

NORTH CAROLINA
CONCEALED CARRY HANDGUN
COURSE

BY

CALIBERS

INDOOR RANGE & TRAINING CENTER

6910 DOWNWIND ROAD, GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27409

336-668-3232

www.calibers.net

NAME: _____

COURSE DATE: _____

Revised 8.18.2011

CCH COURSE DESCRIPTION

All course registrations must be done in person at Calibers. A drivers license and payment is required for registration. At the time of registration, each participant receives a 46 page training manual and a 6 month membership to Calibers. Membership allows unlimited range usage for members at no charge. Guests of members are \$10.00 each. Registrants also receive individual coaching if required. This is all included in the \$100.00 Concealed Carry membership fee. All shooters that are new to Calibers must watch a 10 minute range rule & safety video.

We recommend completing the shooting qualification prior to the course date. Pre-qualification will allow the student to receive their certificate of completion on the course date. The shooting qualification can be done at any time during normal business hours. Registrants can even qualify the day of signup.

Qualification consists of firing fifty rounds of ammunition at a B-27 full size silhouette at a distance of 7 yards. 40 or more rounds are required to be in the 7 ring or better. **Qualification can not be completed on the day of the course.** No firearms are to be brought to the class, just your training manual and a pen.

Any caliber (22-44 mag.) can be used to qualify. After the permit is issued, a handgun of a different caliber may be carried.

The attendee may use his or her own firearm and ammunition, or rent a handgun and purchase our ammunition. All gun rentals are \$6.00 with ammunition ranging from \$5.00 to \$38.50 for 50 rounds.

The course starts at 9:00 am, the first video is an hour long and covers handgun safety, parts of handguns, cycle of operation and the fundamentals of good shooting. A short break will be given and the second video will be shown. The second video demonstrates how to be aware of your surroundings and to have a plan for you and your family if there is an intruder in your home. The next video is approximately 20 min in length and covers the laws governing concealed carry. A lunch break is taken and the final video on the use of deadly force is shown.

Two true /false open book exams are given on the material covered. Each exam is graded and the attendee receives individual instruction as to the correct answers.

The lecture portion of the course begins at 2:00 pm. and continues to 6:00 pm. The material covered in the video portion is reviewed, questions answered, different scenarios are presented and advice on practicing, concealment and firearm care are given.

At the conclusion certificates are handed out and instructions for contacting the Sheriff are given.

No member or guest shall instruct or qualify any persons without the written permission of Calibers Indoor Gun Range. Violators are subject to revocation of membership, guest privileges and subject to legal prosecution.

CCH APPLICATION PROCESS IN GUILFORD COUNTY

If you live in a different County, Contact your local Sheriff's Department for their requirements.

You must first complete the Concealed Carry Training Course that is required by North Carolina before the Sheriff Department can begin the application process.

Call for an appointment, appointments are only available on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, from 8:15 am – 11:45 am and 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm.

When your Permit is ready for pick-up, the Sheriff's department you will notify you by phone.

Please allow 90 days for processing time.

****You will need to bring the following information with you to the Sheriffs Office****

1. Original Firearms Safety/Training (CCH) course certificate.
2. \$90 EXACT cash or certified check or money order.
3. Valid North Carolina drivers license with your current address.
4. If you have served in the Armed Forces, bring a copy of the DD214
(Your Military Discharge Papers).
5. The name, address, and phone number of the closest relative outside your household.
6. The name, address, and phone number of your family physician if you have one.
7. Copy of passport or citizenship papers if born outside the United States.
8. A copy of your birth certificate.

TO SET UP AN APPOINTMENT IN GUILFORD COUNTY CALL 336-641-6356

GUILFORD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

401 W. SYCAMORE STREET

DOWNTOWN GREENSBORO

Concealed Carry Course Participant:

It's a great day for the citizens of North Carolina to learn the aspects of the North Carolina Concealed Carry Handgun law as it applies to the rights of the citizen and to learn the fundamentals of safety and basic marksmanship fundamentals.

Proficiency with a handgun does not come from merely carrying that handgun. Proficiency comes with knowledge, with practice, and with safe and responsible handling. Use of the handgun in a defensive situation should be a last resort with the knowledge that your use of the weapon is within the law, and that you have the ability to use the weapon properly. The handgun used improperly can be just as deadly to the owner.

Caliber's Indoor Gun Range is pleased to provide to each participant 6 FREE MONTHS of MEMBERSHIP to our range facilities. As a participant in our concealed carry course, you will learn many aspects of the law dealing with the use of Deadly Force and handgun ownership. BUT YOU, THE PARTICIPANT CAN ONLY DEVELOP THE SKILLS THROUGH PRACTICE. Stress of a threat impairs our perception of reality. Repetitive training on manual skills essential for accurate use of a handgun tends to overcome the effects of stress. Constant practice on gun handling is thought to create an almost reflexive reaction to threat that is less vulnerable to stress. These skills become subconscious. It is your obligation to yourself, your family, and to other humans that you develop these skills. These skills are of little value when not combined with knowledge of the law and the ability to use sound judgment. Negligence is defined as the failure to use reasonable care under the circumstances. If negligence causes a violation of legal rights such as death, substantial permanent injuries, or injuries, then you have a liability for compensatory, and perhaps punitive damages that may be imposed.

Remember that the first three elements of gun safety are:

(1) a positive attitude (2) knowledge and (3) skill

A POSITIVE ATTITUDE IS SIMPLY A MATTER OF ACCEPTING THE RESPONSIBILITY TO ACT SAFELY WITH GUNS.

KNOWLEDGE MEANS KNOWING HOW TO HANDLE A GUN PROPERLY AND UNDERSTANDING GUN SAFETY RULES.

SKILL MEANS PUTTING ALL OF THIS TO WORK AND APPLYING THE RULES. SKILL IS PERFECTED THROUGH PRACTICE.

Caliber's thanks every participant for their time and efforts. It is Caliber's goal that this concealed carry course will be the highest quality offered in North Carolina.

Thanks,

Carl Abbe

President of Caliber's Indoor Gun Range

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Welcome To The Concealed Carry Course

Range Rules And Regulations

Instructions After You Receive Your Certificate Of Completion For Concealed Carry

Concealed Carry Handgun Training Course Outline

I. Introduction

II. Body

A. Legal Issues (Participants will view two (2) Videos produced by the North Carolina Department of

Justice (“Legal Restriction on Carrying a Concealed Handgun” and Use of Deadly Force for Private Citizens”)

I. North Carolina Common Law

a. Use of Force to Protect a Person

(1) Justified Self-Defense

(2) Duty to Retreat Before Using Deadly Force

(3) Instigating Conflict or Using Excessive Force

(4) Deadly Force in Defense of Others

(5) Deadly Force MAY NOT be used

b. Use of Force to Protect Property

2. North Carolina Statutory Law

a. “Use of Deadly Physical Force Against an Intruder”(G.S. 14-51.1)

b. “Storage to Protect Minors” (G.S. 14-315.1)

c. “Concealed Carry - Handgun” (G.S. 14-415.10)

(1) Definition of a Handgun

- (2) Concealment Defined
- (3) Required Documentation
- (4) Places Where Permit Does Not Authorize Carrying A Concealed Handgun
- (5) What To Do If Approached By A Law Enforcement Officer
 - a. DO NOT ATTEMPT TO DISPLAY THE HANDGUN
 - b. If in a Vehicle
 - c. If not in a Vehicle
 - d. ONLY ATTEMPT TO REMOVE THE PERMIT OR THE HANDGUN ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE OFFICER
- 3. Escalation of Force
- 4. Prohibited Carry Areas
- B. Handgun Safety
 - 1. Four Cardinal Rules of Safe Gun Handling
 - 2. Storage of Handguns
 - 3. Alcohol and Firearms
 - 4. Ammunition SafetyC. Handguns
 - 1. Revolvers
 - 2. Semiautomatic Pistols
- D. Marksmanship Fundamentals
 - 1. Grip
 - 2. Stance
 - 3. Sight Alignment/Sight Picture
 - 4. Trigger Control
 - 5. Follow-Through
 - 6. Breath Control
 - 7. Shooting Rhythm
 - 8. Shooting Positions
- E. Carrying Concealed Safety Issues

Carrying the Handgun in a Briefcase or Luggage

Carrying the Handgun in a Purse

Carrying the Handgun on the Person

Carrying the Concealed Handgun in a Vehicle

F. Presentation Techniques (Drawing the Handgun)

1. Holsters

2. Fanny Packs

3. Presentation From a Purse

4. Presentation From Underneath a Coat, Jacket or Clothing

G. Cleaning and Maintenance

1. Field Stripping

2. Proper Cleaning Procedures

3. Lubrication

4. Function Check

H. Ammunition

I. Proficiency Drills

1. Verbalization and Handling Drills

2. Shooting Proficiency Drills

3. Testing: Proficiency

(a) Complete a Written Exam on the Legal Issues of Self-Defense

(b) Complete a Written Exam on Firearm Safety and Rules

(c) Demonstrate Proficiency at Firing the Handgun

6. Critical Definitions in Private Citizen's Use of Deadly Force

7. General Assembly of North Carolina, 1995 Session, Ratified Bill, Chapter 398, House Bill 90.

RANGE RULES

- ALL FIREARMS ARE POINTED DOWN RANGE AT ALL TIMES
- "LOAD & UNLOAD" YOUR FIREARM & MAGAZINES ONLY INSIDE THE SHOOTING STALL FACING DOWN RANGE. NOT IN THE LOBBY OR ANY OTHER AREA!!!
- NO DRAWING OF FIREARM FROM A HOLSTER
- ALL GUNS BEING MOVED BETWEEN LANES MUST BE UNLOADED, WITH THE ACTION OPEN, AND CYLINDER OR MAGAZINE OUT.
- ENTER & EXIT FROM RANGE WITH FIREARMS SECURED IN A HOLSTER OR GUN CASE
- ALL "GUN RENTALS" SHALL HAVE THE CYLINDER OPEN ON REVOLVERS OR SLIDE LOCKED BACK ON SEMI-AUTOS WHEN ENTERING & EXITING THE RANGE, DON'T RETURN RENTALS BY LEAVING ON COUNTER, PLEASE HAND TO ATTENDANT
- NO ONE IS PERMITTED TO GO FORWARD OF THE FIRING LINE • NO CROSS SHOOTING FROM ONE LANE TO ANOTHER. "SHOOT ONLY ON YOUR LANE"
- DO NOT REMOVE COUNTER TOP, NO SHOOTING FROM BELOW COUNTER TOP, KNEELING OR PRONE SHOOTING IS PROHIBITED
- WHEN ENTERING CALIBERS, ALL FIREARMS TO BE SECURED IN A HOLSTER OR GUN CASE. FIREARMS DO NOT NEED TO BE UNLOADED.
- NO BOTTLENECK AMMO, .17, .223, 5.56, 7.62, 454 CASULL, .30 CAL, .50 CAL, BLACKPOWDER, OR SHOTGUNS PERMITTED ON THE RANGE. WHEN IN DOUBT.....ASK?
- EAR & EYE PROTECTION MUST BE WORN AT ALL TIMES
- NO FOOD OR DRINKS PERMITTED IN THE FIRING RANGE
- ALL TARGETS ARE TO BE PURCHASED FROM CALIBERS & TAPED BELOW THE LINE ON THE CARDBOARD
- "LOWER THE PAPER TARGET" ON CARDBOARD IF YOU LEAN ON THE COUNTER. NEVER AIM AT A TARGET ABOVE EYE LEVEL.
- DO NOT PLACE BRASS SHELL CASINGS IN THE TRASH CANS. PLEASE SWEEP ALL BRASS CASINGS OUT OF STALL ON TO CONCRETE FLOOR
- YOU CAN COLLECT ONLY YOUR BRASS THAT IS ON THE CARPET. NO BRASS CAN BE COLLECTED IN FRONT OF THE FIRING LINE
- IF ANY PROBLEM SHOULD OCCUR WITH YOUR FIREARM LEAVE THE FIREARM ON THE "FIRING LINE" COUNTER & CONTACT AN EMPLOYEE IMMEDIATELY.
- UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE NOT ADMITTED WITHOUT THEIR PARENT, NO EXCEPTIONS!!!!

