
6. National Cemeteries*
7. Military Bases - Firearms are forbidden on military bases even unloaded and secured in a vehicle. Carry is not allowed.
8. Amtrak will have a system in place to check firearms/Ammo.
9. Secure areas at airports. Refer to current TSA publications.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Concealed Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

9. Bureau of Land Management* – If you can legally carry in the state the BLM land is located, you can carry on the BLM land. If it is not legal the area will be posted as no firearms allowed. Any building on the BLM land operated by the federal government is considered federal property and carry in those buildings is not allowed.
10. Indian Reservations – Carry on Indian property is controlled by Tribal Law. You must check with each tribe before carrying on their property. Some Indian Tribes consider federal and state highways through their property as under their control.

* This includes parking lots adjacent to or part of the facility if the Federal Agency/Entity owns or has control of the parking lot and it is posted “No Firearms”. The lot has to be posted under federal law if they do not wish to have firearms present.



Possession of Firearms and Other Dangerous Weapons on Postal Property is Prohibited by Law

18 U.S.C. Section 930.

Possession of Firearms and Dangerous Weapons in Federal Facilities



(a) Except as provided in subsection (d), whoever knowingly possesses or causes to be present a firearm or other dangerous weapon in a federal facility, or attempts to do so, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 1 year, or both.

(b) Whoever, with intent that a firearm or other dangerous weapon be used in the commission of a crime, knowingly possesses or causes to be present such firearm or dangerous weapon in a federal facility, or attempts to do so, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 5 years, or both.

39 CFR 232.1 (l).

Weapons and Explosives

No person while on postal property may carry firearms, other dangerous or deadly weapons, or explosives, either openly or concealed, except for official purposes.

Report all firearms violations immediately to the Postal Inspection Service



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

State Statutory Law:

Unlawful carrying of a handgun – Ref. 16-23-20

(A) It is unlawful, whether or not the person has a concealed weapon permit, for anyone to carry about the person any handgun, whether concealed or not, unless otherwise specifically authorized by law into a:

- (1) law enforcement, correctional, or detention facility;
- (2) courthouse, courtroom, or other publicly owned building, whether owned by the State, a county, a municipality, or other political subdivision, where court is held and during the time that court is in session;
- (3) polling place on election days;
- (4) office of or business meeting of the governing body of a county, public school district, municipality, or special purpose district;



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

- (5) school or college athletic event not related to firearms;
- (6) daycare facility or preschool facility;
- (7) place where the carrying of firearms is prohibited by federal law;
- (8) church or other established religious sanctuary unless express permission is given by the appropriate church official or governing body;
- (9) hospital, medical clinic, doctor's office, or any other facility where medical services or procedures are performed, unless expressly authorized by the appropriate entity;
- (10) residence or dwelling place of another person without the express permission of the owner or person in legal control or possession of the residence or dwelling place, as appropriate; or



S SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

(11) place clearly marked with a sign prohibiting the carrying of a concealable weapon on the premises in compliance with Section 23-31-235. A person who violates a provision of this item, whether the violation is wilful or not, only may be charged with a violation of Section 16-11-620 and must not be charged with or penalized for a violation of this subsection.

(C) Nothing contained in this section may be construed to alter or affect the provisions of Sections 10-11-320, 16-23-30, 16-23-420, 16-23-430, 16-23-465, 44-23-1080, 44-52-165, and 51-3-145, or the ability for a person to obtain a concealed weapon permit as provided for in Section 23-31-215.

(D) Notwithstanding any provision in this section, a person who is not otherwise prohibited by law from carrying a firearm may lawfully store a firearm anywhere in a vehicle whether occupied or unoccupied.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

Penalties; disposition of fines

This is pertaining to Section 16-23-20 (A)(1-10)

(2) A person violating the provisions of Section 16-23-20 is guilty of:

(1) a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not more than one thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than one year, or both, for a first offense;

(2) a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be imprisoned not more than three years for a second offense; or

(3) a felony and, upon conviction, must be imprisoned not more than five years for a third or subsequent offense.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

Sign Violation – *This is pertaining to Section 16-23-20 (A)(11)*

SECTION 16-11-620. Entering premises after warning or refusing to leave on request; jurisdiction and enforcement.

Any person who, without legal cause or good excuse, enters into the dwelling house, place of business, or on the premises of another person after having been warned not to do so or any person who, having entered into the dwelling house, place of business, or on the premises of another person without having been warned fails and refuses, without good cause or good excuse, to leave immediately upon being ordered or requested to do so by the person in possession or his agent or representative shall, on conviction, be fined not more than two hundred dollars or be imprisoned for not more than thirty days.

SECTION 23-31-220 (B). In addition to the penalties provided in Section 16-11-620, a person convicted of a second or subsequent violation of the provisions of the paragraph must have his permit revoked for a period of one year.

Note – A “restaurant” carry sign violation carries a stiffer penalty (Discussed Later)



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

Pointing a firearm at another person – Ref. 16-23-410

It is unlawful for a person to present or point at another person a loaded or unloaded firearm.

A person who violates the provisions of this section is guilty of a felony and, upon conviction, must be fined in the discretion of the court or imprisoned not more than five years. This section must not be construed to abridge the right of self-defense or to apply to theatricals or like performances.

The common term used is “Brandishing” – You cannot point or display a firearm to threaten or gain an advantage, unless during an act of self-defense.

However, the right to self-defense is not limited to firing your weapon. For instance, holding an attacker at gunpoint is not brandishing. Or, if you or another person are experiencing an imminent threat that you perceive will cause death, great bodily injury or the commission of a violent crime; displaying a firearm for self-defense purposes would be covered the same as if you used deadly force.

Discuss Case Law later.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

Possession of firearm on school property – Ref. 16-23-420

(A) It is unlawful for a person to possess a firearm of any kind **on** any premises or property owned, operated, or controlled by a private or public school, college, university, technical college, other post-secondary institution, or **in** any publicly owned building, without the express permission of the authorities in charge of the premises or property. The provisions of this subsection related to any premises or property owned, operated, or controlled by a private or public school, college, university, technical college, or other post-secondary institution, do not apply to when the firearm remains inside an attended or locked motor vehicle and is secured in a closed glove compartment, closed console, closed trunk, or in a closed container secured by an integral fastener and transported in the luggage compartment of the vehicle.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

(B) It is unlawful for a person to enter the premises or property described in subsection (A) and to display, brandish, or threaten others with a firearm.

(C) A person who violates the provisions of this section is guilty of a felony and, upon conviction, must be fined not more than five thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than five years, or both.

(E) For purposes of this section, the terms "premises" and "property" do not include state or locally owned or maintained roads, streets, or rights-of-way of them, running through or adjacent to premises or property owned, operated, or controlled by a private or public school, college, university, technical college, or other post-secondary institution, which are open full time to public vehicular traffic.

(F) This section does not apply to a person when upon any premises, property, or building that is part of an interstate highway rest area facility.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

Carrying weapon on school property – Ref. 16-23-430

(A) It shall be unlawful for any person, except state, county, or municipal law enforcement officers or personnel authorized by school officials, to carry on his person, while on any elementary or secondary school property, a knife, with a blade over two inches long, a blackjack, a metal pipe or pole, firearms, or any other type of weapon, device, or object which may be used to inflict bodily injury or death.

(B) This section does not apply when the weapon remains inside an attended or locked motor vehicle and is secured in a closed glove compartment, closed console, closed trunk, or in a closed container secured by an integral fastener and transported in the luggage compartment of the vehicle.

(C) A person who violates the provisions of this section is guilty of a felony and, upon conviction, must be fined not more than one thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than five years, or both. Any weapon or object used in violation of this section may be confiscated by the law enforcement division making the arrest.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

“Restaurant Carry” – Ref. 16-23-465

(A) In addition to the penalties provided for by Sections 16-11-330, 16-11-620, 23-31-220, and Article 1, Chapter 23, Title 16, a person convicted of knowingly carrying a firearm into a business which sells alcoholic liquor, beer, or wine for consumption on the premises is guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction, must be fined not more than two thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than two years, or both.

In addition to the penalties described above, a person who violates this section while carrying a concealable weapon pursuant to Article 4, Chapter 31, Title 23 must have his concealed weapon permit revoked for a period of five years.

(B)(1) This section does not apply to a person otherwise lawfully carrying a firearm who does not consume alcoholic liquor, beer, or wine while carrying the concealable weapon on the business' premises. A person who violates this item may be charged with a violation of subsection (A).



