Alabama’s Firearms and Weapons Law

Title 13A CRIMINAL CODE.

Chapter 11 OFFENSES AGAINST PUBLIC ORDER AND SAFETY.

Article 3 Offenses Relating to Firearms and Weapons.

Division 1: General Provisions

§ 13A-11-50

Carrying concealed weapons.

Except as otherwise provided in this Code, a person who carries concealed about his person a bowie knife or knife or instrument of like kind or description or a pistol or firearm of any other kind or an air gun shall, on conviction, be fined not less than $50.00 nor more than $500.00, and may also be imprisoned in the county jail or sentenced to hard labor for the county for not more than six months.

(Code 1852, § 15; Code 1867, § 3555; Code 1876, § 4109; Code 1886, § 3775; Code 1896, § 4420; Code 1907, § 6421; Code 1923, § 3485; Code 1940, T. 14, § 161; Code 1975, § 13-6-120.)

§ 13A-11-52

Carrying pistol on private property; who may carry pistol.

Except as otherwise provided in this article, no person shall carry a pistol about his person on private property not his own or under his control unless the person possesses a valid concealed weapon permit or the person has the consent of the owner or legal possessor of the premises; but this section shall not apply to any law enforcement officer in the lawful discharge of the duties of his office, or to United States marshal or his deputies, rural free delivery mail carriers in the discharge of their duties as such, bonded constables in the discharge of their duties as such, conductors, railway mail clerks and express messengers in the discharge of their duties.

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§ 13A-11-53

Brass knuckles and slingshots.

Anyone who carries concealed about his person brass knuckles, slingshots or other weapon of like kind or description shall, on conviction, be fined not less than $50.00 nor more than $500.00, and may also be imprisoned in the county jail or sentenced to hard labor for the county for not more than six months.

(Code 1876, § 4110; Code 1886, § 3776; Code 1896, § 4421; Code 1907, § 6422; Code 1923, § 3486; Code 1940, T. 14, § 164; Code 1975, § 13-6-123.)

§ 13A-11-54

Carrying rifle or shotgun walking cane.

Any person who carries a rifle or shotgun walking cane shall, on conviction, be fined not less than $500.00 nor more than $1,000.00, and be imprisoned in the penitentiary not less than two years.

(Code 1876, § 4111; Code 1886, § 3777; Code 1896, § 4422; Code 1907, § 6423; Code 1923, § 3489; Code 1940, T. 14, § 165; Code 1975, § 13-6-124.)

§ 13A-11-56

Using firearms while fighting in public place.

Any person who, while fighting in the streets of any city or town, or at a militia muster, or at any public place, whether public in itself, or made public at the time by an assemblage of persons, uses or attempts to use, except in self-defense, any kind of firearms shall, on conviction, be fined not less than $200.00 nor more than $500.00, and may also be imprisoned in the county jail or sentenced to hard labor for the county for not less than six months.

(Code 1852, § 129; Code 1867, § 3671; Code 1876, § 4228; Code 1886, § 4094; Code 1896, § 5353; Code 1907, § 6895; Code 1923, § 4045; Code 1940, T. 14, § 169; Code 1975, § 13-6-127.)
§ 13A-11-57

Selling, etc., pistol or bowie knife to minor.

Any person who sells, gives or lends to any minor any pistol or bowie knife, or other knife of like kind or description, shall, on conviction, be fined not less than $50.00 nor more than $500.00.

(Code 1852, § 204; Code 1867, § 3751; Code 1876, § 4230; Code 1886, § 4096; Code 1896, § 5355; Code 1907, § 6896; Code 1923, § 4046; Code 1940, T. 14, § 170; Code 1975, § 13-6-128.)

§ 13A-11-58

Sale of firearms or ammunition to residents of other states; purchase in other states.