Introduction

A. Opening Statement

In July 1995, the North Carolina General Assembly enacted a Concealed Carry Handgun Law that allows qualifying citizens of North Carolina the opportunity to obtain a permit to carry a concealed handgun. As a provision of this legislation, the individual must complete a required training program in the use of deadly force, carrying a concealed handgun and demonstrate proficiency in the use of the handgun.

B. Student Performance Objectives

C. Reasons

With the right, under law to carry a concealed weapon comes a tremendous responsibility. The owner of a handgun must have complete knowledge of handgun safety, knowledge of the laws regarding use of force, and the ability to use the weapon safely and in a responsible manner. Finally, and most importantly, is the ability to use good judgment in any facet of handgun operation and use, whether in self-defense, practicing the fundamentals of marksmanship, or gun handling skills.

II. Body

A. Legal Issues

I. North Carolina Common Law

a. Use of force to protect a person

Justified self-defense

A citizen is legally justified in using deadly force against another if and only if:

(a) The citizen actually believes deadly force is necessary to prevent an imminent threat of Death, great bodily harm, or sexual assault, and

(b) The facts and circumstances prompting that belief would cause a person of ordinary firmness to believe deadly force was necessary to prevent an imminent threat of death, great bodily harm, or sexual assault, and

(c) The citizen using deadly force was not an instigator or aggressor who voluntarily provoked, entered, or continued the conflict leading to deadly force, and

(d) Force used was not excessive greater than reasonably needed to overcome the threat posed by a hostile aggressor.

(2) Duty to Retreat Before Using Deadly Force

Unless an exception such as those listed below applies, a citizen must retreat before using deadly force if retreat is possible.

Exception A There is no duty to retreat before using deadly force if the assault threatens imminent death or great bodily harm – a murderous or felonious assault or sexual assault.

Exception B There is no duty to retreat before using deadly force if the victim is on his or her own premises, or on his or her business premises, or is at home.

(3) Instigating Conflict or Using Excessive Force

A citizen who is found to be an aggressor voluntarily provoking the conflict, or who used excessive force, can be convicted of voluntary manslaughter even though the use of deadly force complied with the other requirements of self-defense. An instigator, or person using excessive force, is not excused from all criminal liability but maybe guilty of a lesser degree of homicide.

A citizen who is an aggressor voluntarily provoking a conflict leading to deadly force can avoid criminal responsibility for deadly force only if the aggressor attempts to withdraw from the conflict before using deadly force and gives notice of withdrawal to the adversary.

(4) Deadly Force in Defense of Others

A citizen may intervene and use deadly force in defense of another person when, under the facts and circumstances, it reasonably appeared necessary to save the other person from an imminent threat of death, great bodily harm, or sexual assault but only to the extent the other person was entitled to use deadly force in self-defense. Excessive force in defense of others is not allowed, and neither the intervenor nor the person threatened can be an instigator voluntarily provoking the conflict for deadly force to be used.

(5) Deadly Force MAY NOT Be Used:

(a) To stop a Simple Assault

While a simple assault can be truly terrifying, the law only allows the victim to resist force with equivalent force. Force used to resist a simple assault must be proportionate to the assault. Even a real and legitimate fear of greater injury, standing alone, does not justify use of deadly force. When does a simple assault become an imminent threat of death? When can a victim use deadly force to repel an unarmed attacker? The exact point in time a simple assault becomes deadly is often unclear. Repeated blows to vital body areas, choking, continued beating on a helpless or weaken

victim, are some indicators. Another factor is that deadly force cannot be used if life can be saved by retreat. This is called the duty' to retreat.

Because law requires retreat from a simple assault but does not require retreat from a murderous or felonious assault, an assault victim is once again faced with a decision: when does a simple assault become a murderous assault? No clear answer exists for the multitude of circumstances constituting an assault.

(b) Because of the Use of Violent Language

Violent language often leads to violent acts, but language alone does not justify deadly force. Most threats of violence are illegal in North Carolina General Statute 14-277.1, "Communicating Threats," a misdemeanor.

(c) Because You Are a Victim of Past Violence and Fear Future Violence

The law requires that there be an imminent threat of death or great bodily harm. The threat must be an immediate danger of death, not remote and uncertain in time and place. If the facts and circumstances are not reasonably

apprehended as an immediate danger of death here and now, deadly force in self-defense is not allowed as a justified excuse for homicide.

(d) Because a Trespasser Refuses to Leave

Trespassers may be in violation of the law but the law does not allow deadly force to end the trespass. While non-lethal force is allowed against a trespasser, deadly force is not. Old court cases establish a sequence for using force to eject trespassers: first, words must be used; second, if words do not work, then gentle hands may be laid on the trespasser; if gentle hands do not work, the owner may use whatever force is necessary to remove the trespasser but may not use force likely to kill or cause great bodily harm. The prohibition against using deadly force to expel a trespasser does not apply to trespasser who is immediately threatening death, serious injury, or sexual assault.

(e) To Arrest a Criminal or Prevent a Criminal's Escape

With minor exceptions, North Carolina Law does not give a citizen the right to make a citizen's arrest. Since the power to make a citizen's arrest does not exist, the right to use deadly force to effect an arrest or prevent escape is not given to citizens. No matter how serious the crime, a citizen cannot shoot to stop a fleeing criminal. Citizens have limited power to "detain" under North Carolina General Statute 15A-404 (c).

b. Use of Force to Protect Property

The law does not permit the use of deadly force solely to protect property, or to prevent theft, or to regain stolen property. An owner can defend his or her property using reasonable and necessary force but not deadly force. Nondeadly force to regain possession of stolen property is lawful, if it is both reasonable and necessary under the circumstances. An owner CANNOT shoot

at a thief – before, during, or after a theft. The same rule prohibits deadly force to prevent injury or vandalism to property.

A different rule applies if life is imminently threatened at the same time the property is taken. A burglar who tries to stab a property owner during the course of a burglary is subject to the use of deadly force that applies to defense of life. An armed robbery is theft through use or threatened use of a deadly weapon. The victim is allowed to respond to the imminent threat to life of an armed robbery by using deadly force. Deadly force to prevent an armed robbery is force used to protect life, not to protect property. If only property is threatened, deadly force cannot be used.

North Carolina does allow the use of force up to and including deadly force against an intruder (G.S. 14-51.1) to prevent a forcible entry into the home or residence or to terminate the intruder's unlawful entry if the occupant reasonably apprehends that the intruder may kill or inflict serious bodily harm to the occupant or others in the home or residence, or if the occupant reasonably believes that the intruder intends to commit a felony in the home or residence.

North Carolina law does not allow deadly force against an intruder after the illegal entry has been completed unless the intruder is imminently threatening death, serious injury, or sexual assault. Deadly force to prevent entry does not automatically allow deadly force against anyone unlawfully inside a home. A deadly threat is still required.

2. North Carolina Statutory Law

a. "Use of deadly physical force against an intruder" (G.S. 14.51.1)

“(a) A lawful occupant within a home or other place & residence is justified in using any degree of force that the occupant reasonably believes is necessary, including deadly force, against an intruder to prevent a forcible entry into the home or residence or to terminate the intruder's unlawful entry (i) if the occupant reasonably apprehends that the intruder may kill or inflict serious bodily harm to the occupant or others in the home or residence, & (ii) if the occupant reasonably believes that the intruder intends to commit a felony in the home or residence.

(b) A lawful occupant within a home or other place of residence does not have a duty to retreat from an intruder in the circumstances described in this section.”

b. "Storage to Protect Minors" (G.S. 14-315.1)

“Any person who resides in the same premise as a minor, owns or possesses a firearm, and stores or leaves the firearm (i) in a condition that the firearm can be discharged and (ii) in a manner that the person knew or should have known that an unsupervised minor would be able to gain access to the firearm, is guilty of a Class I misdemeanor if a minor gains access to the firearm without the lawful permission of the minor's parents or a person having charge of the minor and the minor:

(1) Possesses it in violation of G.S. 14-269(b);

- (2) Exhibits it in a public place in a careless, angry, or threatening manner;
 - (3) Causes personal injury or death with it not self-defense; or
 - (4) Uses it in the commission of a crime.”
- c. Concealed Carry - Handgun (G.S. 14-415.10)
- (1) Definition of a Handgun

The definition of a handgun has two characteristics in this statute. First, the firearm must have a short stock. Second, the firearm must be designed to be held and fired by the use of a single hand. Revolvers and semiautomatic pistols are treated alike. Caliber of the firearm is not specified. While length or configuration of the firearm’s stock is not defined, presumably it must be shorter than standard rifle or shotgun. A judge might reasonably conclude that a standard rifle or shotgun is not DESIGNED to be held and fired with one hand, even if the rifle or shotgun has been cut down so it can in fact be so held and fired. (Federal and state firearms law prohibits possession of a sawed off shotgun). This law applies only to handguns. No other type weapons (knife, club or martial arts weapons) are within this definition.

(2) Concealment Defined

The statute further requires the concealed weapon be “about the person” which generally means it must be concealed either on the person or within arm’s reach or within ready access of the person.

(3) Required Documentation

The permit issued to carry a concealed handgun must be in the possession of the permit holder at all times the person is carrying a concealed handgun. In addition, the statute, in N.C.G.S. 14-415.11(a), also requires possession of “valid identification,” which is not defined. The application form to apply for a permit requires listing a driver’s license number or State identification number if either document is used for identification in applying for a permit. Note again that carrying a concealed handgun off one’s premises is not lawful unless both the actual permit and a second form of identification are also possessed at the time.