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

(2) A property owner, holder of a lease interest, or operator of a business may prohibit the carrying of concealable weapons into the business by posting a "NO CONCEALABLE WEAPONS ALLOWED" sign in compliance with Section 23-31-235. A person who carries a concealable weapon into a business with a sign posted in compliance with Section 23-31-235 may be charged with a violation of subsection (A).

(3) A property owner, holder of a lease interest, or operator of a business may request that a person carrying a concealable weapon leave the business' premises, or any portion of the premises, or request that a person carrying a concealable weapon remove the concealable weapon from the business' premises, or any portion of the premises. A person carrying a concealable weapon who refuses to leave a business' premises or portion of the premises when requested or refuses to remove the concealable weapon from a business' premises or portion of the premises when requested may be charged with a violation of subsection (A).



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

Concealable Weapon Offense – Ref. 16-23-495

(A) A person convicted of committing or attempting to commit a crime involving a concealable weapon, as defined by Section 23-31-210(5), in violation of an offense listed in Chapter 23, Title 16, or a violation of Section 10-11-320, must be imprisoned not to exceed three years. A term of imprisonment imposed for violating this section must be served consecutively to any term of imprisonment imposed for the underlying offense, and may not exceed the actual sentence imposed for the underlying offense.

(B) This section does not apply to a person with a valid permit to carry a concealable weapon issued pursuant to Article 4, Chapter 31, Title 23, provided that the permit was valid at the time the crime was committed.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

Right to allow or permit concealed weapons upon premises; signs

Ref. 23-31-220

(A) Nothing contained in this article shall in any way be construed to limit, diminish, or otherwise infringe upon:

(1) the right of a public or private employer to prohibit a person who is otherwise not prohibited by law from possessing a handgun from carrying a concealable weapon, whether concealed or openly carried, upon the premises of the business or workplace or while using any machinery, vehicle, or equipment owned or operated by the business; or

(2) the right of a private property owner or person in legal possession or control to allow or prohibit the carrying of a concealable weapon, whether concealed or openly carried, upon his premises.



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(B) The posting by the employer, owner, or person in legal possession or control of a sign stating "NO CONCEALABLE WEAPONS ALLOWED" shall constitute notice to a person that the employer, owner, or person in legal possession or control requests that concealable weapons, whether concealed or openly carried, not be brought upon the premises or into the workplace. A person who knowingly brings a concealable weapon, whether concealed or openly carried, onto the premises or workplace in violation of the provisions of this paragraph may be charged with a violation of Section 16-11-620. In addition to the penalties provided in Section 16-11-620, a person convicted of a second or subsequent violation of the provisions of this subsection must have his permit revoked for a period of one year.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

(C) In addition to the provisions of subsection (B), a public or private employer or the owner of a business may post a sign regarding the prohibition or allowance on those premises of concealable weapons, whether concealed or openly carried, which may be unique to that business.

(D) This section must not be construed to limit an individual from carrying a concealable weapon pursuant to Section 51-3-145(G).



**NO
OPEN CARRY
WEAPONS
ALLOWED**



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

Sign Requirements – Ref. 23-31-235

(A) Notwithstanding any other provision of this article, any requirement of or allowance for the posting of signs prohibiting the carrying of a concealable weapon, whether concealed or openly carried, upon any premises shall only be satisfied by a sign expressing the prohibition in both written language interdict and universal sign language.

(B) All signs must be posted at each entrance into a building where carrying of a concealable weapon is prohibited and must be:

- (1) clearly visible from outside the building;
- (2) eight inches wide by twelve inches tall in size;



**NO
CONCEALABLE
WEAPONS
ALLOWED**



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

- (3) contain the words "NO CONCEALABLE WEAPONS ALLOWED" in black one-inch tall uppercase type at the bottom of the sign and centered between the lateral edges of the sign;
- (4) contain a black silhouette of a handgun inside a circle seven inches in diameter with a diagonal line that runs from the lower left to the upper right at a forty-five-degree angle from the horizontal;
- (5) a diameter of a circle; and
- (6) placed not less than forty inches and not more than sixty inches from the bottom of the building's entrance door.



**NO
CONCEALABLE
WEAPONS
ALLOWED**



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

(C) If the premises where concealable weapons are prohibited does not have doors, then the signs contained in subsection (A) must be:

- (1) thirty-six inches wide by forty-eight inches tall in size;
- (2) contain the words 'NO CONCEALABLE WEAPONS ALLOWED' in black three-inch tall uppercase type at the bottom of the sign and centered between the lateral edges of the sign;
- (3) contain a black silhouette of a handgun inside a circle thirty-four inches in diameter with a diagonal line that is two inches wide and runs from the lower left to the upper right at a forty-five degree angle from the horizontal and must be a diameter of a circle whose circumference is two inches wide;



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

- (4) placed not less than forty inches and not more than ninety-six inches above the ground;
- (5) posted in sufficient quantities to be clearly visible from any point of entry onto the premises.
- (D) Nothing in this section prevents a public or private employer or owner of a business from posting a sign regarding the prohibition or allowance on those premises of concealable weapons, whether concealed or openly carried, which may be unique to that business.



No Weapons
Allowed Inside
This Building



**NO
CONCEALABLE
WEAPONS
ALLOWED**

*Attention:
No Cameras, Video Equipment,
Recording Devices,
Or Cellular Phones Allowed.*



**NO CONCEALABLE
WEAPONS ALLOWED**

(SOUTH CAROLINA CODE ANN. 23-31-235 ET. SEQ.)

NOTICE

**NO WEAPONS
ALLOWED ON
PROPERTY**



FreeSignPrinter.com





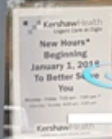




URGENT CARE

Hours: Monday - Friday 7: 0am - 7: 0pm
Saturday & Sunday 8:00am - 4:00pm

NO TOBACCO/FIRE ARMS



KershawHealth
New Hours*
Beginning
January 3, 2018
To Better Serve
You

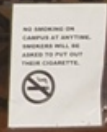


URGENT CARE

CLOSED
EASTER SUNDAY
APRIL 1, 2018
8:00PM - 7:00 AM

Hours: Monday - Friday 7: 0am - 7: 0pm
Saturday & Sunday 8:00am - 4:00pm

NO TOBACCO/FIRE ARMS



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

Church Services – Ref. 23-31-232

(A) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, upon express permission given by the appropriate church official or governing body, any person may carry a concealable weapon, whether concealed or openly carried, on the leased premises of an elementary or secondary school if a church leases the school premises or areas within the school for church services or official church activities.

(1) The provisions contained in this section apply:

(a) only during those times that the church has the use and enjoyment of the school property pursuant to its lease with the school; and

(b) only to the areas of the school within the lease agreement, any related parking areas, or any reasonable ingress or egress between these areas.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

(2) A school district may request that a church utilizing school property for its services disclose and notify the school district if persons are, or may be, carrying concealed weapons on the school property.

(3) The provisions of this section do not apply during any time students are present as a result of a curricular or extracurricular school-sponsored activity that is taking place on the school property.

(B) For the purposes of the Federal Gun-Free School Zone Act (18 U.S.C. Section 921(a)), the buildings and grounds of a school that are leased to a church are not considered a school during the hours that the church has the use and enjoyment of the school property pursuant to this section.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

Openly Carrying a Weapon – Ref. 23-31-245

A person openly carrying a weapon in accordance with this article does not give a law enforcement officer reasonable suspicion or probable cause to search, detain, or arrest the person. This article does not prevent a law enforcement officer from searching, detaining, or arresting a person when he has a particularized and objective basis for suspecting the particular person stopped of criminal activity. A person merely carrying a weapon in accordance with this article is not sufficient to justify a search, detention, or arrest.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

Unlawful use of firearm; violations – Ref. 23-31-400

Using a Firearm While Under the Influence of Alcohol or a Controlled Substance

(A) As used in this article:

(1) "Use a firearm" means to discharge a firearm.

(2) "Serious bodily injury" means a physical condition which creates a substantial risk of death, serious personal disfigurement, or protracted loss or impairment of the function of a bodily member or organ.

(B) It is unlawful for a person who is under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance to use a firearm in this State.

(C) A person who violates the provisions of subsection (B) is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not less than two thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than two years.