(a) Any resident of Alabama authorized to sell and deliver rifles, shotguns, and ammunition may sell and deliver them to a resident of any state where the sale of the firearms and ammunition is legal. Any purchaser of the firearm or ammunition may take or send it out of the state or have it delivered to his or her place of residence.

(b) Any resident of Alabama who legally purchases rifles, shotguns, and ammunition in any state where the purchase is legal may take delivery of the weapons either in the state where they were purchased or in Alabama.


§ 13A-11-58.1

Improper transfer of firearm or weapon; providing false information to dealer.

(a) For the purposes of this section, the following words have the following meanings:

(1) AMMUNITION. Any cartridge, shell, or projectile designed for use in a firearm.
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(2) LICENSED DEALER. A person who is licensed pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 923 or Section 13A-11-79, to engage in the business of dealing in firearms.

(3) MATERIALLY FALSE INFORMATION. Information that portrays an illegal transaction as legal or a legal transaction as illegal.

(4) PRIVATE SELLER. A person who sells or offers for sale any firearm, as defined in Section 13A-8-1(4), or ammunition.

(b) A person who knowingly solicits, persuades, encourages, or entices a licensed dealer or private seller of a firearm or ammunition to transfer a firearm or ammunition under circumstances which the person knows would violate the laws of this state or the United States is guilty of a Class C felony.

(c) A person who provides to a licensed dealer or private seller of firearms or ammunition what the person knows to be materially false information with intent to deceive the dealer or seller about the legality of the transfer of a firearm or ammunition is guilty of a Class C felony.

(d) This section does not apply to a peace officer acting in his or her official capacity or to a person acting at the direction of a peace officer.

(Act 2011-570, p. 1164, § 1.)

§ 13A-11-59.

Possession of firearms by persons participating in, attending, etc., demonstrations at public places.

(a) For the purposes of this section, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this subsection, except in those instances where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

(1) DEMONSTRATION. Demonstrating, picketing, speechmaking or marching, holding of vigils and all other like forms of conduct which involve the communication or expression of views or grievances engaged in by one or more persons, the conduct of which has the effect, intent or propensity to draw a crowd or onlookers. Such term shall not include casual use of property by visitors or tourists which does not have an intent or propensity to attract a crowd or onlookers.
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(2) **FIREARM.** Any pistol, rifle, shotgun or firearm of any kind, whether loaded or not.

(3) **LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER.** Any duly appointed and acting federal, state, county or municipal law enforcement officer, peace officer or investigating officer, or any military or militia personnel called out or directed by constituted authority to keep the law and order, and any park ranger while acting as such on the grounds of a public park and who is on regular duty and present to actively police and control the demonstration, and who is assigned this duty by his department or agency. Such term does not include a peace officer on strike or a peace officer not on duty.

(4) **PUBLIC PLACE.** Any place to which the general public has access and a right to resort for business, entertainment or other lawful purpose, but does not necessarily mean a place devoted solely to the uses of the public. Such term shall include the front or immediate area or parking lot of any store, shop, restaurant, tavern, shopping center or other place of business. Such term shall also include any public building, the grounds of any public building, or within the curtilage of any public building, or in any public parking lot, public street, right-of-way, sidewalk right-of-way, or within any public park or other public grounds.

(b) It shall be unlawful for any person, other than a law enforcement officer, to have in his or her possession or on his or her person or in any vehicle any firearm while participating in or attending any demonstration being held at a public place.

(c) It shall be unlawful for any person, other than a law enforcement officer as defined in subsection (a) of this section, to have in his or her possession or about his or her person or in any vehicle at a point within 1,000 feet of a demonstration at a public place, any firearm after having first been advised by a law enforcement officer that a demonstration was taking place at a public place and after having been ordered by such officer to remove himself or herself from the prescribed area until such time as he or she no longer was in possession of any firearm. This subsection shall not apply to any person in possession of or having on his or her person any firearm within a private dwelling or other private building or structure.

(d) Any person violating any of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished as provided by law.

