

Columbus Police Informational Bulletin	EFFECTIVE Sep. 30, 2004	NUMBER 04-01
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Concealed Carry - H.B. 12		



I. Introduction

With the passage of House Bill 12, properly licensed persons may carry concealed handguns in non-prohibited locations as long as certain conditions are met.

II. Definition

Permit Holder - An individual properly licensed to carry a concealed handgun in Ohio

III. General Information

- A. This Bulletin does not affect Division policies regarding officers carrying firearms off-duty.
- B. Only sworn personnel are authorized to carry firearms in a City-operated workplace and then only those firearms that are approved and with which they have qualified.
- C. Permit holders are required to have their concealed carry license with them whenever they are carrying a concealed handgun.
- D. Revealing information obtained from LEADS to non-law enforcement personnel, including information concerning the concealed carry status of any citizen, is a fifth degree felony. However, information about the permit holder obtained from a source other than LEADS may be relayed to a complainant or other third party for legitimate law enforcement purposes.

IV. Traffic Stops Involving Permit Holders

- A. A permit holder carrying a concealed firearm and who is an occupant of a vehicle being stopped or detained by a law enforcement officer is required to advise that officer that he/she is armed.
- B. Officers have the discretion on a case by case basis to either secure a weapon or allow it to remain in the citizen's vehicle. Based on the large variety of weapons that officers could encounter, the possibility that officers might be unfamiliar with a weapon's operation and safety concerns involving taking firearms from citizens and then returning them after the situation is resolved, it is recommended that weapons be allowed to remain in the citizen's vehicle.

In those cases where the officer believes there is a legitimate safety concern, e.g., possible arrest situation, multiple subjects in vehicle where an arrest is being made, OVI, etc., the officer should secure the weapon in the trunk or other locked compartment in the cruiser until such time that the incident is resolved. No attempt should be made to unload the weapon(s) unless an arrest is made.

V. Prohibited Locations

- A. Officers encountering a permit holder carrying a firearm in a city building have the discretion to either warn or criminally charge the individual. A permit holder who refuses to leave after being warned will be criminally charged.

The Division will not store, hold, or secure firearms for citizens while in City facilities.

- B. Non-sworn personnel encountering citizens carrying a firearm in a city building should immediately advise a sworn officer. No attempt should be made by the civilian employee to confront the violator.
- C. Permit holders violating posted prohibitions against carrying firearms in a private business will be considered trespass violators. Officers encountering this situation have the same discretion to warn or charge the individual as they do for other trespass violations.