

Concealed Weapons (Non-CPL Holders)

1. If I do not have a CPL permit, may I transport my pistol in a motor vehicle?

[MCL 750.231a](#) A person is now permitted to transport a pistol for a lawful purpose if the owner or occupant of the vehicle is the registered owner of the firearm and the pistol is unloaded and in a closed case in the trunk of the vehicle. If the vehicle does not have a trunk, the pistol may be in the passenger compartment of the vehicle unloaded and inaccessible to the occupants of the vehicle.

A 'lawful purpose' includes:

- While en route to or from a hunting or target shooting area.
- While transporting a pistol to or from home or place of business and a place of repair.
- While moving goods from one place of residence or business to another place of residence or business.
- While transporting a licensed pistol to or from a law enforcement agency for the purpose of having a safety inspection performed (registering the pistol) or to have a law enforcement official take possession of the pistol.
- While en route to or from home or place of business to a gun show or place of purchase or sale.
- While en route to or from home to a public shooting facility or land where the discharge of firearms is permitted.
- While en route to or from home to private property where the pistol is to be used as permitted by law, rule, regulation, or local ordinance.

2. I work as a security guard. Does my profession entitle me to carry a concealed pistol without a license in Michigan as required by my employer?

[MCL 750.227](#) No. You can only carry a pistol while on duty on the premises of your employer and only if it is exposed.

If you wish to carry a pistol concealed, you must obtain a concealed pistol license through the county gun board.

28.425n(2)b This does not prohibit an employer from prohibiting the carrying of the concealed pistol by an employee while in the course of his or her employment with that employer.

3. Do I need a concealed pistol permit to carry my pistols while walking through the woods near my cabin in Michigan? If not, are there any restrictions on how or where the gun is carried?

[MCL 750.227](#) allows you to carry a concealed pistol if you are in your home, place of business, or on other land possessed by you. If you do not possess the land, you may lawfully carry the pistol as long as you carry it non-concealed. Michigan appellate courts have held complete invisibility is not required for the weapon to be considered concealed. The weapon is concealed if it is not observed by those casually observing the person as people do in the ordinary and usual associations of life. Attorney General's opinion #3158 dated February 14, 1945, states a pistol carried in a holster or belt outside of the clothing in plain

view is not considered concealed, but carrying under a coat would constitute concealed.

Additionally, the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act prohibits against carrying or transporting a firearm in areas frequented by wild animals and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources has rules and regulations regarding where firearms are prohibited on certain land. Contact the Michigan Department of Natural Resources with any questions you may have regarding these laws, rules, and regulations.

8. My uncle had a .357 magnum revolver registered in his name when he died. My brother has had custody of the gun but now wants to give it to me. What procedure do I follow to gain legal possession of this gun in Michigan, since my uncle obviously cannot sign it over to me?

[MCL 28.422](#) Michigan statutes provide for the personal representative of the estate or next of kin having authority to dispose of the pistol to sign the License to Purchase as the seller.

9. I am giving my registered pistols to my son who lives in another state. How do I get the pistols out of my name?

There are no provisions in the statute; however, send a letter to the Michigan State Police, Firearms Records Unit, P.O. Box 30634, Lansing, Michigan 48909-0634, advising of the transaction. The letter must include a description of the pistols, your son's name and address, and the date of transaction in order for the Firearms Records Unit to update their records. Your son must comply with the weapons laws of his own state. There are federal restrictions regarding transfer of ownership across state lines.

10. I have just moved to Michigan from another state. How much time do I have to register my pistols?

[MCL 28.422](#) Upon establishing legal residency, you should immediately contact your local law enforcement agency, pass the basic safety questionnaire, and complete a License to Purchase.

12. I found a pistol in an old house that I was fixing up. Can I get it registered in my name?

You should take it to your local police agency and they can check on the history of the pistol. They will, of course, check to make sure it is not stolen, and also for any previous registered owner. If there was a previous owner, the agency is required to send a letter to that person to determine whether they have any interest or legal claim to the pistol. If the previous owner does not respond within 6 months, has no interest in the pistol, or is not eligible to possess a pistol, the department may release it to you, providing you comply with MCL 28.422 or MCL 28.422a in obtaining a License to Purchase or Pistol Sales Record. If the owner responds, the property shall be returned to the legal owner when the law enforcement agency is reasonably satisfied of that ownership.

13. I inherited a pistol from my uncle. Do I just take it in to my local police agency to get a License to Purchase?

[MCL 28.422](#) Unless you have a valid Concealed Pistol License issued after July 1, 2001, you must obtain a License to Purchase first. When the owner of a pistol is deceased, the statutes provide that the next of kin or personal representative of the estate has the authority to sign as seller. If you are the next of kin or personal representative, you may sign as seller indicating "Estate of ..." and also as purchaser.