*(Acts 1979, No. 79-455, p. 743; Code 1975, § 13-6-131.)*
§ 13A-11-60

Possession or sale of brass or steel teflon-coated handgun ammunition; applicability of section.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, the possession or sale of brass or steel teflon-coated handgun ammunition is illegal anywhere within the State of Alabama. The possession or sale of said ammunition or any ammunition of like kind designed to penetrate bullet-proof vests, shall be unlawful and punishable as provided in subsection (c) of this section.

(b) The provisions of this section shall not apply to state or local law enforcement officers; nor shall it apply to the possession or sale of teflon-coated lead or brass ammunition designed to expand upon contact.

(c) Any person who while armed with a firearm in the commission or attempted commission of any felony, has in his or her immediate possession, teflon-coated ammunition for such firearm, upon conviction of such felony or attempted felony, in addition and consecutive to the punishment prescribed for said felony or attempted felony, shall be punished by the imposition of an additional term of three years in the penitentiary.

(d) Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a Class C felony as defined by Section 13A-5-3.

(Acts 1982, No. 82-509.)

§ 13A-11-61

Discharging firearm, etc., into occupied or unoccupied building, etc., prohibited; penalty.

(a) No person shall shoot or discharge a firearm, explosive or other weapon which discharges a dangerous projectile into any occupied or unoccupied dwelling or building or railroad locomotive or railroad car, aircraft, automobile, truck or watercraft in this state.

(b) Any person who commits an act prohibited by subsection (a) with respect to an occupied dwelling or building or railroad locomotive or railroad car, aircraft, automobile, truck or
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watercraft shall be deemed guilty of a Class B felony as defined by the state criminal code, and upon conviction, shall be punished as prescribed by law.

(c) Any person who commits any act prohibited by subsection (a) hereof with respect to an unoccupied dwelling or building or railroad locomotive or railroad car, aircraft, automobile, truck or watercraft shall be deemed guilty of a Class C felony as defined by the state criminal code, and upon conviction, shall be punished as prescribed by law.

(Acts 1984, No. 84-276, p. 463, §§ 1, 2.)

§ 13A-11-61.1

Discharging firearm into school bus or school building.

(a) No person shall shoot or discharge a firearm into an occupied or unoccupied school bus or school building.

(b) A person who shoots or discharges a firearm into an occupied school bus or school building shall be guilty of a Class B felony.

(c) A person who shoots or discharges a firearm into an unoccupied school bus or school building shall be guilty of a Class C felony.

(d) This section shall not be construed to repeal other criminal laws. Whenever conduct prescribed by any provision of this section is also prescribed by any other provision of law, the provision which carries the more serious penalty shall be applied.

(Act 2006-539, p. 1242, §§ 1, 2.)

§ 13A-11-61.2

Possession of firearms in certain places.

(a) In addition to any other place limited or prohibited by state or federal law, a person, including a person with a permit issued under Section 13A-11-75(a)(1) or recognized under Section 13A-11-85, may not knowingly possess or carry a firearm in any of the following places without the express permission of a person or entity with authority over the premises:
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(1) Inside the building of a police, sheriff, or highway patrol station.

(2) Inside or on the premises of a prison, jail, halfway house, community corrections facility, or other detention facility for those who have been charged with or convicted of a criminal or juvenile offense.

(3) Inside or on the premises of a facility which provides inpatient or custodial care of those with psychiatric, mental, or emotional disorders.

(4) Inside a courthouse, courthouse annex, a building in which a District Attorney's office is located, or a building in which a county commission or city council is currently having a regularly scheduled or specially called meeting.

(5) Inside any facility hosting an athletic event not related to or involving firearms which is sponsored by a private or public elementary or secondary school or any private or public institution of postsecondary education, unless the person has a permit issued under Section 13A-11-75(a)(1) or recognized under Section 13A-11-85.