(4) Places Where Permit Does Not Authorize Carrying A Concealed Handgun

Areas where the possession of a Concealed Carry permit do not authorize the carrying of a concealed handgun are listed later in this lesson plan as well as other statutes that regulate the carrying of a firearm.

- (5) What To Do If Approached By A Law Enforcement Officer
 - (a) DO NOT ATTEMPT TO DISPLAY THE HANDGUN.

(b) If in a vehicle, roll the window half-way down, turn on the interior light, if at night, place both hands on the steering wheel. Once the officer approaches the vehicle, notify the officer that you have a permit, that you are armed, and where the handgun is located.

(c) If not in a vehicle, DO NOT ATTEMPT TO DISPLAY THE HANDGUN. KEEP BOTH HANDS VISIBLE. Notify the officer that you have a concealed carry permit and are carrying a handgun. (d) ONLY ATTEMPT TO REMOVE THE PERMIT OR THE HANDGUN ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE OFFICER.

3. Escalation of Force

Escalation of force is merely the increase in the level of force based on that force which is being used against you. Force must be proportionate to the level of force used against you. For instance if you are "verbally assaulted" you cannot use deadly force to settle the argument. If we were to look at the various levels of force, the escalation would be something like this:

Physical Presence Verbal Soft Hands Hard Hands Chemical (mace, OC spray)
Impact Weapons (stick, club) DEADLY FORCE

The increase in force does not need to follow these various levels. Depending on the level that is used against you and the imminent threat imposed against you will determine the lawful reaction to the situation.

Prohibited Carry Areas

There are a number of areas where the carrying of a concealed handgun is prohibited either by state or federal law regardless as to the issuance of a concealed carry - handgun permit.

- a. Any educational property, public or private, of any kind. (G.S. 14-269.2)
- b. Any establishment where alcoholic beverages are sold and consumed. (G.S. 14-269.3)
- c. State property and courthouses. (G.S. 14-269.4)
- d. Parades, picket lines, demonstrations at private health care facilities. (G.S. 14-277.2)
- e. Any federal property including building, land and facilities generally.
- f. Any property posted by the owner prohibiting concealed carry-handgun. (G.S. 14-415.11)
- g. Any law enforcement or correctional facility, to include state, county, municipality, university police, or company police. (G.S. 14-415.11)

- h. Any state or federal office or office building. (G.S. 14-415.11)
- i. Any financial institutions including banks, savings and loan, or credit unions. (G.S. 14-415.11)
- j. Anywhere while consuming alcohol or at any time while any alcohol or any controlled substance is in the blood (G.S. 14-415.11), including improper use of prescription drugs.
- k. Any assembly where admission is charges. (G.S. 14-269.3)
- B. Handgun Safety
 - I. Four Cardinal Rules of Safe Gun Handling
 - a. TREAT ALL GUNS AS LOADED
 - b. Point the muzzle in a safe direction at all times.
 - c. Keep your finger outside the trigger guard until you are ON TARGET and HAVE DECIDED TO FIRE.
 - d. Be sure of your target and what's around and beyond it.

*These four basic rules should be applied to every aspect of gun handling. When storing a weapon, when handling the weapon to someone, or when loading or unloading, be sure of muzzle direction and trigger finger position. Handguns must be operational and the operator must have an understanding of this operation. The handgun owner should read the owner's manual carefully in order to completely understand the operational characteristics of a specific make, model, or type of handgun. Always, always THINK SAFETY. The handgun can be used for self-protection; it should not be used for self-destruction.2. Storage of the handgun

- a. Use of commercial trigger locks

Various commercial trigger locks are available that cover the trigger to prevent someone from using the weapon or firing it accidentally. These devices may not allow quick access to the weapon in a personal defense atmosphere.

- b. Storage cases – hard and soft cases

Many different types of hard and soft cases are commercially available to store handguns. Many come with small locks to secure the weapon within the case allowing the weapon to be stored loaded. For defensive purposes this may be time consuming.

- c. Padlocks and other locking devices

For storage and safety purposes, padlocks can be used to safely secure the weapon. By locking a padlock around the top strap of a revolver, the cylinder cannot be closed. If the padlock is large enough, it can be placed behind the trigger and prohibit the rearward movement of the trigger.

Manufacturers such as Mossberg make a cable and lock system that can be used on virtually any firearm. The cable can be passed through the magazine well and out the ejection port of the semiautomatic pistol to prohibit both loading and firing.

d. Breech locks

Commercial breech locks are now available for the different sizes of automatic pistols. These locks are placed within the breech, then when the key is turned, extend into the chamber and cannot be removed.

e. Gun safes and cabinets

Many types of safes and cabinets are available including wall safe, picture safes or large storage weapons cabinets and safes. Access is slow as most are equipped with combination type locks.

f. "Storage of Firearms to Protect Minors" (G.S. 14-315.1)

"Any person who resides in the same premise as a minor, owns or possesses a firearm, and stores or leaves the firearm (i) in a condition that the firearm can be discharged and (ii) in a manner that person knew or should have known that an unsupervised minor would be able to gain access to the firearm, is guilty of a Class I misdemeanor if a minor gains access to the firearms without the lawful permission of the minor's parents or a person having charge of the minor and the minor:

- (1) Posses it in violation of G.S. 14-269.2(b);
- (2) Exhibits it in a public place in a careless, angry, or threatening manner;
- (3) Causes personal injury or death with it not in self defense; or
- (4) Uses it in the commission of a crime."

g. Where to and where not to keep weapons in the home.

When determining where to store a handgun in the home, consideration must be given to several factors. First, are there minors in the home or are there likely to be minors visiting the home? Consideration of G.S. 14-315.1 may help in determining the type of access you will have to the weapon. Second weapons, especially loaded weapons, should be kept out of sight. If the handgun is not going to be used for personal protection, it should be secured unloaded in a safe, cabinet, or lockable box. Weapons should not be kept in bedside tables or on night stands. As a general rule, the weapon should be approximately three steps from the bed. This ensures a conscious effort on the part of the occupant to obtain the weapon, and this effort will allow the home owner the opportunity to ensure that they are awake. Several serious injuries and fatalities have occurred from home owners hearing a noise or seeing a shadow and firing a weapon kept at bedside only to shoot themselves or a spouse. Handgun owners may consider storing the weapon with ammunition in a loading device nearby for use in personal defense.

3. Alcohol and Firearms

ALCOHOL AND FIREARMS DO NOT MIX. Alcohol should not be used prior to or during the handling of a firearm. Case law reveals numerous incidents involving the discharge of a firearm where alcohol was a contributing factor.

4. Ammunition Safety

Use only ammunition recommended for the weapon you have. Consult the owner's manual for information regarding the type of ammunition that may or may not be used in that specific weapon. Malfunctions can occur due to problem ammunition. The two more common problems are "misfires" and "squib loads". A misfire is used to describe a situation where the primer fails to ignite or to ignite the powder charge. A squib load is a term used to describe a cartridge or shell which produces velocity or sound much lower than normal. This is usually caused by a partially or totally missing powder charge or a charge that has been contaminated by lubricants or some other type of moisture. A squib load may result in the projectile becoming lodged in the barrel which could create a hazard if another round were to be fired. If the weapon sounds or feels different after firing a shot, check to make sure that the weapon is safe and that the barrel is free of any obstruction.

C. Handguns

The first things the student must learn are the basics of nomenclature, loading and unloading, and the cycle of operation of the weapon. While every weapon has some generic parts such as a trigger, etc., there are some very specific parts of the revolver and semiautomatic pistol. It is essential that the handgun owner know these parts and understand their function. Loading and unloading procedures will vary not only between the pistol and the revolver, but also among various types of each.

I. Revolvers

a. Nomenclature

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| (1) Barrel | (9) Cylinder star |
| (2) Front sight | (10) Ejector/extractor rod |
| (3) Rear sight | (11) Trigger |
| (4) Top strap | (12) Trigger guard |
| (5) Hammer | (13) Grip |
| (6) Hammer spur | (14) Back strap |
| (7) Cylinder | (15) Front strap |
| (8) Cylinder thumb latch | |

b. Loading and Unloading

(1) Built-in safety features

In order for a single action revolver to fire it must be cocked. Double action revolvers have a very heavy trigger pull and the trigger must be pulled through completely. Some of the more modern revolvers have a hammer block and rebound slide that prevents firing the weapon if the weapon is dropped or the hammer is hit. Check with your owner's manual or a factory certified armorer to determine what type of safety features, if any, are found in your specific weapon.

Holding the revolver while loading.

When loading the revolver, hold the weapon in the left hand with the weapon pointed away from the body and down approximately 45 degrees. The weapon should be held in the proximity of the belt buckle. The right thumb should press the cylinder release latch while the two middle fingers of the left hand apply pressure to the cylinder to open it.

The cylinder is rotated with the left thumb while the weapon is supported in the palm of the left hand. Live rounds are loaded with the right hand. (This method may vary slightly with left handers.) For some single action revolvers, the cylinder does not swing out so the hammer must be pulled back to the half cock position in order to allow the cylinder to rotate freely. Others have a break top or the cylinder is removed by pulling the extractor rod forward. **REMEMBER, ALWAYS KEEP THE FINGER OFF THE TRIGGER WHEN LOADING OR UNLOADING THE HANDGUN.**

(3) Cylinder rotation

The cylinder on revolvers rotate either clockwise or counterclockwise. Colt, H&R, and Clerke rotate clockwise, while Smith & Wesson, Taurus, and Roger rotate counterclockwise.

(4) Use of loading devices (speed loaders, speed strips, etc.)

Speed loaders and speed strips are devices that may be used to load more than one round at a time. These devices are useful in eliminating loose ammunition in pockets, drawers, etc.

(5) Holding the revolver while unloading

To unload the weapon, place the weapon in the left hand and point the weapon away from the body. Press the cylinder release latch with the right thumb and press the cylinder open with either two middle fingers of the left hand. Holding the weapon in the left hand, point the muzzle up and press the extractor/ejector rod with the thumb of the left hand and allow the shell casings or live ammunition to fall out of the cylinder. With revolvers that have a loading gate and the cylinder does not swing out, the ejector rod is normally spring loaded and will eject the rounds when the thumb presses on this rod. Remember on single action revolvers that the hammer needs to be in the half cock position to allow the cylinder to rotate freely. **REMEMBER TO KEEP THE FINGER OFF THE TRIGGER WHEN UNLOADING AND TO VISUALLY AND PHYSICALLY INSPECT THE WEAPON AFTER YOU HAVE UNLOADED IT.**

(6) Use of the ejector/extractor rod

The ejector/extractor rod can be used in assisting with the removal of shell casings or ammunition from the weapon. Often gravity is enough to empty ammunition, but with fired shell casings the expansion of the heated case may not allow it to fall from the cylinder freely.