(D) This article does not apply to persons lawfully defending themselves or their property.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

Open Carrying of Weapons – Ref. 23-31-520

Places where you cannot temporarily openly carry a firearm:

(A) Notwithstanding another provision of law, a governing body of a county, municipality, or political subdivision may temporarily restrict the otherwise lawful open carrying of a firearm on public property when a governing body issues a permit to allow a public protest, rally, fair, parade, festival, or other organized event. However, if a permit is not applied for and issued prior to an event as described in this subsection, a county, municipality, or political subdivision may not exercise the provisions of this subsection. A person or entity hosting a public protest, rally, fair, parade, festival, or other organized event must post signs at the event when open carrying is allowed or not allowed at the event.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

(B) A governing body exercising the authority granted to it pursuant to this section must be specific in the area, duration, and manner in which the restriction is imposed and must provide prior notice of the restriction when feasible. In no event may the restriction extend beyond the beginning and conclusion of the event or beyond the location of the event. The duration of an event may not be scheduled for such a length of time as to frustrate the intent of this section.

(C) A county, municipality, or political subdivision may not confiscate a firearm or ammunition for a violation of this section unless incident to an otherwise lawful arrest.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

State Parks & Facilities – Ref. 51-3-145

It shall be unlawful for any person to commit any of the following acts at any park or facility under the jurisdiction of the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism:

(G) Possessing any firearm, airgun, explosive, or firework except by duly authorized park personnel, law enforcement officers, or persons using areas specifically designated by the department for use of firearms, airguns, fireworks, or explosives. Licensed hunters may have firearms in their possession during hunting seasons provided that such firearms are unloaded and carried in a case or the trunk of a vehicle except that in designated game management areas where hunting is permitted, licensed hunters may use firearms for hunting in the manner authorized by law. This subsection shall not apply to a person in possession or carrying a concealable weapon, as defined in Section 23-31-210(5).

Pre-H.3594: Section 51-3-145 (G) - Possessing a firearm is prohibited at any park or facility under the jurisdiction of the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism. This subsection shall not apply to a person carrying a concealable weapon pursuant to Article 4, Chapter 31, Title 23, and the concealable weapon and its ammunition.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

National Parks

Congress approved a law allowing loaded firearms in national parks starting Feb. 22, 2010. That means people can openly carry legal handguns, rifles, shotguns and other firearms and also may carry concealed guns as allowed by state statute.

- The federal law applies state law to the possession of guns in national parks.
- Although it is legal to carry loaded guns in national parks, guns cannot be fired except in rare circumstances.
- For national security reasons, guns cannot be carried into federal facilities within national parks. Notice of this rule may be clearly displayed outside all federal facilities. If not displayed, it is up to you to know the law regardless.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

Public Transportation Passenger Rights – Ref. 58-23-1830

(a) It is unlawful for any passenger to commit any of the following acts in a bus or any other public transportation vehicle:

(3) carry or possess any weapon,

(d) Any person violating the provisions of subsection (a) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction for a first offense must be imprisoned for not more than thirty days or fined not more than two hundred dollars, for a second offense, imprisoned for not more than sixty days or fined not more than five hundred dollars, or both, and for a third or subsequent offense, imprisoned for not more than ninety days or fined not more than one thousand dollars, or both.

SECTION 58-25-20. Definitions.

(10) "Public transportation" means every conveyance of human passengers by bus, van, or any other surface vehicle as required for intrastate service which is provided to the general public or selected groups on a regular and continuing basis including charter service. Freight delivery is allowed as a concomitant service.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

Capital Grounds, Buildings & Parking – Ref. 10-11-320

(A) It is unlawful for any person or group of persons to:

(1) carry or have readily accessible to the person upon the capitol grounds or within the capitol building any firearm or dangerous weapon; or

(2) discharge any firearm or to use any dangerous weapon upon the capitol grounds or within the capitol building.

(B) This section does not apply to a person who possesses firearms and is authorized to park on the capitol grounds or in the parking garage below the capitol grounds. The firearm must remain locked in the person's vehicle while on or below the capitol grounds and must be stored in a place in the vehicle that is not readily accessible to any person upon entry to or below the capitol grounds.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

Bank Carry:

Is it on any list of prohibited places? Is it a private or public building?
Is there a sign properly posted?

SECTION 16-11-380. Entering bank, depository or building and loan association with intent to steal; theft or solicitation of person using automated teller machine.

(A) It is unlawful for a person to enter a building or part of a building occupied as a bank, depository, or building and loan association with intent to steal money, securities for money, or property, either by force, intimidation, or threats.

(D) A person who violates the provisions of:

(1) subsection (A) is guilty of a felony and, upon conviction, must be imprisoned not more than thirty years;



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

Transporting Firearms and Ammunition:

<https://www.tsa.gov/travel/transporting-firearms-and-ammunition>

Carrying a weapon is prohibited beyond the TSA security checkpoints, and attempting to pass through with a weapon is a federal offense.

Airport Carry (non-secure areas):

In most cases, it is legal to carry a concealed weapon in airport parking lots, as long as it is allowed by state and local laws.

Parking lots and terminal carry in SC? This should be governed by SECTION 16-23-20 (A). If it's not a publically owned building or not clearly marked with a sign prohibiting the carrying of a concealable weapon on the premises in compliance with Section 23-31-235, then conceal or open carry should be legal.





SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

Interactions with law enforcement officers:

1. When stopped by a law enforcement officer while armed, keep both hands on the steering wheel, advise the officer that you are a CWP holder with a firearm, and follow the officer's directions. (The notice requirement was repealed with H.3594 as of 03/07/24)
2. When in a deadly force confrontation which results in holding the assailant at gunpoint while waiting for the police to arrive, you should do exactly as the officer directs. Do not do anything that could be perceived as a threat. Keep your hands visible. Identify yourself as a CWP holder, and explain the situation briefly to the officer.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

Post engagement activities, if a firearm is used in self-defense:

1. Continue to assess the threat and improve your tactical position.
2. Check yourself for possible injuries.
3. Prepare for the arrival of law enforcement.
4. Prepare to possibly encounter other permit holders who are responding.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

Review requirements for permit:

1. SC resident present in South Carolina with the intention of making a permanent home in South Carolina or military personnel on permanent change of station.
2. The CWP application & license information must match your DL.
3. Suitably trained – SLED approved course; SLED approved instructor; exemptions for military and LEO.
4. Vision requirement – 20/40.
5. Not prohibited by law and **18+ years old. Ref. 23-31-215 (A)**
6. Non-resident – Must be a real property owner.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

Permit holder's responsibilities:

Reference Section 23-31-215, Parts J, K & L

Surrender permit if revoked. Once a permit is revoked, it must be surrendered to a sheriff, police department, a SLED agent, or by certified mail to the Chief of SLED. A person who fails to surrender his permit in accordance with this subsection is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined twenty-five dollars. Ref. 23-31-215 (J)

Notify SLED of change of permanent address or name change (within 10 days). Ref. 23-31-215 (L)



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

Permit holder's responsibilities:

(K) A permit holder must report the loss or theft of a permit identification card to SLED headquarters within forty-eight hours of the time the permit holder knew or reasonably should have known of the loss or theft. A person who violates the provisions of this subsection is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined twenty-five dollars.

An owner or other person who is lawfully in possession of a firearm, rifle, or shotgun in this State who suffers the loss or theft of such weapon shall report, within ten days of discovery, the loss or theft of each weapon to the appropriate local law enforcement agency, whether local police department or county sheriff's office, which would have appropriate jurisdiction where the weapon is located. In addition, the facts and circumstances of the loss or theft also must be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency to which the report is made.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

Section 23-31-215, Part M – *This is pertaining to CWP holders.*

(M) A permit issued pursuant to this section does not authorize a permit holder to carry a concealable weapon into any place listed in Section 16-23-20(A) except as permitted by law.

Except as provided in Section 16-23-20(A)(11), a person who wilfully violates a provision of this subsection may be charged with a violation of Section 16-23-20 and in addition to the penalties provided in Section 16-23-20, at the discretion of the court, may have his permit revoked for up to five years.

Nothing contained in this subsection may be construed to alter or affect the provisions of Sections 10-11-320, 16-23-420, 16-23-430, 16-23-465, 44-23-1080, 44-52-165, and 51-3-145.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

Section 23-31-215, Part O

(O)(1) A permit issued pursuant to this article is not required for a person:

- (a) carrying a self-defense device generally considered to be nonlethal including the substance commonly referred to as "pepper gas"; or
- (b) carrying a concealable weapon in a manner not prohibited by law.