(6) Inside any facility hosting a professional athletic event not related to or involving firearms, unless the person has a permit issued under Section 13A-11-75(a)(1) or recognized under Section 13A-11-85.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a), a person, including a person with a permit issued under Section 13A-11-75(a)(1) or recognized under Section 13A-11-85, may not, without the express permission of a person or entity with authority over the premises, knowingly possess or carry a firearm inside any building or facility to which access of unauthorized persons and prohibited articles is limited during normal hours of operation by the continuous posting of guards and the use of other security features, including, but not limited to, magnetometers, key cards, biometric screening devices, or turnstiles or other physical barriers.

(c) The person or entity with authority over the premises set forth in subsections (a)(1)-(6) and subsection (b) shall place a notice at the public entrances of such premises or buildings alerting those entering that firearms are prohibited.

(d) Except as provided in subsections (a)(5) and (a)(6), any firearm on the premises of any facility set forth in subsection (a)(1), or subsections (a)(4)-(6), or subsection (b) must be kept from ordinary observation and locked within a compartment or in the interior of the person's motor vehicle or in a compartment or container securely affixed to the motor vehicle.

(e) A violation of subsections (a) or (d) is a Class C misdemeanor.

(f) This section shall not prohibit any person from possessing a firearm within the person's residence or during ingress or egress thereto.
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(g) Prohibitions regarding the carrying of a firearm under this section shall not apply to law enforcement officers engaged in the lawful execution of their official duties.

(h) Nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize the carrying or possession of a firearm where prohibited by federal law.

(Act 2013-283, § 6.)

§ 13A-11-61.3

Regulation of firearms, ammunition, and firearm accessories.

(a) The purpose of this section is to establish within the Legislature complete control over regulation and policy pertaining to firearms, ammunition, and firearm accessories in order to ensure that such regulation and policy is applied uniformly throughout this state to each person subject to the state's jurisdiction and to ensure protection of the right to keep and bear arms recognized by the Constitutions of the State of Alabama and the United States. This section is to be liberally construed to accomplish its purpose.

(b) For the purposes of this section, the following words shall have the following meanings:

(1) AMMUNITION. Fixed cartridge ammunition, shotgun shells, the individual components of fixed cartridge ammunition and shotgun shells, projectiles for muzzle-loading firearms, and any propellant used in firearms or ammunition.

(2) EXPRESSLY AUTHORIZED BY A STATUTE OF THIS STATE. The authority of a political subdivision to regulate firearms, ammunition, or firearm accessories that is granted by a duly enacted state law that specifically mentions firearms, a particular type of firearm, ammunition, or a particular type of ammunition.

(3) FIREARM ACCESSORY. A device specifically designed or adapted to enable the wearing or carrying about one's person, or the storage or mounting in or on a conveyance, of a firearm, or an attachment or device specifically designed or adapted to be inserted into or affixed onto a firearm to enable, alter, or improve the functioning or capabilities of the firearm.

(4) FIREARM. This term has the same meaning as in Section 13A-8-1(4).

(5) PERSON ADVERSELY AFFECTED. Any of the following:

a. A resident of this state who may legally possess a firearm under the laws of this state and the United States and who is either of the following:
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1. Subject to any manner of regulation alleged to be promulgated or enforced in violation of this section, whether or not specific enforcement action has been initiated or threatened against that person or another person.

2. If the person were present in the political subdivision in question, subject to any manner of regulation alleged to be promulgated or enforced in violation of this section, whether or not specific enforcement action has been initiated or threatened against that person or another person.

b. A person who otherwise has standing under the laws of this state to bring an action under subsection (f).

c. A membership organization if its members would otherwise have standing to sue in their own right, if the interests it seeks to protect are germane to the organization's purpose, and neither the claim asserted nor the relief requested requires the participation of individual members in the lawsuit.

(6) POLITICAL SUBDIVISION. A county, incorporated city, unincorporated city, public local entity, public-private partnership, and any other public entity of a county or city commonly considered to be a political subdivision of the state.