- (7) Visually and physically inspecting the revolver to ensure that it is clear

After unloading any weapon you should always check the weapon, both visually and physically, to ensure that it is indeed clear from any live ammunition or shell casings. This final step is done to avoid any accidental or negligent discharges.

- c. Cycle of Operation

- (1) Single vs double action

Single action revolvers must be cocked in order to fire. Double action revolvers can be cocked and fired single action, or the trigger can be pulled with a long trigger pull to fire the weapon. The trigger pull for a double action shot normally requires a approximately 12 lbs. of pressure on the trigger to effect this pull.

- (2) Operation of the hand, cylinder stop, hammer and hammer block, and trigger.

Most revolvers function in basically the same manner. As the trigger is pulled the hand pushes on the ratchets of the cylinder to align the chamber with the barrel and the cylinder stop engages with the cylinder stop notch on the cylinder to ensure that the chamber and barrel remain aligned as the weapon is fired. At the same time, the hammer is being cocked either manually or by the pulling of the trigger. The hammer block prevents the hammer nose from protruding through the frame unless the trigger is completely pulled to the rear.

Semiautomatic Pistol

- a. Nomenclature

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| (1) Frame/receiver | (12) Slide stop notch |
| (2) Slide | (13) Slide release lever |
| (3) Barrel | (14) Magazine catch or release |
| (4) Ejection port | (15) Magazine |
| (5) Ejector | (16) Magazine well |
| (6) Extractor | (17) Front sight |
| (7) Grip | (18) Rear sight |
| (8) Front strap | (19) Safety (some models) |

- | | | | |
|------|---------------|------|-------------------------------|
| (9) | Back strap | (20) | Decocking lever (some models) |
| (10) | Trigger | (21) | Takedown lever (some models) |
| (11) | Trigger guard | (22) | Hammer (some models) |
- b. Loading and Unloading
- (1) Built-in safety features

Semiautomatic pistols may have a variety of built-in safety features depending on the manufacturer; the model. Such features as manual safeties, firing pin blocks, magazine disconnects, hammer blocks, trigger safeties, etc., exist on a variety of semiautomatic handguns. To determine what type of safety feature your weapon may have, consult the owner's manual or a factory certified armorer.

- (2) Holding the pistol while loading

The weapon should be held in the strong hand and pointed away from the body and down approximately 45 degrees. You may wish to lock the strong arm straight out. **REMEMBER TO KEEP THE FINGER OFF THE TRIGGER DURING ALL PHASES OF LOADING.**

- (3) Loading the magazine

Place ammunition into the magazine in the proper manner. Ammunition CAN be loaded backwards into the magazine so pay careful attention to the ammunition as you place it in the magazine. Learn to load by feel.

- (4) Inserting the magazine

Hold the magazine in the support hand with the thumb and middle finger. The index finger should be along the front of the magazine pointing up towards the exposed projectiles. Insert the magazine into the magazine well. You may hear a click as the magazine is "seated" into the magazine well. Pull gently on the bottom of the magazine to ensure that it is securely in place.

- (5) Chambering the round

Once the magazine is secure in the magazine well, grasp the slide with the thumb and index finger of the support hand. Pull the slide firmly to the rear and release. **DO NOT "ride" the slide forward as this can cause a malfunction.** Allow the recoil spring the opportunity to function properly by simply releasing the slide once it has been pulled back as far as possible. This is called the "sling shot" method.

- (6) Use of safeties or decocking levers

Depending on the type of weapon you may engage a safety or decocking lever. Consult your owner's manual to ensure the proper use of these safety devices.

(7) Holding the pistol while unloading

Hold the weapon straight out in front of the body with the strong arm locked. The weapon remains in the strong hand at all times. REMEMBER TO KEEP THE FINGER OFF THE TRIGGER AND THE WEAPON POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION WHILE UNLOADING.

(8) Removal of the magazine

With the weapon still in the strong hand, depress the magazine release and remove the magazine with the support hand.

(9) Clearing the chamber

Grasp the slide with the thumb and index finger of the support hand and pull the slide back and release. Any round in the chamber should be ejected onto the ground. Do not attempt to catch the round in the support hand. Always remember to keep the hands clear of both the muzzle and the ejection port.

(10) Visually and physically inspecting the pistol to ensure that it is clear

Once the weapon is unloaded, remember to visually and physically inspect the weapon to ensure that it is unloaded and to prevent the possibility of an accidental or negligent discharge. Grasp the slide, pull it rearward and hold the slide back while inspecting the weapon.

C. Cycle of Operation

(1) Single vs. double action

As with the revolvers, the single action pistol must first be cocked in order to fire. Most double action semiautomatic pistols can be fired either double or single action. Many of the newer weapons such as the Glock, the Smith & Wesson DA Only, the Smith & Wesson Sigma, the Ruger DA Only, and Beretta DA Only can only be fired double action. Many of these weapons do not have external hammers but have internal strikers.

(2) Feeding, chambering, locking, firing, unlocking, extracting, ejecting, cocking

These eight steps are usually the normal cycle of operation of the semiautomatic pistol. The round is fed from the magazine by being placed in the path of the slide. Chambering takes place as the cartridge is seated into the chamber. Locking occurs when the locking ribs of the barrel are engaged with the locking recesses in the slide (procedure may vary with weapon). This prevents loss of gas pressure. Firing takes place as the trigger is pulled and the firing pin impacts on the cartridge. Unlocking takes place after the firing of the round. Gases from the fired cartridge force the slide rearward. Extraction is the removal of the shell casing by the extractor as the slide moves rearward. The shell casing or cartridge hits the ejector throwing the shell out of the weapon via the ejection port. Cocking takes place as the slide moves rearward forcing the hammer or striker rearward and possibly downward as the mainspring is compressed.

D. Marksmanship Fundamentals

I. Grip

a. One-handed grip

The weapon is held with one hand only. The webbing of the hand between the thumb and index finger should be high up on the back strap of the handgun. Pressure is exerted straight back from the two middle fingers towards the heel of the hand. You should not squeeze the weapon with the fingertips. This type of pressure can cause the weapon to shake when held out for more than a few seconds.

b. Two-handed grip

The initial grasp of the weapon is with the strong hand. The support hand supports. The fingers of the support hand are placed over the fingers of the strong hand and placed beneath the trigger guard. Thumbs should be side by side or on top of one another. Be careful not to wrap the support thumb around the back of the weapon when firing a semiautomatic weapon. Grip pressure should be no more than a firm handshake.

2. Stance

Regardless of the type of stance that you use one rule does apply. The shoulder should always be over or in front of the hips. Never lean back as you shoot.

a. Isosceles

In the Isosceles stance the feet are about or a little more than shoulder width apart, knees slightly bent and the weight evenly distributed. The weapon is brought to shoulder level as the two handed-grip is gained. The arms are straight forward from the shoulders, and the wrist and elbows are locked. The arms and chest appear to create an isosceles triangle, the weapon being the apex of the triangle.

b. Weaver

The Weaver stance is named for its inventor, Los Angeles County Deputy Jack Weaver, who began using this stance in competitive shooting in 1958. The stance is created by extending the support foot slightly forward, thus canting the entire body slightly forming a defensive stance. The shooting arm is held up to eye level and points to the target with the elbow flexed slightly. The support arm provides a supporting grip but is flexed sharply at the elbow. As the strong hand and arm push out away from the body, the support hand and arm pull in toward the body, thus creating an isometric tension that helps to steady the handgun and reduce the amount of felt recoil. The legs are straight but not stiff or locked. The head is held straight, looking directly to the target.

REMEMBER, REGARDLESS OF THE STANCE, THE WEAPON IS ALWAYS BROUGHT TO THE EYES, NEVER THE EYES TO THE GUN.

3. Sight Alignment/Sight Picture

Sight alignment is the relationship of the front and rear sights while sight picture is the relationship of the aligned sights to the target. Sight alignment is achieved by looking through the rear sight and focusing on the front sight. The front sight must be aligned even in height with the rear sight and centered within the rear sight. Once the sights are aligned place them on the point of the target you wish to hit. The SECRET of good shooting is to maintain sight alignment and picture while the shot is being fired.

4. Trigger Control

Trigger control is the manner in which finger pressure is applied to the trigger. The shooter should apply slow, steady and even pressure on the trigger. The pressure should not be applied in a jerky manner. Once the finger begins to travel rearward, maintain the same speed of the trigger finger. When a weapon is fired single action, the trigger should merely be pressed. Remember that the force required to fire the weapon has been reduced by at least fifty percent. Jerking the trigger results in low shot placement and more than likely only a loud noise and a missed target.

5. Follow-Through

Follow-through is a term commonly used in sports as every physical action has a follow-through. In shooting this involves doing the same things for 1-3 seconds after the shot is fired that is done at the time the shot is fired.

6. Breath Control

During the shooting cycle, the shooter cannot breathe normally as the rise and fall of the upper body while shooting will noticeably affect the accuracy. Breathing must be controlled. Take in air and expel about half and hold the remaining air while the shot is fired. Holding of the breath too long can cause the eyes to water, the sights to get fuzzy, and the body to produce a slight tremor.

7. Shooting Rhythm

Shooting rhythm depends on the consistency in the shooter. Each element of delivering a shot must be done the same way each time, using the same cadence and length of time. Speed is gained only after safety and accuracy are developed. Speed comes with practice and becoming smooth with the techniques. Remember, speed is merely economy of motion.

8. Shooting Positions

Many positions are available to the shooter depending on the type of shooting, the weapon, and the time allowed to fire. Such positions as bench rest, prone, sitting, and barricade may be used in various sporting events or practice sessions. For self-defense in an immediate threat situation, the point shoulder shooting position is probably the best alternative. Point shoulder shooting is a variation of the two-handed grip where the shooter merely brings the weapon to shoulder or eye level and fires the shot by indexing the sights rather than aiming the weapon. A one-hand variation of this same technique can also be used by thrusting the weapon straight out from the body as it is brought to eye level. Other defensive stances may be the combat crouch position, "hip" shooting, or the "speed rock."

E. Carrying Concealed Safety Issues

I. Carrying the Handgun in a Briefcase or Luggage

Weapons carried in a briefcase or luggage should be secured in some manner either in a holster or a carry case. When traveling by air and carrying a handgun in luggage, remember you must comply with FAA regulations regarding the transportation of the weapon. When carrying a weapon in a briefcase the type of weapon and the safety features with which the weapon is equipped may have some determination as to how the weapon is secured. For instance, if the weapon does not have some type of hammer block that prevents the weapon from firing when the hammer is struck, the loose weapon in a briefcase could hit the side of the briefcase or an object inside and cause a discharge. The weapon should be secured inside either a case or a holster in such a manner as to negate the possibility of such an accident. Holsters should be constructed in such a manner as to completely cover the trigger and trigger guard in order to prohibit items such as pens, pencils, mini flashlights, magic markers, etc., from getting inside the trigger guard and thus applying pressure to the trigger. Weapons carried in luggage merely for transporting should be unloaded. The weapon carried in luggage is not readily available for personal protection; therefore, it should be stored safely.