(2) The availability of a permit to carry a concealable weapon under this section must not be construed to prohibit the permitless transport or carrying of a firearm in a vehicle or on or about one's person, whether openly or concealed, loaded or unloaded, in a manner not prohibited by law.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

Use of Deadly Force (AOJP):

1. Ability – Your attacker must have the physical ability to cause you harm. “Disparity of Force” Ex. when a man is assaulting a woman. Position of disadvantage, force of numbers or highly skilled in unarmed combat.
2. Opportunity – Basically, while your attacker may very well have the ability to cause you harm, it means nothing unless he also has the opportunity to do so—right here and right now.
3. Jeopardy – This is what distinguishes between a potentially dangerous situation and one that is actually dangerous and imminent/immediate.
4. Preclusion - It is the idea that, whatever the situation, you are expected to use force only as a last resort—that is, only when the circumstances preclude all other options.
5. Summary – Notwithstanding other SC law (Ex. without fault, not committing a crime):
 - A. **The threat must be current, immediate, and unavoidable.**
 - B. **Your level of force must be appropriate to the threat.**
 - C. **Your use of force must stop when the threat ceases.**



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

South Carolina Case Law:

Duty to Retreat vs Stand Your Ground

Protection of Persons and Property Act of 2006: This Act recognizes the Castle Doctrine and extends lawful use of deadly force to a person's dwelling, residence, or occupied vehicle. There is NO duty to retreat if the person is in a place where he has a right to be, including his place of business, and the person is not engaged in unlawful activity, and the use of deadly force is necessary to prevent death, great bodily harm, or the commission of a violent crime.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

South Carolina Statutory Law:

SELF DEFENSE

Where duty to retreat is not applicable: (Ref. Section 16-11-440)

1. When in your residence, occupied vehicle or place of business.
2. (C) A person who is not engaged in an unlawful activity and who is attacked in another place where he has a right to be, including, but not limited to, his place of business, has no duty to retreat and has the right to stand his ground and meet force with force, including deadly force, if he reasonably believes it is necessary to prevent death or great bodily injury to himself or another person or to prevent the commission of a violent crime as defined in Section 16-1-60.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

South Statutory Law:

SELF DEFENSE

Where duty to retreat is not applicable: (Ref. Section 16-11-440)

3. (D) A person who unlawfully and by force enters or attempts to enter a person's dwelling, residence, or occupied vehicle is presumed to be doing so with the intent to commit an unlawful act involving force or a violent crime as defined in Section 16-1-60.
4. The use of deadly force should only be used as a last resort in defense of life, or to prevent great bodily injury.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

Immunity from criminal prosecution and civil actions

Section 16-11-450 – (A) A person who uses deadly force as permitted by the provisions of this article or another applicable provision of law is justified in using deadly force and is immune from criminal prosecution and civil action for the use of deadly force, unless the person against whom deadly force was used is a law enforcement officer acting in the performance of his official duties and he identifies himself in accordance with applicable law or the person using deadly force knows or reasonably should have known that the person is a law enforcement officer.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

South Carolina Case Law:

SELF DEFENSE

Four elements required to merit self defense:

1. Must be without fault bringing on difficulty and not engaged in criminal activity.
2. Must actually believe you are in imminent danger of loss of life or serious bodily injury or actually was in such danger.
3. A reasonable or prudent man of ordinary firmness and courage would have believed the same and acted the same to save himself from serious bodily harm or losing life.
4. No other probable means of avoiding the danger.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

South Carolina Case Law:

DEFENSE OF OTHERS

South Carolina also has the “alter-ego” rule with respect to the defense of others, under which a person who uses deadly force to defend a friend, relative or bystander will be allowed the benefit of the plea of self-defense if that plea would have been available to the person requiring assistance if they had been the one who used deadly force.

In other words, the person intervening is deemed to “stand in the shoes” of the person on whose behalf he is intervening. If that individual “had the right to defend himself”, then the intervening party is also protected by that right.

Reference Section 16-11-440, Part C where it states “*or another person.*”



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

South Carolina Case Law:

Resisting a Lawful Arrest

1. There is no right to resist a lawful arrest.

Citizen's Arrest

1. Felony – if personally viewed or reasonable cause.
2. Misdemeanor – if viewed and breach of peace.
3. Be careful, if later found incorrect, then the arrest was unlawful.
4. Illegal Detainment? Aggravated Assault?

Defense of Property

1. One can use only the force that is necessary or apparently necessary to a reasonably prudent man for self-defense. Property is **never** valued over life.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

The Bottom Line ...

At the end of the day, if you shoot someone, a number of people will decide whether or not you were legally justified in doing so. The police will decide whether or not to arrest you. A District Attorney/Prosecutor will decide whether or not to charge you with a crime. Should the incident proceed to trial, a judge or jury will decide whether or not you had a legal right to fire your weapon.

Juries use the “reasonable person” standard to determine guilt or innocence. Would a reasonable person in the same circumstances fire their weapon?



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

Liability & Responsibility:

1. Never fire at a target you have not properly identified.
2. Be sure of your target and what is beyond it.
3. You are responsible for anything your bullet strikes, damages, injures or kills.
4. Keep firearms out of the reach of children and unauthorized adults.
5. Make moral and ethical decisions before carrying a firearm.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

Alternatives to use of force — avoiding confrontation:

1. Avoidance of danger is preferable to an armed encounter.
2. Deadly force should only be used as a last resort in the defense of life, or to prevent great bodily injury. Avoid confrontation at all costs, whenever possible. Your fate will be in the hands of the prosecutor, judge & jury.
3. Automobile Security – when going to your car, have your keys ready, be aware, lock doors when inside, stay in your car, keep it gassed up to avoid late night gas stops, and no hitchhikers.
4. Physical Security - Maintain your space, be aware. This is referred to as situational awareness. Be confident, avoid outside ATMs at night, avoid stairwells in parking garages, and use extreme caution if normal lights not working.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

De-escalation techniques and strategies

Always attempt to de-escalate in lieu of using deadly force. You may be justified in using deadly force. But consider the possible criminal, civil and mental ramifications. Just walk away if presented with that opportunity.

When there are signs of anger or verbal aggression it is important to remember that:

- you need to stay calm.
- anger may be a sign that the person is in distress, experiencing fear or frustrated.
- it is not possible to reason or problem solve with someone who is enraged.
- effective communication skills are the key to settling, resolving and de-escalating a situation.



SECTION 2: Legal Aspects of Conceal/Open Carry. Avoiding Confrontation. De-escalation Techniques & Strategies.

Use the strategies below to de-escalate a situation:

- Listen to what the issue is and the person's concerns.
- Without sarcasm or sounding condescending, offer reflective comments to show that you have heard what their concerns are.
- Wait until the person has released their frustration and explained how they are feeling.
- Nod to confirm that you are listening and have understood.
- Express empathy to show you have understood.
- It is not your job to stop the person being angry, but these steps may help to make the person feel calmer. It is only then that you can look at how to deal with the situation and their concerns.



SECTION 3: Ammunition Knowledge, Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting, and Pistol Maintenance

Learning Objectives:

1. Identify handgun ammunition components and their functions.
2. Identify the proper handgun ammunition and its intended use.
3. Identify and demonstrate the fundamentals of shooting a handgun.
4. Identify materials needed to clean a handgun.
5. Understand how to clean a handgun safely.

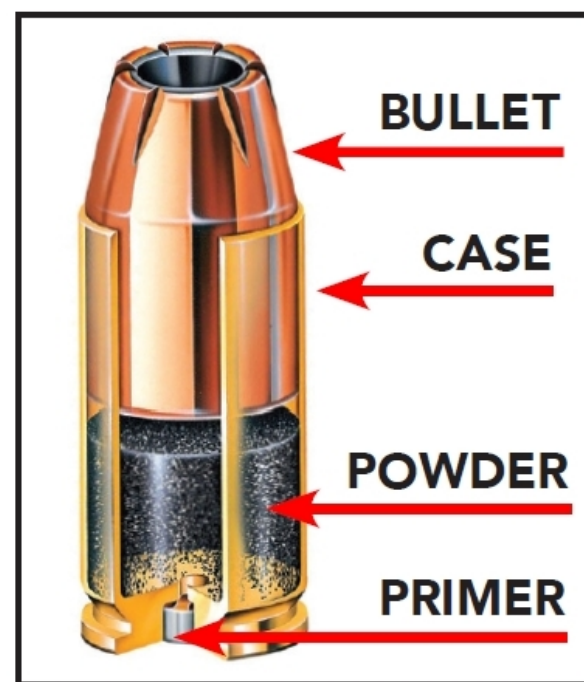


SECTION 3: Ammunition Knowledge, Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting, and Pistol Maintenance

Ammunition

The four components of a pistol cartridge:

1. Case - a metal cylinder (usually made of brass) that is closed at one end and contains the other three components.
2. Primer - an impact sensitive chemical compound used for ignition.
3. Powder Charge - a fast-burning chemical compound used as a propellant.
4. Bullet - the projectile.