(7) PUBLIC OFFICIAL. Any person elected to public office, whether or not that person has taken office, by the vote of the people of a political subdivision or its instrumentalities, including governmental corporations, and any person appointed to a position at the municipal level of government or its instrumentalities, including governmental corporations.

(8) REASONABLE EXPENSES. The expenses involved in litigation, including, but not limited to, expert witness fees, court costs, and compensation for loss of income.

(c) Except as otherwise provided in Act 2013-283 or as expressly authorized by a statute of this state, the Legislature hereby occupies and preempts the entire field of regulation in this state touching in any way upon firearms, ammunition, and firearm accessories to the complete exclusion of any order, ordinance, or rule promulgated or enforced by any political subdivision of this state.

(d) The authority of a political subdivision to regulate firearms, ammunition, or firearm accessories shall not be inferred from its proprietary authority, home rule status, or any other inherent or general power.

(e) Any existing orders, ordinances, or rules promulgated or enforced contrary to the terms of this section are null and void and any future order, ordinance, or rules shall comply with this section.
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(f)(1) A person adversely affected by any order, ordinance, or rule promulgated in violation of this section may file a petition with the Attorney General requesting that he or she bring an action in circuit court for declarative and injunctive relief. The petition must be signed under oath and under penalty of perjury and must include specific details regarding the alleged violations.

(2) If, after investigation of the enactment or adoption of the order, ordinance, or rule, the Attorney General determines that there is reasonable cause to proceed with an action, he or she shall provide the political subdivision or public official enacting or adopting the order, ordinance, or rule 60 days’ notice of his or her intent to file an action. Upon the expiration of the 60 days’ notice, the Attorney General may file the suit.

(3) If, after investigation of the enactment or adoption of the order, ordinance, or rule, the Attorney General determines that there is no reasonable cause to proceed with an action, he or she shall publicly state in writing the justification for the determination not to file suit.

(4) The Attorney General shall either bring an action or publicly state, within 90 days of receipt of the petition, in the written justification why a violation of the spirit of this section, specifically subsections (a) and (c), has not occurred.

(5) The court may award reimbursement for actual and reasonable expenses to a person adversely affected if an action under this subsection results in a final determination in favor of the person adversely affected.

(g) This section shall not be construed to prevent any of the following:

(1) A duly organized law enforcement agency of a political subdivision from promulgating and enforcing rules pertaining to firearms, ammunition, or firearm accessories that it issues to or that are used by the political subdivision's peace officers in the course of their official duties.

(2) An employer from regulating or prohibiting an employee's carrying or possession of firearms, firearm accessories, or ammunition during and in the course of the employee's official duties.

(3) A prosecutor, court or administrative law judge from hearing and resolving a case or controversy or issuing an opinion or order on a matter within its jurisdiction.

(4) The enactment or enforcement of a generally applicable zoning or business ordinance that includes firearms businesses along with other businesses, provided that an ordinance designed or enforced effectively to restrict or prohibit the sale, purchase, transfer, manufacture, or display of firearms, ammunition, or firearm accessories that is otherwise lawful under the laws of this state is in conflict with this section and is void.
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(5) A political subdivision from enacting and enforcing rules of operation and use for any firearm range owned or operated by the political subdivision.

(6) A political subdivision from sponsoring or conducting any firearm-related competition or educational or cultural program and from enacting and enforcing rules for participation in or attendance at such program, provided that nothing in this section authorizes or permits a political subdivision to offer remuneration for the surrender or transfer of a privately owned firearm to the political subdivision or another party as a method of reducing the number of privately owned firearms within the political subdivision.

(7) Any official of a political subdivision, a sheriff, or other law enforcement officer with appropriate authority and jurisdiction from enforcing any law enacted by the Legislature.

(8) A sheriff of a county from acting on an application for a permit under Section 13A-11-75.