2. Carrying the Handgun in a Purse

Carrying the handgun in a purse is much like carrying the weapon in a briefcase. First, the safety features of the weapon need to be examined. Second, think about the use of the weapon. If it is for personal protection then you should be concerned with immediate access, not "fishing" for it in the bottom of the purse. Third, what else is in the purse that could cause an accidental discharge? Keys, lipstick, pens, and pencils are all capable of getting inside an exposed trigger guard.

3. Carrying the handgun on the Person

a. Holsters and holster selection

Holsters should be selected for security as well as comfort. The trigger guard should be covered as much as possible. The type of weapon and the use of the weapon may dictate the availability of the holsters. Holsters can be cross draw or directional draw. Cross draw holsters are worn on the support side, while directional draw holsters are worn on the strong side. Both types can be inside the pants or outside the pants. They can be equipped with belt loops, a paddle or Velcro to secure it to the waistband. Ankle holsters are worn on the inside of the support ankle. Shoulder holsters can be vertical or horizontal. Fanny packs are normally used as cross draw holsters. Other innovative holsters are the "SOB" holsters carried in the small of the back, various pocket holsters carried inside the pants or jacket pockets, and the belly band holsters worn under clothing around the waist.

b. In a pocket or waistband

When the handgun is carried inside the pocket or waistband some type of holster is highly recommended. It is all too easy to reach inside the pocket and grasp the weapon the wrong way

or to snag the weapon on the clothing when trying to withdraw the weapon from the pocket or waistband. The weapon can easily fall out if jogging or running.

c. Location on the person

Consideration should be given to how the handgun is to be used and for what purpose. If used for self-defense or personal protection, the handgun should be easily accessible yet safe. In addition, handgun ownership does not make you proficient with the weapon anymore than owning a plane makes you a pilot. Learning to use the handgun properly is important, but learning to use the weapon in the manner it is to be carried is of paramount importance.

4. Carrying the concealed handgun in a vehicle

When carrying the concealed handgun in vehicle it must be readily accessible or within reach to satisfy the conditions of concealment. If the handgun is carried under the seat, consideration should be given to securing the weapon in a holster and securing the holster with Velcro or some other means to the floorboard in order to prevent the weapon from sliding further under the seat out of reach or sliding under the feet when the brakes are applied. When carrying the handgun in a console consider any item that might tangle the handgun or any object that might interfere with the trigger if the handgun is not secured in a holster or pouch.

F. Presentation Techniques (Drawing the Handgun)

The presentation or draw is as essential in a personal protection arena as is the shooting of the weapon itself. The greatest shooter in the world is helpless if he or she is unable to access the weapon in a crisis situation. Practice is most important in learning to draw or present the handgun. Learning this skill takes time but DOES NOT REQUIRE AMMUNITION. Dry practice or practicing with an unloaded handgun is one the simplest ways to learn to effectively present the handgun, and this practice IS SAFE.

I. Holsters and the Presentation From the Various Types of Holsters (i.e., ankle holsters, shoulder holsters, directional draw, cross draw, small of the back, inside the pants)

When a holster is used, the draw is normally divided into four steps. These four steps are: Grip, Clear, Center the Body, Extend. First, the grip is established in the holster. It is important that a good grip be established prior to removing the handgun from the holster. This saves time since the grip should not have to be readjusted. Second, the weapon clears the holster. Third, the weapon is brought up along the center line of the body pointed at the target. If a two-handed grip is used, it is established at this point. Finally, the weapon is extended toward the target. Regardless of the grip or the position of the holster, these four steps can be followed. Again, lots of practice is required to master these four steps from a specific holster type. When using an ankle holster, the shooter must first kneel down on the strong knee to access the holster, then the four steps can be followed. When using a shoulder holster, it is secured to the belt or pants.

REMEMBER THE FINGER NEVER ENGAGES THE TRIGGER UNTIL YOU INTEND TO FIRE. THE TRIGGER FINGER SHOULD LIE ALONG THE FRAME OF THE WEAPON DURING THE DRAW.

2. Fanny Packs

When using a “Fanny Pack”, the support hand must first open the pack by unzipping or pulling open the Velcro enclosure. This is done with a rapid “jerk”. It helps if the “fanny pack” is secured to the belt.

3. Presentation from a Purse

Once the grip has been established on the weapon, the purse must either be secured by the support hand or simply dropped or thrown. Throwing the purse can in fact be a distraction. An assailant’s eyes may be drawn to the purse as it comes towards him or her rather than the hands as the weapon is removed.

4. Presentation from Underneath a Coat, Jacket or Clothing

In order to remove the weapon, the clothing must be pushed or pulled out of the way to both achieve a grip on the weapon and to ensure that when the handgun is drawn it does not snag on any loose clothing that would prevent the use of the handgun in a defensive posture. One simple method is a “drag” where the four fingers of the hand hook at the center line of the body and actually drag the clothing back around the weapon. Where and how the holster is worn will determine which hand is used. For a directional draw holster, the strong hand hooks and drags the clothing. For a cross draw holster, the support hand hooks and drags the clothing as the strong hand grasps the weapon. When using a belly band type of holster the clothing is normally pulled up to reach the handgun.

G. Cleaning and Maintenance

I. Field Stripping

Field stripping is used merely to disassemble the weapon into its major components in order to clean, lubricate or inspect. Field stripping does not normally involve the removal of internal parts. Most revolvers are field stripped by removing the yoke screw and taking the cylinder from the frame. Semiautomatic pistols are field stripped by separating the frame and slide. On many models the barrel can also be removed easily from the slide.

2. Proper Cleaning Procedures

- a. Ensure that the weapon is unloaded
- b. Cleaning solvents

Use only those solvents recommended by the manufacturers and use in the manner prescribed in the directions on the label.

- c. Cleaning brushes

Use only those types of brushes recommended by the manufacturer. Do not use a stainless steel brush on a blued weapon. Nylon brushes can be used for cleaning many parts of the handgun. Quality phosphor bronze brushes may be required to remove powder or lead residue.

3. Lubrication

Manufacturer's recommendations should be followed in determining the type of lubricant to use. Most firearm manufacturers will recommend a type of oil that best fits their product. In addition, if you are buying a commercial lubricant, look at the uses on the label to determine if it can be used on a handgun. **DO NOT USE WD-40 AS A LUBRICANT ON HANDGUNS.** The manufacturer will also note the amount of lubricant and the lubrication points on the weapon. Be careful that the lubricant does not come in contact with the ammunition. Most lubricants penetrate and can cause the powder and primer to fail if they come into contact with the oils. Each weapon will have lubrication points. Semiautomatic pistols are normally lubricated on the slide rails, the recoil guide, and the barrel. The manufacturer may also recommend lubrication at other movement points such as trigger or hammer.

The revolvers are normally lubricated on the extractor rod and the yoke, as well as any other points as recommended by the manufacturer.

4. Function Check

A function check is performed each time a handgun is cleaned and should be a part of every inspection. The function check varies according to the type of weapon and the features of that specific weapon. For a revolver, ensure that the cylinder locks properly, the hammer locks back when cocked and will not fall with a small amount of thumb pressure, the trigger pulls freely and dry fires the weapon, the thumb latch allows the cylinder to open, and the extractor/ejector rod moves freely. For a semiautomatic, ensure that the magazine releases freely, the slide locks back with a magazine in the weapon, and the slide does not lock back with the magazine out. If the weapon is equipped with a safety or device, these devices should function properly. The trigger and hammer should function properly. Check the manufacturer's recommendations when deciding how best to function check your specific weapon.

H. Ammunition

1. Use only the proper ammunition for the weapon you utilize. Do not exceed factory specifications on the ammunition you use.

2. Ammunition Types

- a. Rimfire – the priming mixture is loaded around the rim of the cartridge
- b. Center-fire – the primer is located in the center of the shell casing

3. Ammunition Components

a. Case – the container for the other components of the cartridge normally made of brass, steel, or aluminum

- b. Primer – the ignition component of a cartridge
- c. Propellant or powder – the chemical mixture that is ignited by the primer that generates gas which propels the projectile
- d. Projectile – the bullet. The following terms are commonly referred to in describing the bullet: ball, wadcutter, semi-wadcutter, hollow point, jacketed hollow point, semi-jacketed hollow point, full metal jacket, lead round nose

SUMMARY

In attending this course, the participant has only been introduced to the many aspects of handgun ownership. Skill comes only with practice, but skills are of little value when not combined with knowledge of the law and the ability to use sound judgment. PLEASE UTILIZE THE FREE 6 MONTH MEMBERSHIP that Caliber's Indoor Gun Range provides with each participant. Be a responsible gun owner.

Shooting is like any other physical or mental skill. Your proficiency level depends on how often you practice. After learning the basic fundamentals, you must practice regularly to maintain a reasonable level of proficiency.

Always be alert and aware of your surroundings and be determined to use whatever precautions are necessary to avoid becoming a victim.

Most confrontations will occur quickly and at arm's length or within a confined space, such as a room, hallway or stairway. Actual distances vary and change rapidly during the confrontation, but usually remain quite close. The best defense is to attempt to maintain as much distance as possible between you and the criminal until the situation is under control.

Gun ownership has been and will continue to be part of American society. Each year millions of Americans, young and old alike, share the unique experiences that the various shooting sports and lawful hunting activities offer. The choice to become a gun owner - or not - belongs to the private individual citizen. It is your Constitutional Right to own a firearm. With this right comes responsibility and accountability!

SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITIES FOR PARENTS

In 1994, the State of North Carolina passed a law as follows:

“IT IS UNLAWFUL TO STORE OR LEAVE A FIREARM THAT CAN BE DISCHARGED IN A MANNER THAT A REASONABLE PERSON SHOULD KNOW IS ACCESSIBLE TO A MINOR.”

Parents should be aware that a child could discover a gun when a responsible adult is not present. This situation could occur in the child's own home, the home of a neighbor, friend, or relative, or in a public place (such as a park). To avoid the possibility of an accident in such a situation, the child should be taught to apply the following gun safety rules:

IF YOU SEE A GUN:

STOP!!!! DON'T TOUCH...

LEAVE THE AREA...

AND TELL AN ADULT.

It is essential that the parents set a good safety example for their children because children will tend to copy their parent's gun handling techniques and attitudes toward safety.

Parents should always answer their child's questions about guns openly and honestly, and should not make a gun an object of curiosity. Otherwise, children's curiosity will make them investigate guns on their own. Once children are mature enough to begin handling guns, they must do so only under qualified adult supervision. Parents should make their child understand the difference between “pretend” and “real life”. Shooting scenes on television are “pretend” and do not reflect real life.

Child-proof your handgun by placing an adequate trigger lock on the handgun. Dozens of gun storage devices are available on the market today: gun cabinets, gun safes, wall racks, hard and soft gun cases, strongboxes, etc. In addition, various types of locking devices which attach directly to the gun, such as trigger locks, are available.