2. I am moving to California. I have a pistol registered in my name in Michigan. Is it legal for me to carry this gun in the car with me to my new location?

The May 19, 1986, revision of the Federal Gun Control Act of 1968 now allows for transportation of pistols from one state to another providing the pistol is legally possessed in the state of origin, and possession is permitted in the state of destination. It must be transported unloaded and in a locked container inaccessible to the occupants.

3. My father-in-law, who lives in Georgia, has two firearms which he wants to give me. Can I legally go to Georgia and bring the guns back to Michigan?

No. The Federal Gun Control Act of 1968 generally prohibits the transportation into or receipt in the state where a person resides of a firearm obtained outside of that state. The transfer of the firearms would be lawful if your father-in-law sends the firearms via common carrier (such as UPS) to a licensed firearms dealer in Michigan. The Michigan firearms dealer can then transfer the firearms to you providing you meet all statutory requirements. If the firearm is a pistol, a License to Purchase or valid Concealed Pistol License is required.

4. Can I legally possess a fully-automatic firearm in Michigan?

Under the Federal Gun Control Act, individuals may only possess those fully-automatic firearms that were lawfully possessed before May 19, 1986. The Attorney General has concluded that a person who has been authorized to possess a fully automatic firearm by the federal Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives is deemed licensed and may lawfully possess that firearm in Michigan.

5. Is it okay if I have a pistol with a 15 round magazine?

Yes, as federal law 18 USC Sec. 922 effective September 30, 1994 which prohibited an individual from having a firearm with a magazine holding over 10 rounds, was repealed effective September 1, 2004

1. Is it legal to carry a visible pistol in public?

Although [MCL 750.227](#) restricts carrying a pistol concealed on your person or in a vehicle, there is no statute that specifically prohibits carrying a visible pistol. [MCL 750.234d](#) states that you cannot possess any firearm in a depository financial institution, a church or other house of religious worship, court, theatre, sports arena, day care center, hospital or an establishment licensed under the

Michigan liquor control act, unless that possession is with the permission of the owner or his/her agent of the entity.

2. Can a resident of another state legally possess a pistol in Michigan?

If you are a non-resident of Michigan with a valid concealed pistol permit from your home state, Michigan will recognize your permit ([MCL 28.432](#) & [MCL 28.432a](#)). However, you must carry in conformance with any and all restrictions appearing on the permit. You are subject to Michigan's concealed pistol law including but not limited to restrictions on where a concealed pistol may be carried. Without a CPL, a non-resident may not have a pistol in Michigan.

3. Is an individual required to carry a copy of their Safety Inspection Certificate with them at all times?

Michigan law does not require a person to have a copy of their certificate with their pistol after it has been registered; nor does the law require that a person keep a copy. As of January 2009, Safety Inspection Certificates are no longer issued.

4. How should long-guns be legally transported?

[MCL 750.227d](#) describes that any firearm other than a pistol can only be transported in a motor vehicle if it is unloaded and is one or more of the following: taken down, enclosed in a case, carried in the trunk of the vehicle, or inaccessible from the interior of the vehicle. A violation of this section is a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or a fine of not more than \$100 or both.

1. My pistol, along with the Michigan registration (Safety Inspection Certificate, License to Purchase or Pistol Sales Record) was stolen and I need to provide my insurance company and the police agency with the description of my gun, what should I do?

You can request the information through the Michigan State Police, Freedom of Information Unit, P.O. Box 30634, Lansing, Michigan 48909-0634 for which there is a \$10.00 fee or you can request a Public Query at your local police agency or at Michigan State Police Firearms Records Unit. They may charge up to \$1.00 for this service. The Firearms Records Unit will look up the information and provide it directly to the agency where you reported the gun stolen at no charge, if requested.

2. What are the requirements or criteria that cause weapons to be forfeited to the State of Michigan?

[MCL 28.434](#) and [MCL 750.239](#) Any pistol, weapon or device possessed, carried or used contrary to the Penal Code requires forfeiture to the Director of the Department of State Police. This includes shotguns, rifles, knives, clubs, or any article used as a weapon.

3. Is it okay if I loan my pistol to a friend?

[MCL 28.432](#) An individual can carry, possess, use or transport a pistol belonging to another individual, if the pistol is properly licensed under the Act, and the individual carrying, possessing, using or transporting the pistol has obtained a license to carry a pistol concealed permit from Michigan.