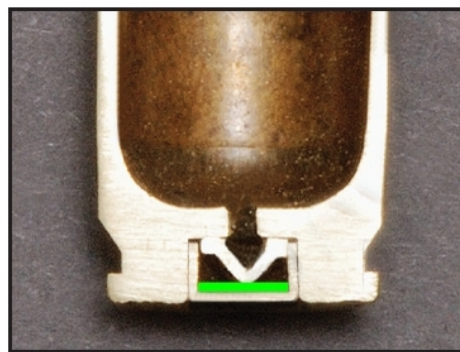
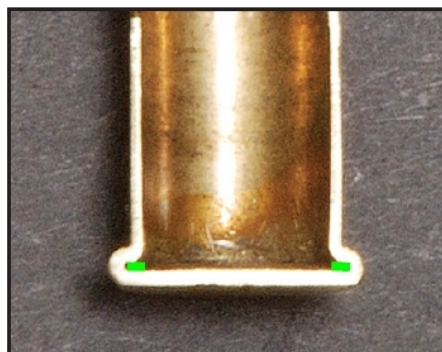


SECTION 3: Ammunition Knowledge, Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting, and Pistol Maintenance

Ammunition

Rimfire and center-fire cartridges:

1. Rimfire cartridge (Ex. 22LR) - the primer is contained inside the rim of the case's base.
2. Center-fire cartridge (Ex. 9 mm) - the primer is contained in a small metal cup and is in the center of the case's base.



SECTION 3: Ammunition Knowledge, Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting, and Pistol Maintenance

Ammunition

Firing sequence of a cartridge:

1. The firing pin strikes and ignites the primer.
2. The flame generated by the primer ignites the powder charge.
3. The powder burns very rapidly and produces a high volume of gas.
4. The gas propels the bullet out of the barrel at a high rate of speed.



SECTION 3: Ammunition Knowledge, Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting, and Pistol Maintenance

Ammunition

Cartridge designation and identification:

1. The shooter must always be sure to load the proper cartridge into the pistol.
2. The shooter should match the cartridge designation stamped on the pistol (barrel or slide) with the ammunition box and as stamped on the bottom of a centerfire cartridge.
3. Plus-P (+P), NATO and Plus-P-Plus (+P+) cartridges are loaded to a higher pressure than standard cartridges. Verify if your handgun is designed for higher than normal pressure cartridges before using them.





A



B



C

The proper ammunition for a given pistol is determined by matching the markings on the barrel (A) with the cartridge designation on the headstamp (B) and the cartridge box (C).

SECTION 3: Ammunition Knowledge, Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting, and Pistol Maintenance

Ammunition

Storing ammunition:

1. Ammunition should be stored in a cool and dry area. Avoid storing ammunition in extremely high temperature areas such as an attic or the trunk of a car.
2. Always keep the ammunition in the factory box or carton.
3. Wipe fingerprints off cartridges. Perspiration may cause corrosion.
4. Ammunition should be stored in a place where children and other unauthorized persons will not have access to it.
5. Ammunition should not be exposed to water or to solvents, petroleum products, bore cleaner, ammonia, or other chemicals. These materials can cause the primer and/or powder charge to deteriorate and result in a cartridge malfunction.



SECTION 3: Ammunition Knowledge, Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting, and Pistol Maintenance

Ammunition

Cartridge malfunctions:

1. **Misfire**—a failure of the cartridge to fire after the primer has been struck by the firing pin.
2. **Hangfire**—a perceptible delay in the ignition of a cartridge after the primer has been struck by the firing pin. When a cartridge fails to fire immediately, it will not be known at first whether the problem is a misfire or a hangfire.

In non-self-defense situations, keep the pistol pointed in a safe direction because a hangfire situation might exist and the cartridge could still fire. Wait at least 15 seconds before opening to remove the cartridge.



SECTION 3: Ammunition Knowledge, Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting, and Pistol Maintenance

Ammunition

Cartridge malfunctions:

3. **Squib load**—development of less than normal pressure or velocity after the ignition of a cartridge. If anything unusual is noticed when a shot is fired, such as a difference in recoil or noise, the shooter should stop firing immediately. Keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction and unload the pistol. Check to be sure that the chamber is empty. Then, with the action open, visually inspect the barrel to be sure that it is not obstructed. Squib loads can result in a bullet failing to exit the barrel. The firing of another shot down an obstructed barrel could cause serious injury or damage.





Federal Premium HST 9mm 124 Gr JHP

SECTION 3: Ammunition Knowledge, Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting, and Pistol Maintenance

Review Safe Gun Handling Rules

SLED's Four Cardinal Rules of Firearm Safety:

1. Treat all firearms as if they are always loaded.
2. Always keep the muzzle of the firearm pointed in a safe direction.
3. Keep your finger outside the trigger guard until the firearm is pointed at the target and you have decided to fire.
4. Be sure of your target and what is beyond it.

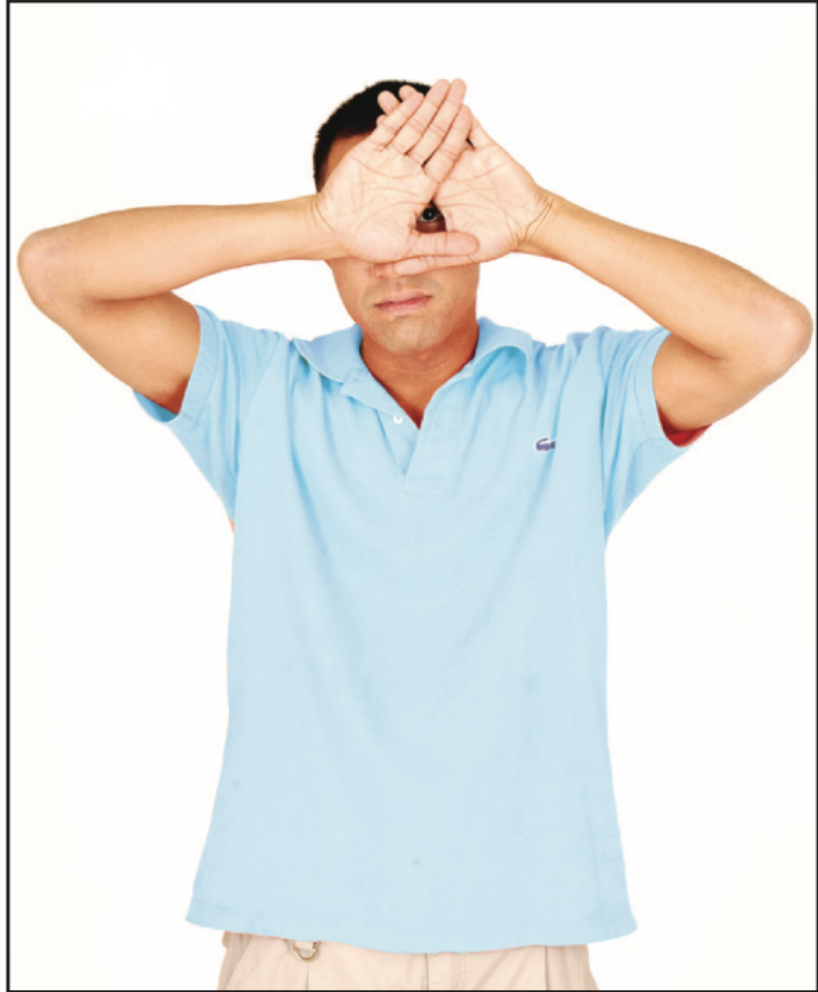


SECTION 3: Ammunition Knowledge, Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting, and Pistol Maintenance

Dominant Eye

1. What does it mean to have a “dominant eye?”
2. Ocular dominance, which is sometimes called eye preference, is the tendency to prefer visual input from one eye over the other.
3. It is somewhat analogous to right- or left-handedness; however, the side of the dominant eye and the dominant hand do not always match.





SECTION 3: Ammunition Knowledge, Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting, and Pistol Maintenance

Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting – Position or Stance

Two-handed standing – Isosceles & Weaver Positions









SECTION 3: Ammunition Knowledge, Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting, and Pistol Maintenance

Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting

THE FIVE (5) FUNDAMENTALS

1. HOLD CONTROL (Grip Control)
2. AIMING
3. BREATH CONTROL
4. TRIGGER CONTROL
5. FOLLOW-THROUGH

THESE FIVE FUNDAMENTALS SHOULD BE PERFORMED WITH *EVERY* SHOT.