WHEN SHOULD YOU TEACH YOUR CHILD GUN SAFETY?

There is no perfect age to talk with your child about gun safety. You, as a parent, must be the judge. A good time to introduce gun safety is when your child starts acting out “gun play” or asking questions about guns. Answer his or her questions. If you don't know the answers, contact a knowledgeable person. Talk with your child about guns, their uses and history, and answer your child's questions honestly and openly. Once you remove the mystery surrounding guns, your child won't see a gun as an object of curiosity, and a potential accident may be avoided.

FIREARM FACTS

- Since 1871, a major objective of the National Rifle Association of America has been to provide training in the safe and proper use of firearms.
- Dry firing is an acceptable training technique in handgun shooting.
- When unloading a semi-automatic pistol, first release the magazine and remove it from the gun after you have pointed it in a safe direction.
- When fired, bullets are pushed out of the barrel by expanding gas pressure.
- When using the two-handed grip, the thumb of the non-shooting hand should rest on top of the shooting hand thumb.
- In the standing shooting position, the feet should be spread about shoulder width apart, with body weight equally distributed on both feet.
- In the beginning, the student should shoot for group, not score.
- To fire “double-action” usually requires more finger pressure on the trigger than “single-action” shooting.
- On most guns moving the rear sight to the right will cause the point of impact to move right on the target.
- When completing the follow-through, the shooter must maintain the shooting position.
- Procedures for safe storage of a firearm must take into account the individual situation.
- The decision on the best way to defend oneself must be made by the individual, after considering many factors.
- The key to safe firearms handling and shooting is having a positive attitude about using safety rules.
- The term “dry fire” means exercising the fundamentals of marksmanship with an unloaded gun.
- The process of shot preparation involves aiming and breath control.
- When handling a handgun the first thing you should do is point the firearm in a safe direction.
- Almost all modern revolvers belong in one of two categories: single action and double action.
- The identifying characteristic of a semi-automatic pistol is that it automatically and instantly reloads and recocks itself with each pull of the trigger after the first shot.
- The four important rules of safe gun handling are (1) treat all guns as loaded (2) always keep the gun pointed in a safe direction (3) always keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot (4) be sure of your target and what’s around and beyond it.

- Always wear ear and eye protection when firing all types of firearms.
- Skills can only be developed through practice.
- If a child should discover a firearm, that child should (1) stop..don't touch (2) leave the area immediately (3) tell an adult.
- The barrel is the metal tube through which a bullet passes on its way to a target.
- All semi-automatics have a slide.
- Always keep ammunition in the factory box or carton.
- A misfire is a failure of the bullet to fire after the primer has been struck by the firing pin.
- Most gun accidents are caused by ignorance and/or carelessness.
- Always treat every gun as if it were loaded.
- When you hear cease fire, stop shooting immediately.
- Before starting to clean a firearm, be absolutely certain that it is unloaded and the action is open.
- Always store guns so they are not accessible to unauthorized persons.
- Sight alignment is the relationship of the front and rear sights.
- In order to minimize body movement, the breath must be held while firing.
- Always know your target and what is beyond.
- Parents are responsible for teaching their children about gun safety.
- The action is the moving parts of a firearm that allow you to load, fire and unload.
- The most common caliber's used for protection are the .38 special and the 9mm.
- In selecting the right handgun to purchase, always seek advice from a handgun expert and purchase your handgun from a reputable dealer.
- Choosing a firearm for protection is a serious decision. It must be made after considering many questions. One of the most important is "do you have the will to use a firearm in a life-threatening situation".

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

1995 SESSION

RATIFIED BILL

CHAPTER 398

HOUSE BILL 90

AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT A PERSON WHO MEETS SPECIFIED STATUTORY CRITERIA MAY CARRY A CONCEALED HANDGUN IF THE PERSON HAS OBTAINED A CONCEALED HANDGUN PERMITS TO AUTHORIZE SHERIFFS TO ISSUE CONCEALED HANDGUN PERMITS, TO ESTABLISH THE CRITERIA THAT MUST BE SATISFIED TO RECEIVE THE PERMIT, TO ESTABLISH THE PROCEDURE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF A CONCEALED HANDGUN PERMIT, AND TO MAKE CONFORMING STATUTORY CHANGES.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. Chapter 14 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new Article to read:

“ARTICLE 54B”

“Concealed Handgun Permit”

“& 14-415.10. Definitions.

The following definitions apply to this Article:

Carry a concealed handgun – The term includes possession of a concealed handgun.

Handgun – A firearm that has a short stock and is designed to be held and fired by the use of a single hand.

Permit – A concealed handgun permit issued in accordance with the provisions of this Article.

“& 14-415.11. Permit to carry concealed handgun; scope of permit.

(a) Any person who has a concealed handgun permit may carry a concealed handgun unless otherwise specifically prohibited by law. The person shall carry the permit together with valid identification whenever the person is carrying a

a concealed handgun, shall disclose to any law enforcement officer that the person holds a valid permit and is carrying a concealed handgun when approached or addressed by the officer; and shall display both the permit and the proper identification upon the request of a law enforcement officer.

(b) The Sheriff shall issue a permit to carry a concealed handgun to a person who qualifies for a permit under G.S. 14-415.12. The permit shall be valid throughout the State for a period of five years from the date of issuance.

(c) A permit does not authorize a person to carry a concealed handgun in the areas prohibited by G.S. 14-269.2, 14-269.3, 14-269.4, and 14-277.2, in an area prohibited by rule adopted under G.S. 120-32.1, in any area prohibited by 18 U.S.C. & 922 or any other federal law, in a law enforcement or correctional facility, in a building housing only State or federal offices, in an office of the State or federal government that is not located in a building exclusively occupied by the State or federal government, a financial institution, or any other premises where notice that carrying a concealed handgun is prohibited by the posting of a conspicuous notice or statement by the person in legal possession or control of the premises. It shall be unlawful for a person, with or without a permit, to carry a concealed handgun while consuming alcohol or at any time while the person has remaining in his body any alcohol or in his blood a controlled substance previously consumed, but a person does not violate this condition if a controlled substance in his blood was lawfully obtained and taken in therapeutically appropriate amounts.

(d) A person who is issued a permit shall notify the sheriff who issued the permit of any change in the person's permanent address within 30 days after the change of address. If a permit is lost or destroyed, the person to whom the permit was issued shall notify the sheriff who issued the permit of the loss or destruction of the permit. A person may obtain a duplicate permit by submitting to the sheriff a notarized statement that the permit was lost or destroyed and paying the required duplicate permit fee.

"& 14-415.12. Criteria to qualify for the issuance of a permit.

The Sheriff shall issue a permit to an applicant if the applicant qualifies under the following criteria:

The applicant is a citizen of the United States and has been a resident of the State 30 days or longer immediately preceding the filing of the application.

The applicant is 21 years of age or older.

The applicant does not suffer from a physical or mental infirmity that prevents the safe handling of a handgun.

The applicant has successfully completed an approved firearms safety and training course which involves the actual firing of handguns and instruction in the laws of this State governing the carrying of a concealed handgun and the use of deadly force. The North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission shall prepare and publish a general guidelines for courses and qualifications of instructors which would satisfy the requirements of this subdivision. An approved

course shall be any course which satisfies the requirements of this subdivision and is certified or sponsored by:

The North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission.

The National Rifle Association, or

A law enforcement agency, college, private or public institution or organization, or firearms training school, taught by instructors certified by the North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission or the National Rifle Association.

Every instructor of an approved course shall file a copy of the firearms course description, outline, and proof of certification annually, or upon modification of the course if more frequently, with the North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission.

The applicant is not disqualified under subsection (b) of this section.

The sheriff shall deny a permit to an applicant who:

Is ineligible to own, possess, or receive a firearm under the provisions of State or federal law.

Is under indictment or against whom a finding of probable cause exists for a felony.

Has been adjudicated guilty in any court of a felony.

Is a fugitive from justice.

Is an unlawful user of, or addicted to marijuana, alcohol, or any depressant, stimulant, or narcotic drug, or any other controlled substance as defined in 21 U.S.C. & 802.

Is currently, or has been previously adjudicated or administratively determined to be, lacking mental capacity or mentally ill.

Is or has been discharged from the armed forces under conditions other than honorable.

Is or has been adjudicated guilty of or received a prayer of judgment continued or suspended sentence for one or more crimes of violence constituting a misdemeanor, including but not limited to a violation of a misdemeanor under Article 8 of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes, or a violation of a misdemeanor under G.S. 14-225.2, 14-226.1, 14-258.1, 14-269.2, 14-269.3, 14-269.4, 14-269.6, 14-276.1, 14-277, 14-277.1, 14-277.2, 14-277.3, 14-281.1, 14-283, 14-288.2, 14-288.4(a) (1) or (2), 14-288.6, 14-288.9, 14-288.12, 14-288.13, 14-288.14, 14-318.2, or 14-415.21 (b).

Has had entry of a prayer for judgment continued for a criminal offense which would disqualify the person from obtaining a concealed handgun permit.

Is free on bond or personal recognizance pending trial, appeal, or sentencing for a crime which would disqualify him from obtaining a concealed handgun permit.

Has been convicted of an impaired driving offense under G.S. 20-138.1, 20-138.2, or 20-138.3 within three years prior to the date on which the application is submitted.

"& 14-415.13. Application for a permit; fingerprints.

(a) A person shall apply to the sheriff of the county in which the persons resides to obtain a concealed handgun permit. The applicant shall submit to the sheriff all of the following:

(1) An application, completed under oath, on a form provide by the Sheriff.

(2) A nonrefundable permit fee.

(3) A full set of fingerprints of the applicant administered by the Sheriff.

(4) An original certificate of completion of an approved course, adopted and distributed by the North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission, signed by the certified instructor of the course attesting to the successful completion of the course by the applicant which shall verify that the applicant is competent with a handgun and knowledgeable about the laws governing the carrying of a concealed handgun and the use of deadly force.

(5) A release, in a form to be prescribed by the Administrative Office of the Courts, that authorizes and requires disclosure to the sheriff of any records concerning the mental health or capacity of the applicant.

(b) The sheriff shall submit the fingerprints to the State Bureau of Investigation for a records check of State and national databases. The State Bureau of Investigation shall submit the fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation as necessary. The cost of processing the set of fingerprints shall be charged to an applicant as provided by G.S. 14-415.19.

"& 14-415.14. Application form to be provided by sheriff; information to be included in application form.

(a) The sheriff shall make permit applications readily available at the office in the sheriff's jurisdiction. The permit application shall be in triplicate, in a form to be prescribed by the Administrative Office of the Courts, and shall include the following information with regard to the applicant: name, address, physical description, signature, date of birth, social security number, military status, and the drivers license number of State identification card number of the applicant if used for identification in applying for the permit.