(9) A political subdivision from leasing public property to another person or entity for a gun show or other firearm-related event on terms agreeable to both parties.

(10) The adoption or enforcement by a county or municipality of ordinances which make the violation of a state firearm law a violation of an ordinance, provided that the elements of the local ordinance may not differ from the state firearm law, nor may the local ordinance impose a higher penalty than what is imposed under the state firearm law.

(11) A municipality from regulating the discharge of firearms within the limits of the municipality or a county from exercising any authority it has under law, to regulate the discharge of firearms within the jurisdiction of the county. The discharge of a firearm in defense of one's self or family or in defense of one's property may not be construed to be a violation of state law or any ordinance or rule of a political subdivision of this state.

(12) A county or a municipality from exercising any authority it has to assess, enforce, and collect generally applicable sales taxes, use taxes, and gross receipts taxes in the nature of sales taxes as defined by Section 40-2A-3(8), on the retail sale of firearms, ammunition, and firearm accessories along with other goods, provided that no such tax imposed by a county or municipality may apply at a higher rate to firearms, ammunition, or firearm accessories than the general sales tax rate of the jurisdiction.

(Act 2013-283, § 7.)
Division 1A: Rifles and Shotguns

§ 13A-11-62

Definitions.

For purposes of this division, the following terms shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

(1) FIREARM. Definition is same as provided in Section 13A-8-1(4).

(2) RIFLE. Any weapon designed or redesigned, made or remade, and intended to be fired from the shoulder and designed or redesigned and made or remade to use the energy of the explosive in a fixed metallic cartridge to fire only a single projectile through a rifled bore for each pull of the trigger.

(3) SHOTGUN. A weapon designed or redesigned, made or remade, and intended to be fired from the shoulder and designed or redesigned and made or remade to use the energy of the explosive in a fixed shotgun shell to fire through a smooth bore either a number of ball shot or a single projectile for each single pull of the trigger.

(4) SHORT-BARRELED RIFLE. A rifle having one or more barrels less than 16 inches in length and any weapon made from a rifle (whether by alteration, modification, or otherwise) if such weapon, as modified, has an overall length of less than 26 inches.

(5) SHORT-BARRELED SHOTGUN. A shotgun having one or more barrels less than 18 inches in length and any weapon made from a shotgun (whether by alteration, modification, or otherwise) if such weapon as modified has an overall length of less than 26 inches.

(Acts 1982, No. 82-430, § 1.)

§ 13A-11-63

Possession, sale, etc., of short-barreled rifle or short-barreled shotgun; applicability.

(a) A person who possesses, obtains, receives, sells, or uses a short-barreled rifle or a short-barreled shotgun in violation of federal law is guilty of a Class C felony.
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(b) This section does not apply to a peace officer who possesses, obtains, receives, sells, or uses a short-barreled rifle or a short-barreled shotgun in the course of or in connection with his or her official duties.

(Acts 1982, No. 82-430, § 2; Act 2010-496, p. 766, § 1.)

§ 13A-11-64

Alteration, etc., of manufacturer's number, etc., of firearm; possession, etc., of firearm after identification altered.

A person who either:

(1) Changes, alters, removes, or obliterates the name of the maker, model, manufacturer's number or other mark or identification of any firearm, or

(2) Possesses, obtains, receives, sells, or uses a firearm after the maker, model, manufacturer's number or other mark or identification has been changed, altered, removed, or obliterated, is guilty of a Class C felony.

(Acts 1982, No. 82-430, § 3.)

§ 13A-11-65

Penalty.

Violation of Section 13A-11-63(a) or Section 13A-11-64 in the course of, or in connection with the commission of any other felony shall be a Class B felony, and the punishment imposed therefor shall be in addition to the punishment imposed for the other felony.

(Acts 1982, No. 82-430, § 4.)
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§ 13A-11-66.

This division supplemental to other laws and penalties.