SECTION 3: Ammunition Knowledge, Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting, and Pistol Maintenance

Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting

Hold Control: Hold control is achieved primarily through a proper grip, and a well-balanced, stable shooting position that is naturally aligned with the target, as well as extensive practice.

Grip for Semi-Auto:

See the following illustrations.





- **NON-SHOOTING HAND SAFELY PUTS PISTOL IN SHOOTING HAND**
- **“V” BETWEEN THUMB AND FOREFINGER OF SHOOTING HAND IS PLACED HIGH ON PISTOL BACK STRAP**
- **PISTOL IS GRIPPED WITH BASE OF THUMB AND LOWER THREE FINGERS. GRIP PRESSURE IS STRAIGHT TO THE REAR, TRIGGER FINGER IS ALONG FRAME**



- **BRING SUPPORT HAND TO SHOOTING HAND**
- **WRAP SUPPORT-HAND FINGERS AROUND SHOOTING-HAND FINGERS**
- **BRING HEEL OF SUPPORT HAND FIRMLY AGAINST HEEL OF SHOOTING HAND**



WITH THE PISTOL POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION, THE INDEX FINGER SHOULD BE PLACED ALONGSIDE THE FRAME OF THE PISTOL, ABOVE AND AWAY FROM THE TRIGGER GUARD.



SECTION 3: Ammunition Knowledge, Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting, and Pistol Maintenance

Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting

Grip for Revolver:







SECTION 3: Ammunition Knowledge, Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting, and Pistol Maintenance

Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting

Aiming Consists of both Sight Alignment & Sight Picture:



SECTION 3: Ammunition Knowledge, Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting, and Pistol Maintenance

Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting

Sight Alignment & Picture:

1. Proper sight alignment—the top of the front sight is even with the top of the rear sight and centered with the rear sight. “Level & centered” or “Equal height – equal light”.
2. The eye can only focus on one object at a time. It cannot keep the rear sight, the front sight, and the target in focus at the same time. The shooter must concentrate on the front sight. The front sight should appear sharp and clear, the rear sight should look less sharp, and the target should look somewhat blurred.
3. Sight picture—obtained by achieving the proper sight alignment and then putting the aligned sights into their proper relationship with the target.



SECTION 3: Ammunition Knowledge, Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting, and Pistol Maintenance

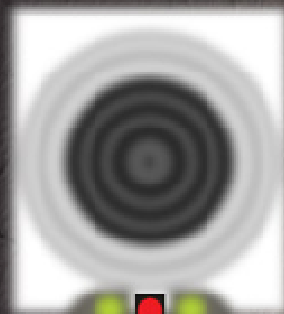
Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting

4. No shooter can hold the pistol in a firing position without some motion. This motion is called the “arc of movement.” The shooter should try to maintain proper sight alignment with minimum movement.
5. Proper sight alignment is the key to accurate shooting. Any misalignment of the front sight with the rear sight introduces an angular error, the effect of which is multiplied with distance.
6. Ideally, it is best to keep both eyes open while aiming. More total light is available to the eyes, peripheral vision is improved and depth perception is better.
7. In a defensive situation, you may not have the time to obtain a perfect sight picture.

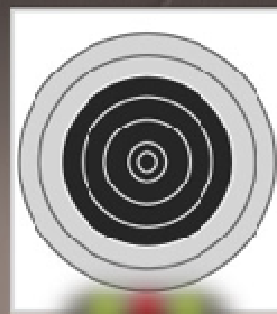


FOCUS

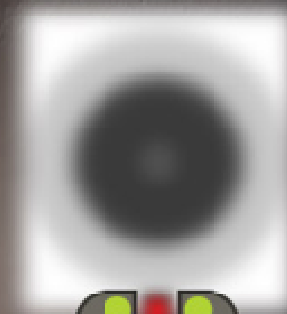
Focusing on the front sight provides you with the most precise indication of where exactly the gun is pointing. You can also more readily discern whether your sights are improperly aligned. If you focus on the rear sight or the target, it's much harder to figure out when you're "lined up" incorrectly!



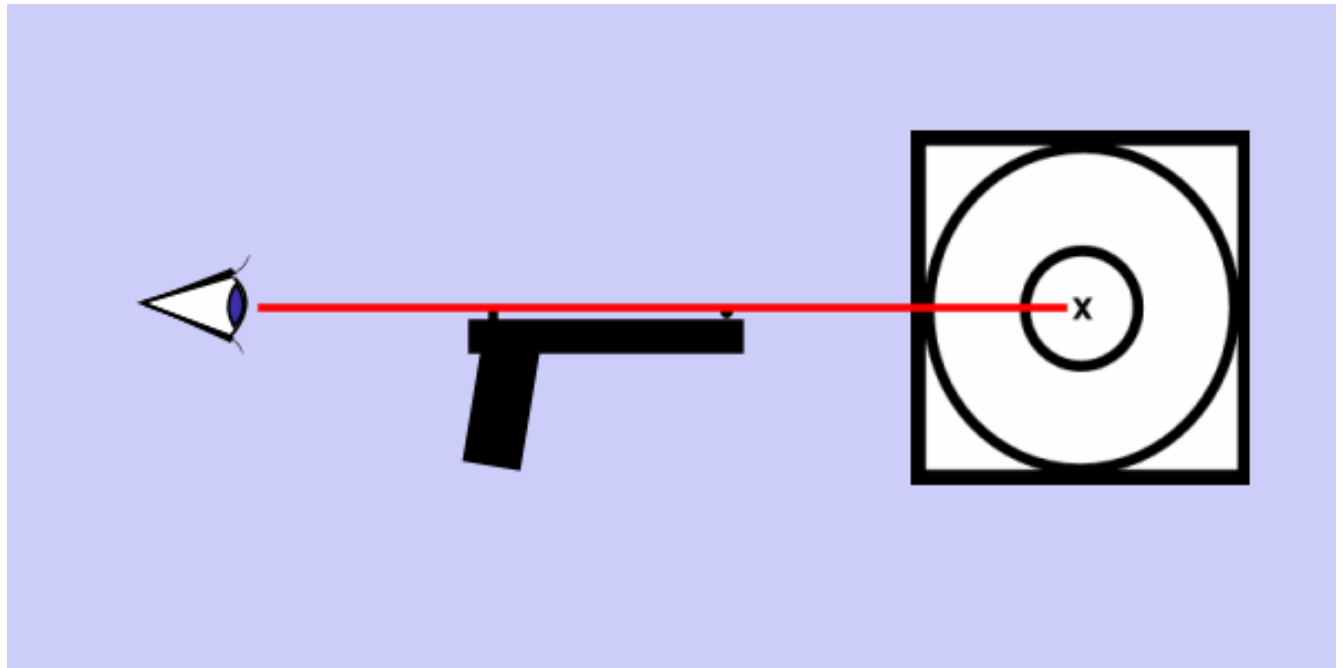
CORRECT



INCORRECT

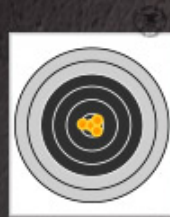


INCORRECT



PROPER SIGHT ALIGNMENT

Using proper sight alignment is critical to hitting what you're actually aiming at. Your firearm's sights are properly aligned when the front sight (red) is directly centered with the rear sight (green). The very tip of your front sight should also be parallel with the tops of the "leaves" of the rear sight. Without proper alignment your shots will be off-target!