(b) The permit application shall also contain a warning substantially as follows: 'CAUTION: Federal law and state law on the possession of handguns and firearms differ. If you are prohibited by federal law from possessing a handgun or a firearm, you may be prosecuted in federal court. A state permit is not a defense to a federal prosecution.'

"& 14-415.15. Issuance or denial of permit.

(a) Except as permitted under subsection (b) of this section, within 90 days after receipt of the items listed in G.S. 14-415.13 from an applicant, the sheriff shall either issue or deny the permit. The sheriff may conduct any investigation necessary to determine the qualification or competency of the person applying for the permit, including record checks.

(b) Upon presentment to the sheriff of the items required under G.S. 14-415.13 (a)(1), (2), (3), the sheriff may issue a temporary permit for a period not to exceed 90 days to a person who the sheriff reasonably believes is in an emergency situation that may constitute a risk of safety to the person, the person's family or property. The temporary permit may not be renewed and may be revoked by the sheriff without a hearing.

(c) A person's application for a permit shall be denied only if the applicant fails to qualify under the criteria listed in this Article. If the sheriff denies the application for a permit, the sheriff shall, within 90 days, notify the applicant in writing, stating the grounds for denial. An applicant may appeal the denial, revocation, or nonrenewal of a permit by petitioning a district court judge of the district in which the application was filed. The determination by the court, on appeal, shall be upon the facts, the law, and the reasonableness of the sheriff's refusal. The determination by the court shall be final.

"14-415.16. Renewal of permit.

The holder of a permit shall apply to renew the permit at least 30 days prior to its expiration date by filing with the sheriff of the county in which the person resides a renewal for provided by the sheriff's office, a notarized affidavit stating that the permittee remains qualified under the criteria provided in this Article, a newly administered full set of the permittee's fingerprints, and a renewal fee. Upon receipt of the completed renewal application, including the permittee's fingerprints and the appropriate payment of fees, the sheriff shall determine if the permittee remains qualified to hold a permit in accordance with the provisions of G.S. 14-415.12. The permittee's criminal history shall be updated, and the sheriff may waive the requirement of taking another firearms safety and training course. If the permittee applies for a renewal of the permit within 30 days of its expiration date and if the permittee remains qualified to have a permit under G.S. 14-415.12, the sheriff shall renew the permit.

This section becomes effective December 1, 1995.

"14-415.17. Permit: sheriff to retain and make available to law enforcement agencies a list of permittees.

The permit shall be in a certificate form, as prescribed by the Administrative Office of the Courts, that is approximately the size of a North Carolina drivers license. It shall bear the signature, name, address, date of birth, and social security number of the permittee, and the drivers license identification number used in applying for the permit. The sheriff shall maintain a listing of those persons who are issued a permit and any pertinent information regarding the issued permit. The permit information shall be available upon request to all State and local law enforcement agencies.

Within five days of the date of permit is issued, the sheriff shall send a copy of the permit to the State Bureau of Investigation shall make this information available to law enforcement officers and clerks of court on a statewide system.

“& 14-415.18. Revocation or suspension of permit.

(a) The sheriff of the county where the permit was issued or the sheriff of the county where the person resides may revoke a permit subsequent to a hearing for any of the following reasons:

(1) Fraud or intentional or material misrepresentation in the obtaining of a permit.

(2) Misuse of a permit, including lending or giving a permit to another person, duplicating a permit, or using a permit with the intent to unlawfully cause harm to a person or property.

(3) The doing of an act or existence of a condition which would have been grounds for the denial of the permit by the sheriff.

(4) The violation of any of the terms of this Article.

(5) The applicant is adjudicated guilty of or receives a prayer for judgment continued for a crime which would have disqualified the applicant from initially receiving a permit.

A permittee may appeal the revocation, or nonrenewal of a permit by petitioning a district court judge of the district in which the applicant resides. The determination by the court, on appeal, shall be upon the facts, the law, and the reasonableness of the sheriff's refusal.

(b) The court may suspend a permit as part of and for the duration of any orders permitted under Chapter 50B of the General Statutes.

“& 14-415.19. Fees.

(a) The permit fees assessed under this Article are payable to the sheriff. The sheriff shall transmit the proceeds of these fees to the county finance officer to be remitted or credited by the county finance officer in accordance with the provisions of this subsection. The permit fees are as follows:

Application fee \$80.00

Renewal fee \$80.00

Duplicate permit fee \$15.00

The county finance officer shall remit sixty dollars (\$60.00) of each application or renewal fee to the North Carolina Department of Justice for the costs of State and federal criminal record checks performed in connection with processing applications and for the implementation of the provisions of this Article. The remaining twenty dollars (\$20.00) of each application or renewal fee

shall be used by the sheriff to pay the costs of administering this Article and for other law enforcement purposes. The county shall expend the restricted funds for these purposes only.

(b) An additional fee, not to exceed ten (\$10.00), shall be collected by the sheriff from an applicant for a permit to pay for the costs of processing the applicant's fingerprints. This fee shall be retained by the sheriff.

(d) The department of Justice shall report quarterly to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, the Co-chairs of the Joint Appropriations Committee, and the Co-chairs of the Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety on the receipts, costs for, and number of criminal record checks performed in connection with applications for concealed weapons permits. The report by the Department of Justice shall also include information on the number of applications received and approved for firearms safety courses.

(e) This section becomes effective December 1, 1995.

"& 14-415-20. No liability of sheriff.

A sheriff who issues or refuses to issue a permit to carry a concealed handgun under this Article shall not incur any civil or criminal liability as the result of the performance of the sheriff's duties under this Article.

"& 14-415.21. Violations of this Article punishable as an infraction and a Class 2 misdemeanor

(a) A person who has been issued a valid permit who is found to be carrying a concealed handgun without the permit in the person's possession or who fails to disclose to any law enforcement officer that the person holds a valid permit and is carrying a concealed handgun, as required by G.S. 14-415.11, shall be guilty of an infraction for the first offense and shall be punished in accordance with G.S. 14-3.1. In lieu of paying a fine for the first offense, the person may surrender the permit. Subsequent offenses for failing to carry a valid permit or for failing to make the necessary disclosures to a law enforcement officer as required by G.S. 14-415.11 shall be punished in accordance with subsection (b) of this section.

(b) A person who violates the provisions of this Article other than as set forth in subsection (a) of this section is guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor.

"& 14-415.22. Construction of Article.

This Article shall not be construed to require a person who may carry a concealed handgun under the provisions of G.S. 14-269 (b) to obtain a concealed handgun permit.

"& 14-415.23. Statewide uniformity.

It is the intent of the General Assembly to prescribe a uniform system for the regulation of legally carrying a concealed handgun. To insure uniformity, no political subdivisions, boards, or agencies of the State nor any county, city, municipality, municipal corporation, town, township, village, nor any department or agency thereof, may enact ordinances, rules, or regulations concerning legally carrying a concealed handgun. A unit of local government may adopt an

ordinance to permit the posting of a prohibition against carrying a concealed handgun, in accordance with the posting of a prohibition against carrying a concealed handgun, in accordance with G.S. 14-415.11(c), on local government buildings, their appurtenant premises, and parks.”

Sec.2. G.S. 14-269 reads as rewritten:

“& 14-269. Carrying concealed weapons.

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person willfully and intentionally to carry concealed about his person any bowie knife, dirk, dagger, slung shot, loaded cane, metallic knuckles, razor, shurikin, stun gun, or other deadly weapon of like kind, except when the person is on the person's own premises.

(a1) It shall be unlawful for any person willfully and intentionally to carry concealed about his person any pistol or gun except in the following circumstances:

(1) The person is on the person's own premises.

(2) The deadly weapon is a handgun, and the person has a concealed handgun permit issued in accordance with Article 54B of this Chapter;(b) This prohibition shall not apply to the following persons:

(1) Officers and enlisted personnel of the armed forces of the United States when in discharge of their official duties as such and acting under orders requiring them to carry arms and weapons;

(2) Civil officers of the United States while in the discharge of their official duties;

(3) Officers and soldiers of the militia and the national guard when called into actual service;

(4) Officers of the State, or of any county, city, or town, charged with the execution of the laws of the State, when acting in the discharge of their official duties;

(5) Sworn law-enforcement officers, when off-duty, if:

a. Written regulations authorizing the carrying of concealed weapons have been filed with the clerk of court in the county where the law-enforcement unit is located by the sheriff or chief of police or other superior officer in charge; and

b. Such regulations specifically prohibit the carrying of concealed weapons while the officer is consuming or under the influence of alcoholic beverages.

(b1) It is a defense to a prosecution under this section that:

(1) The weapon was not a firearm;

(2) The defendant was engaged in, or on the way to or from, an activity in which he legitimately used the weapon;

(3) The defendant possessed the weapon for that legitimate use; and

(4) The defendant did not use or attempt to use the weapon for an illegal purpose.

The burden of proving this defense is on the defendant.

Any person violating the provisions of subsection (a) of this section shall be guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor. Any person violating the provisions of subsection (a1) of this section shall be guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor for the first offense. A second or subsequent offense is punishable as a Class 1 felony.

This section does not apply to an ordinary pocket knife carried in a closed position. As used in this section, 'ordinary pocket knife' means a small knife, designed for carrying in a pocket or purse, that has its cutting edge and point entirely enclosed by its handle, and that may not be opened by a throwing, explosive, or spring action.

Sec. 3. This act becomes effective December 1, 1995, and applies to offenses committed on or after that date.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 10th day of July 1995.

Dennis A. Wicker Harold J. Brubaker

President of the Senate Speaker of the House of Representatives

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

1995 SESSION

RATIFIED BILL

CHAPTER 727

HOUSE BILL 879 AN ACT TO AMEND THE STATE'S GUN LAWS TO ESTABLISH STATEWIDE UNIFORM REGULATION.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. Chapter 14 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new Article to read:

"ARTICLE 53C.

“Firearm Regulation”

“14-409.39. Definitions.

The following definitions apply in this Article:

Dealer – Any person licensed as a dealer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. & 921.Et Seq. Or G.S. 105-80.

Firearm – A handgun, revolver, or other gun that has a short stock and is designed to be held and fired by the use of a single hand.

“14-409.40. Statewide uniformity of local regulation.

(a) It is declared by the General Assembly that the regulation of firearms is properly an issue of general, statewide concern, and that the entire field of regulation of firearms is preempted from regulation by local governments except as provided by this section.

(b) Unless otherwise permitted by statute, no county or municipality, by ordinance, resolution, or other enactment, shall regulate in any manner the possession, ownership, storage, transfer, sale, purchase, licensing, or registration of firearms, firearms ammunition, components of firearms, dealers in firearms, or dealers in handgun components or parts.