CORRECT



INCORRECT



INCORRECT



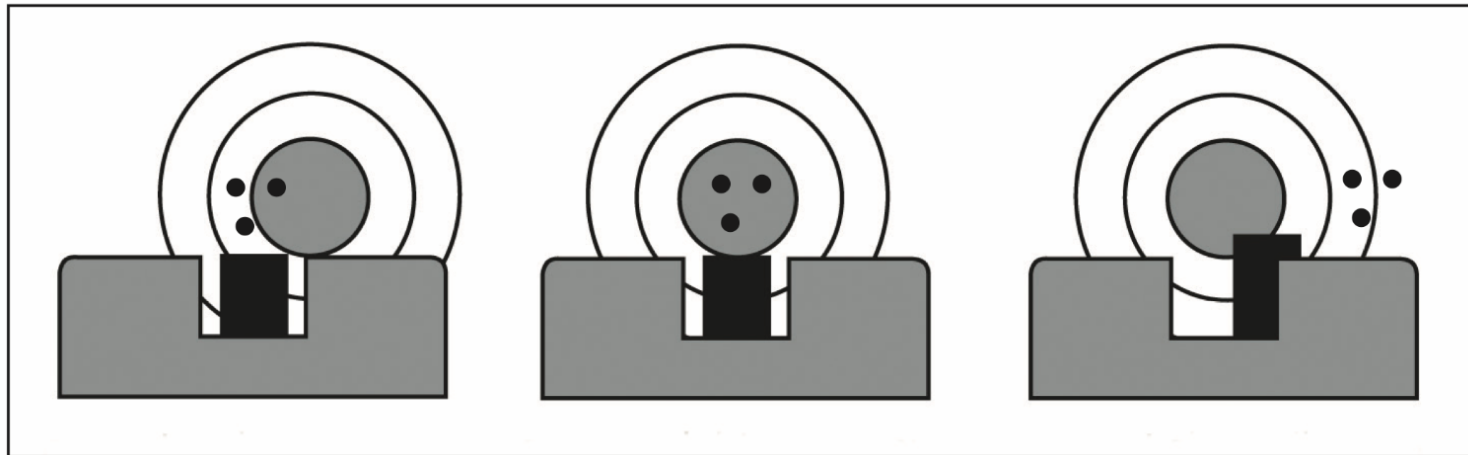
INCORRECT



INCORRECT

Sight Alignment & Picture

Sight alignment errors are a greater accuracy problem than errors in sight picture. Small errors in sight picture (POA) generally cause a small shift in bullet impact (POI). However, small errors in sight alignment are magnified with greater distance, and thus produce a larger shift in bullet impact.



Example: Looking at the right illustration above, at 45 ft. from the target, an error of only $1/16''$ will shift the POI by almost 3". An error of $1/8''$ equals a POI shift of over $5\ 1/2''$!

In a defensive situation, you may not have the time to obtain a perfect sight picture.



SECTION 3: Ammunition Knowledge, Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting, and Pistol Maintenance

Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting

Breath Control:

1. In order to minimize body movement, your breath must be held while firing a shot.
2. Before each shot, take a breath, let enough air out so you are comfortable, and hold the remaining breath while firing the shot.



SECTION 3: Ammunition Knowledge, Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting, and Pistol Maintenance

Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting

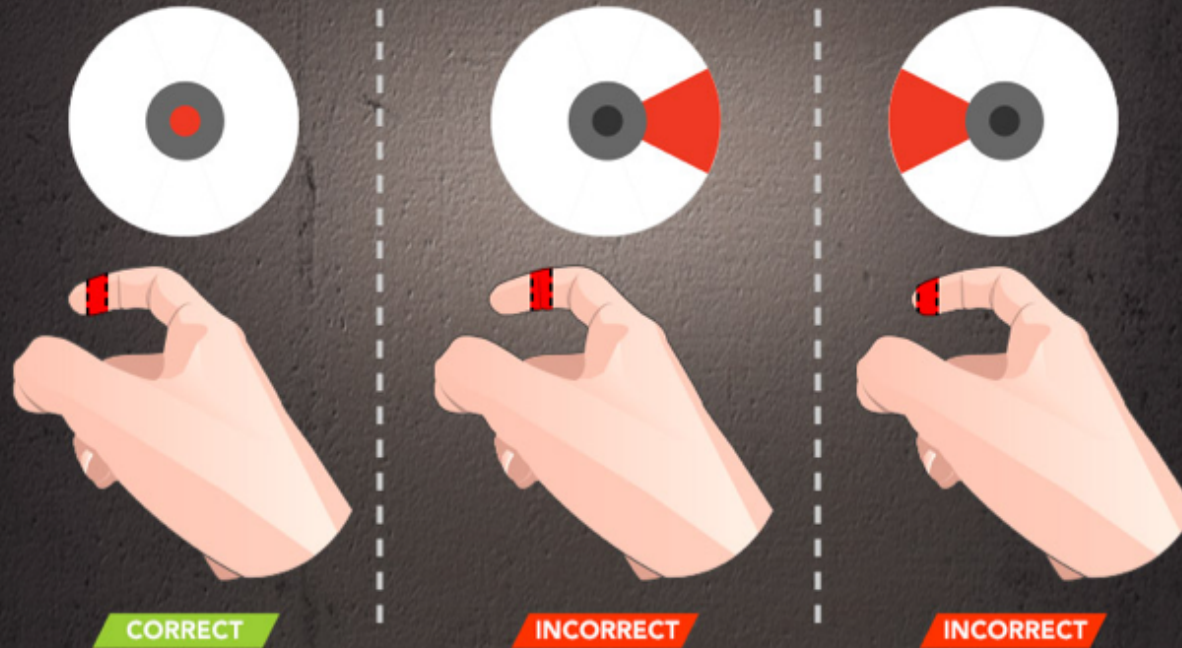
Trigger Control:

1. The index finger is placed so that the trigger is halfway between the tip of the finger and the first joint.
2. The trigger is pressed straight to the rear in a smooth, continuous manner without disturbing sight alignment. Don't speed up or slow down the pressure or apply the pressure in a start-and-stop manner.
3. You should not be able to predict the instant that the gun will fire.
4. Each shot should come as a surprise. Do not overthink it.
5. Trigger press and sight alignment must be done simultaneously while maintaining a minimum arc of movement.



TRIGGER CONTROL

Center the first pad of your index finger on the trigger and pull straight back. Using the very tip of your finger, the second pad, or the “crease” between pads can cause you to pull shots left or right. Note that some instructors suggest using the second pad for guns with particularly heavy trigger pulls—only you can determine what works best for you!



SECTION 3: Ammunition Knowledge, Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting, and Pistol Maintenance

Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting

Follow-Through:

1. Follow-through is continuing to do everything that was being done at the time the shot was fired.
2. Follow-through prevents any unnecessary movement before the bullet exits the barrel.
3. Proper follow-through also quickly re-establishes proper fundamentals for the next shot, should it be necessary.



SECTION 3: Ammunition Knowledge, Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting, and Pistol Maintenance

Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting

Conclusion:

1. The two most important fundamentals in pistol shooting are sight alignment and trigger control. The other three fundamentals all combine to assist in achieving proper sight alignment and trigger press.
2. Sight alignment and trigger press / squeeze should be done simultaneously while maintaining a minimum of movement of the firearm.
3. Keep in mind that in a defensive situation, you may not have the time to obtain a perfect sight picture. For this reason, you should continue training and practicing drawing from concealment. Take your time as you progress in skill level.

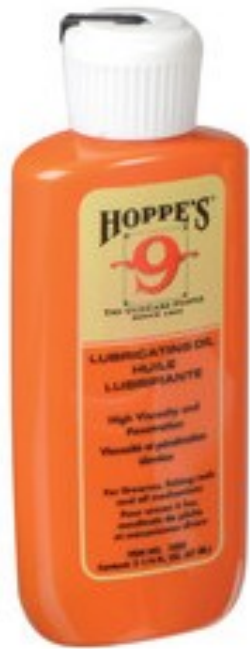


SECTION 3: Ammunition Knowledge, Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting, and Pistol Maintenance

Cleaning the Pistol

1. Ammunition should **NEVER** be present when cleaning a firearm.
2. Remember, treat all firearms as if they are always loaded. Accordingly, before cleaning any firearm; make sure that it is unloaded, the action is open, and no ammunition is present.
3. Consult your pistol's owner's manual for disassembly, cleaning instructions and recommended lubrication points. Remember, you do not need to over lubricate most pistols.
4. Equipment and supplies: solvent, brushes (brass or nylon only), patches, cleaning rods, toothpicks, cotton swabs, lubricant, etc.
5. Remember, a pistol should be cleaned & lubricated after each use, whenever exposed to dirt or moisture, periodically or if lubricant appears to have evaporated.









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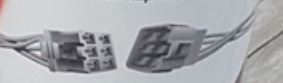
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SECTION 3: Ammunition Knowledge, Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting, and Pistol Maintenance

Caring for the Pistol

Handgun Repairs:

1. Cleaning your pistol on a regular basis provides a good opportunity to examine the handgun for mechanical problems.
2. Depending on your skill level and when in doubt, all gun repairs should be done by an experienced gunsmith.



SECTION 3: Ammunition Knowledge, Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting, and Pistol Maintenance

Review Storage Requirements:

1. Store guns and ammunition so that they are not accessible to unauthorized persons.
2. When not used for defensive purposes, guns and ammunition should be stored separately.
3. Guns and ammunition should be stored in a cool, dry area.