(c) Notwithstanding subsection (b) of this section, a county or municipality, by zoning or other ordinance, may regulate or prohibit the sale of firearms at a location only if there is a lawful, general, similar regulation or prohibition of commercial activities at that location. Nothing in this subsection shall restrict the right of a county or municipality to adopt a general zoning plan that prohibits any commercial activity within a fixed distance of a school or other educational institution except with a special use permit issued for a commercial activity found not to pose a danger to health, safety, or general welfare of persons attending the school or educational institution within the fixed distance.

(d) No county or municipality, by zoning or other ordinance, shall regulate in any manner firearms shows with regulations more stringent than those applying to shows of other types of items.

(e) A county or municipality may regulate the transport, carrying, or possession of firearms by employees of the local unit of government in the course of their employment with that local unit of government.

(f) Nothing contained in this section prohibits municipalities or counties from application of their authority under G.S. 153A-129, 160A-189, 14-269, 14-269.2, 14-269.3, 14-269.4, 14-277.2, 14-415.11, 14-415.23, including prohibiting the possession of firearms in public-owned buildings, on the grounds or parking areas of those buildings, or in public parks or recreation areas, except nothing in this subsection shall prohibit a person from storing a firearm within a motor vehicle while the vehicle is on these grounds or areas. Nothing contained in this section prohibits municipalities or counties from exercising powers provided by law in declared states of emergency under Article 36A of this Chapter.”

Sec. 2 This act is effective upon ratification.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 21st day of June 1996.

Dennis A. Wicker Harold J. Brubaker

President of the Senate Speaker of the House of Representatives

CHAPTER 14

ARTICLE 8

The sheriff shall deny a permit to an applicant who: Is or has been adjudicated guilty of or received a prayer for judgment continued or suspended sentence for one or more crimes of violence constituting a misdemeanor; including but not limited to, a violation of a misdemeanor under Article 8 of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes.

Assaults (Effective January 1, 1995.) Malicious castration.

Castration or other maiming without malice aforethought.

Malicious maiming.

Malicious throwing of corrosive acid or alkali.

Malicious assaulting in a secret manner.

Felonious assault with deadly weapon with intent to kill or inflicting serious injury; punishments.

Assaults on handicapped person; punishments.

Patient abuse and neglect; punishments.

Misdemeanor assaults, batteries, and affrays, simple and aggravated punishments.

Evidence of former threats upon plea of self-defense.

Assaulting by pointing gun.

Discharging certain barreled weapons or a firearm occupied property.

Assault with a firearm or other deadly weapon upon governmental officers or employees.

Manufacture, sale, purchase, or possession of teflon-coated types of bullets prohibited.

Adulterated or misbranded food, drugs or cosmetics; intent to cause serious injury or death; intent to extort.

RESPONSIBILITIES AS A CCH PERMIT HOLDER

There is a great responsibility that goes along with carrying a concealed firearm. When you carry a concealed handgun, it should remain just that: CONCEALED. It is bad form to display or reveal your concealed handgun frivolously, not to mention poor strategy. While the right to keep and bear arms is inalienable, concealed carry is a privilege.

Before legally carrying a concealed handgun, you should become competent with the firearm that you will carry as well as drawing from concealment. First, practice this dry ALWAYS PRACTICE WITH AN UNLOADED FIREARM. Keep safety foremost in mind as you practice. Once again, NEVER PRACTICE WITH LIVE AMMO IN YOUR FIREARM. Do not strive for speed, but for smoothness and accuracy. Speed will come with time.

An excellent way to develop competency under stressful conditions is to compete. The more that you are able to practice the better. Mindset is as important as the firearm itself. Use your mental alertness to keep you out of situations that may escalate into a lethal confrontation. You want to carry your firearm without a second thought, as naturally as you carry your wallet or purse.

Choosing the correct concealment holster can be a daunting task. There are literally dozens of styles available here at Calibers and at the Sporting Goods Stores. It cannot be stressed enough that in choosing a carry gun, you must select one that you will be able to carry and conceal regularly. Concealment of a handgun should be a happy balance of concealment, power (caliber), capacity, access and comfort. A concealed carry handgun and holster must be specifically chosen for the person who will carry it. There is no "one size fits all." Larger framed people generally have an easier time concealing a handgun than smaller framed people. It is typically easier to hide a concealed firearm in cool weather.

Another issue often overlooked when purchasing a firearm for concealed carry is the style of hammer and sights used on the gun. Some firearms are produced without the traditional hammer "spur" to provide two benefits. First, a shielded or internal hammer is less likely to snag on the draw. This is especially beneficial for purse or pocket carry. Secondly, a shielded/internal hammer is designed so that it is difficult or impossible to get clothing between the hammer and the firing pin. As with hammers, overly large sights can cause the gun to snag on the draw. It is generally more difficult to effectively conceal a handgun in the summer, so if you choose a rig that you can conceal in the summer, it will be relatively easy to conceal it in cooler weather.

When you carry a concealed handgun it is critical that you are confident both of your ability and the concealment of your firearm. One habit that professionals notice when looking for concealed firearms is the tendency of the carrier to unconsciously touch or feel for his firearm. This is the same method some pickpockets use to spot people carrying a large sum of money or other valuables. Develop confidence by wearing your conceal carry around your home until it becomes natural to you. The intent is not to forget that it is there, but rather to become confident that you can effectively wear it concealed. It takes many long days of wearing your conceal carry to reduce

your self-consciousness. The first several times that you wear your concealed carry gun in public you will feel as if everyone is staring at you (or your firearm). This is natural. It will take time to become accustomed to the new weight on your hip (or under your shoulder, in your purse, etc.)

It is not a good idea to store a gun in a leather holster over the long-term. Your wardrobe should depend on the mode of carry that you employ. Dark colors generally "print" a gun less than light colors do, as do clothes with a "busy" pattern. ("Printing" occurs when the outline of the gun is visible through the concealing garment.)

One of the key factors in choosing a concealment holster or mode of concealed carry is access to the firearm. You will need to experiment with different holsters, firearms and modes of carry to determine how comfortable and concealable each combination is for you.

There are many types of holsters for handguns:

Belt holsters, shoulder, ankle and pocket holsters, fanny packs, camera/belt case holsters, portfolio holsters, day-planner holsters, belly band holsters, thunderwear holsters, hollow belt accessory holsters, jacket holsters, and countless other modes of concealed carry holsters.

INTERESTING FIREARM AND CONCEALED CARRY STATISTICS

FIREARMS are used for self-defense 2.4 million times per year; including 192,000 by women defending themselves against sexual abuse. Indeed, up to 75 lives are protected by firearms for every life lost—that's 5 lives per minute. Most important, criminals are shot in less than 8% of defensive uses – most of the time merely brandishing or referring to the weapon is sufficient.

Courts have repeatedly ruled that municipalities are not responsible for protecting their citizens (e.g. *Riss vs. New York*, 1959). How can we, in good conscience, deny them the means to protect themselves?

The police are not able to defend everyone. In 1989, for example, the Department of Justice reported 168,881 crimes of violence which were not responded to by the police within 1 hour.

The headline you will never see: Although members of the media say otherwise, self-defense results in fewer injuries to the defender (17.4%) than resisting with less powerful means (knives, 40.3%, other weapons, 22%; physical force, 50.8%; evasion, 43.9%) and in fewer injuries than not resisting at all (24.7%)

The notion that defensive gun use often results in the injury of acquaintances is a myth. The odds of a defensive gun user killing an innocent person are less than 1 in 26,000. And firearms are taken away from and used against their owners in less than 1% of defensive gun uses.

Equally mythical is the notion that citizens cannot be trusted to responsibly exercise the right of self-defense. Citizens repel crime using firearms 10 times more often than police, yet kill innocent people only one-fifth as often.

Opponents fear of potential misuse of concealed carry permits are also unfounded. Of 258,000 permits issued in Florida, only 18 have been used to commit crimes (.008%)

(THE ABOVE STATISTICS WERE TAKEN FROM GRASS ROOTS NORTH CAROLINA POSITION PAPER #3

CONCEALED CARRY EXAM

TRUE/FALSE

1. A citizen who is found to be an aggressor voluntarily provoking the conflict, or who used excessive force, can be convicted of voluntary manslaughter even though the use of deadly force complied with the other requirements of self defense.
2. Deadly force may be used to stop a simple assault.
3. The law permits the use of deadly force to recover property previously stolen from a business warehouse.
4. A lawful occupant within a home is justified in using deadly force against any intruder if the intruder is discovered inside the house during hours of darkness.
5. When carrying a concealed handgun off of one's own premises, the individual must have both the concealed carry permit and one other form of valid identification.
6. Unless you are in imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury or in your own home, a citizen must retreat prior to using deadly force if retreat is possible.
7. If a trespasser at a business refuses to leave after a minimum of three warnings, the property owner may use deadly force.
8. If you have been the victim of past violence and fear future violence, you may use deadly force regardless of the threat against you.
9. A citizen is justified in using deadly force if he/she actually believes deadly force is necessary to prevent an imminent threat of death, great bodily harm, or sexual assault and the facts prompting that belief would cause a person of ordinary firmness to believe the same, so long as the citizen is not an instigator and does not use excessive force.
10. The concealed carry law pertains to handguns, knives, and martial arts weapon.
11. Escalation of force is the increase in the level of force based on that force being used against you.
12. Concealed handguns may be carried into a bank or credit union if you have an account with that particular institution, and there is no sign prohibiting concealed handguns.
13. If a citizen has a concealed carry permit and a valid identification, the only place that the individual is prohibited from carrying the handgun is in a courthouse or law enforcement agency.

14. Deadly force in defense of others may only be used if it appears necessary to save the other person from the imminent threat of death or serious bodily harm, even though the person being saved instigated or provoked the conflict.

15. A citizen has the right to use "citizen's arrest" and therefore has the same authority as a law enforcement officer if a crime is committed in their presence.

16. A citizen must see a gun or knife in an unlawful intruder's hands before using deadly force to prevent an unlawful forced entry into the home.

Multiple Choice

17. Regardless of whether an individual has a concealed carry permit, a weapon may not be carried:

- a. On any campus or educational property
- b. In any establishment where alcoholic beverages are sold and consumed
- c. On any property posted by the owner prohibiting concealed carry-handgun
- d. All of the above

18. The general definition of "concealed" means the handgun:

- a. Is not visible to a member of the public
- b. Is in a holster on the outside of any clothing
- c. Cannot be transported on a commercial airplane
- d. All of the above

19. The definition of a handgun for purposes of this legislation is:

- a. Either a revolver or a semiautomatic pistol
- b. Having a short stock and is designed to be held and fired by the use of a single hand
- c. Has a rotating cylinder and can be fired single or double action
- d. Can be fired a minimum of 5 times prior to reloading and can be held and fired by the use of a single hand

20. Deadly force may be used to:
- a. Prevent the escape of a criminal
 - b. Defend one's self from the use of violent language or obscene gestures
 - c. Prevent the theft of property from an unoccupied building
 - d. None of the above

THIS HANDBOOK PREPARED

BY

Calibers Indoor Gun Range & Training Center

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