SECTION 4: Shooting Positions, Range Safety, and Fundamentals Reinforcement

Learning Objectives:

1. Demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and attitude necessary to safely shoot a handgun from the two-handed standing position, at the range.
2. Identify & understand the criteria for selecting a handgun.



SECTION 4: Shooting Positions, Range Safety, and Fundamentals Reinforcement

Two-Handed Standing Position

Establish the two-handed standing position:

1. Study position & grip (Isosceles/Weaver & Semi-Auto/Revolver)
2. Practice position without pistol.
3. Practice position with an unloaded pistol - Focus on your grip, foot placement and the position of your legs, back, head, arms and remain relaxed.
4. Align position with target – Remember to maintain proper sight alignment and sight picture, and focus on the front sight.



SECTION 4: Shooting Positions, Range Safety, and Fundamentals Reinforcement

Two-Handed Standing Position

Dry fire the pistol at the target:

Focus and practice on all fundamentals. Emphasize sight alignment and trigger press. Keep the sights aligned while maintaining a minimum arc of movement. Press the trigger straight to the rear and wait for the hammer to fall.

Invest in a good set of “snap caps”.



SECTION 4: Shooting Positions, Range Safety, and Fundamentals Reinforcement

Range Safety

Range Operating Procedures:

1. **“Load”** – You may load your pistols only after this command has been given.
2. **“Start firing”** – You may begin firing when instructed and ready.
3. **“Cease firing”** – means stop shooting immediately. Even a shooter who is in the process of squeezing the trigger must stop, remove his finger from the trigger while keeping the muzzle pointed in a safe direction, and wait for further instructions from the range officer. This can be used during normal range procedures or in an emergency situation.
4. A student who has any type of problem with his pistol should take his index finger off the trigger, point the gun in a safe direction, and raise his or her hand for assistance from one of the range personnel.



SECTION 4: Shooting Positions, Range Safety, and Fundamentals Reinforcement

Range Safety

Range Rules – Typical range rules are:

1. Eye and ear protection are required for everyone on the range.
2. Firearms are to be pointed downrange at all times when they are not holstered.
3. No gun handling behind the firing line while anyone is downrange.
4. No Bending Over on the Range: It presents the top of your head to fire, cuts down on your field of vision, and is a poor tactic.



SECTION 4: Shooting Positions, Range Safety, and Fundamentals Reinforcement

Review Safe Gun Handling Rules

Additional Rules to Consider:

1. Know how to use your gun safely.
2. Be sure your gun is safe to operate.
3. Use only the correct ammunition for your gun.
4. Wear eye and ear protection as appropriate during live-fire sessions.
5. Never use alcohol or drugs before or while shooting.
6. Store guns so they are not accessible to unauthorized persons.
7. Be aware that certain types of guns and many shooting activities require additional safety precautions.



SECTION 4: Shooting Positions, Range Safety, and Fundamentals Reinforcement

Selecting a Pistol

Types of pistols & calibers:

1. .22 target pistols - very accurate, have little recoil, and use inexpensive ammunition. However, they are not necessarily the best choice for self-defense.
2. Center-fire pistols—available in a variety of calibers and can be used for personal protection, competitive shooting & hunting. The most popular are .380 ACP, 9mm, 38 Special, .40 S&W and .45 ACP.

It is better to have a small gun with limited capabilities that you can carry effectively than a larger gun that sits at home in a safe.



SECTION 4: Shooting Positions, Range Safety, and Fundamentals Reinforcement

Selecting a Pistol

Guidelines for purchasing a pistol:

1. Determine the intended use for the pistol.
2. Decide how much money to spend.
3. Find out if the ammunition is easily obtainable & cost.
4. Study various makes and models.
5. Seek the advice of a knowledgeable person.
6. Be sure that the pistol fits the user's hand properly.



SECTION 4: Shooting Positions, Range Safety, and Fundamentals Reinforcement

Selecting a Pistol

Guidelines for purchasing a pistol:

7. Consider the pistol's simplicity of operation and ease of cleaning.
8. Obtain information about the pistol's manufacturer.
9. Find out if the pistol has a record of trouble-free dependability.
10. Find out if the pistol has a warranty and guarantee.
11. If possible, rent various makes and models before purchasing.
12. Purchase the pistol from a reputable dealer.



SECTION 4: Shooting Positions, Range Safety, and Fundamentals Reinforcement

Training to Clear Your Pistol of a Malfunction

1. Sometimes primers do not ignite the powder (a misfire).
2. Or the cartridge will fire, but the gun will not extract the spent brass (a Stove Pipe).
3. Or the next round will not feed quite right (a possible double feed).

Anytime this happens, you have to fix the problem. For a Stove Pipe, try a tap-rack. Pull the slide back with your non-dominant hand, hard, and let it go again, like you would if you were chambering a round. When the slide falls, it usually picks up the next round, or may push a stuck round into place.





Double feed, NO!

Fail to feed, NO!

Fail to eject, NO!

Stovepipe, NO!

Fail to go into battery, NO!

Magazine failure, NO!

Malfunction due to limp wrist, NO!

Manual safety, NO!

Ammo sensitive, NO!

Load, Pull the trigger, goes bang, YES!

Ahh, the old snubby, a classic worth every dollar they cost.

SECTION 4: Shooting Positions, Range Safety, and Fundamentals Reinforcement

Stage Your Pistol for Your Current Situation or Threat

Always be alert and be aware of people that look suspicious, that could pose a threat to you. Watch them more closely. This creates situational awareness.

“Remember that a perception of safety is just a perception, and no excuse for letting your guard down.”

If you can sense a threat you can avoid it. Only draw your gun as a last resort. If possible remove yourself from a potential situation. And remember that every time you draw your gun, there will be repercussions.



SECTION 4: Shooting Positions, Range Safety, and Fundamentals Reinforcement

Closing to Engage a Threat – Some Statistics

- 55% of gunfights take place 0-5 feet.
- 20% of gunfights take place in 5-10 feet.
- 20% of gunfights take place in 10-21 feet.
- 95% of gunfights take place in 0-21 feet. (Source- FBI)
- The average man can cover 21 feet of ground in 1.5 seconds.
- The average man cannot draw a gun from concealment in under 2 seconds.
- The average gunfight is over in 3-5 seconds.
- Usually 3 to 4 shots are fired.
- Most gunfights take place in low light conditions.
- On average, one shot in four strikes someone.



SECTION 4: Shooting Positions, Range Safety, and Fundamentals Reinforcement

Review Gun Safety Rules

SLED's Four Cardinal Rules of Firearm Safety:

1. Treat all firearms as if they are always loaded.
2. Always keep the muzzle of the firearm pointed in a safe direction.
3. Keep your finger outside the trigger guard until the firearm is pointed at the target and you have decided to fire.
4. Be sure of your target and what is beyond it.



SECTION 5: SLED Mandated Qualification Course

Learning Objectives: As a result of this training exercise, you should be able to:

1. Demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and attitude necessary to safely shoot a handgun from two-handed standing position in a live fire situation; Drawing from a holster.
2. In order to qualify, SLED requires that you hit at least 18 rounds out of 25 rounds fired. This is a minimum passing score of 70%.
3. Complete the training for a CWP in South Carolina.



SECTION 5: SLED Mandated Qualification Course

Prepare for SLED Mandated Qualification Course – Required equipment & supplies:

1. Eye protection
2. Ear protection
3. Firearm, sturdy belt & holster
4. Ammunition
5. Recommended clothing (Ex. no tank tops), baseball type cap



SECTION 5: SLED Mandated Qualification Course

Scoring Targets

1. Bullet holes within the target scoring zone are counted.
2. You will shoot at 3, 5, 7, 10 & 12 yards.
 - At 3, 5 & 7 you will draw and fire 5 rounds within 10 seconds.
 - At 10 you will draw and fire 5 rounds within 12 seconds.
 - At 12 you will draw and fire 5 rounds within 15 seconds.
3. You must have 18 out 25 (min 70%) in the scoring area to qualify.





Pistol Correction Chart (Left Hand)



Pistol Correction Chart (Right Hand)



SECTION 6: Testing and Review with Students

1. The written test covers the legal aspects of the Concealed Weapons Permit (CWP) and firearms safety and operation.
2. Students must successfully pass the exam with a minimum standard of 70% in order to be eligible to apply for a Concealed Weapons Permit (CWP).
3. **This is NOT an open book test.** You must answer the questions based upon the training received. If you do not understand a question, please ask your instructor for assistance.
4. Each question is worth two (2) points. To achieve the minimum passing score of 70%, you must correctly answer at least 35 of 50 questions.
5. Review and Score Written Tests