This division is supplemental to any other law and the penalties provided herein are in addition to any other penalties provided by law. This division shall not be construed to limit or in any way reduce the minimum and maximum penalties provided in any other law.

(Acts 1982, No. 82-430, § 5.)

Division 2 Pistols

§ 13A-11-70

Definitions.

For the purposes of this division, the following terms shall have the respective meanings ascribed by this section:

(1) PISTOL. Any firearm with a barrel less than 12 inches in length.

(2) CRIME OF VIOLENCE. Any of the following crimes or an attempt to commit any of them, namely, murder, manslaughter, (except manslaughter arising out of the operation of a vehicle), rape, mayhem, assault with intent to rob, assault with intent to ravish, assault with intent to murder, robbery, burglary, and kidnapping. “Crime of violence” shall also mean any Class A felony or any Class B felony that has as an element serious physical injury, the distribution or manufacture of a controlled substance, or is of a sexual nature involving a child under the age of 12.

(3) PERSON. Such term includes any firm, partnership, association or corporation.

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§ 13A-11-72

Certain persons forbidden to possess pistol.

(a) No person who has been convicted in this state or elsewhere of committing or attempting to commit a crime of violence shall own a pistol or have one in his or her possession or under his or her control.

(b) No person who is a drug addict or an habitual drunkard shall own a pistol or have one in his or her possession or under his or her control.

(c) Subject to the exceptions provided by Section 13A-11-74, no person shall knowingly with intent to do bodily harm carry or possess a deadly weapon on the premises of a public school.

(d) Possession of a deadly weapon with the intent to do bodily harm on the premises of a public school in violation of subsection (c) of this section is a Class C felony.

(e) School security personnel and school resource officers qualified under subsection (a) of Section 16-1-44.1, employed by a local board of education, and authorized by the employing local board of education to carry a deadly weapon while on duty are exempt from subsection (c) of this section. Law enforcement officers are exempt from this section, and persons with pistol permits issued pursuant to Section 13A-11-75, are exempt from subsection (c) of this section.

(f) The term “school resource officer” as used in this section means an Alabama Peace Officers' Standards and Training Commissioner-certified law enforcement officer employed by a law enforcement agency who is specifically selected and specially trained for the school setting.

(g) The term “public school” as used in this section applies only to a school composed of grades K-12 and shall include a school bus used for grades K-12.

(h) The term “deadly weapon” as used in this section means a firearm or anything manifestly designed, made, or adapted for the purposes of inflicting death or serious physical injury, and such term includes, but is not limited to, a bazooka, hand grenade, missile, or explosive or incendiary device; a pistol, rifle, or shotgun; or a switch-blade knife, gravity knife, stiletto, sword, or dagger; or any club, baton, billy, black-jack, bludgeon, or metal knuckles.

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§ 13A-11-73

Permit to carry pistol in vehicle or concealed on person -- Required; possession of unloaded pistol in motor vehicle.

(a) Except on land under his or her control or in his or her own abode or his or her own fixed place of business, no person shall carry a pistol in any vehicle or concealed on or about his or her person without a permit issued under Section 13A-11-75(a)(1) or recognized under Section 13A-11-85.

(b) Except as otherwise prohibited by law, a person legally permitted to possess a pistol, but who does not possess a valid concealed weapon permit, may possess an unloaded pistol in his or her motor vehicle if the pistol is locked in a compartment or container that is in or affixed securely to the vehicle and out of reach of the driver and any passenger in the vehicle.


§ 13A-11-74

License to carry pistol in vehicle or concealed on person -- Exceptions.

The provisions of Section 13A-11-73 shall not apply to marshals, sheriffs, prison and jail wardens and their regularly employed deputies, policemen and other law enforcement officers of any state or political subdivision thereof, or to the members of the army, navy or marine corps of the United States or of the national guard, or to the members of the national guard organized reserves or state guard organizations when on duty or going to or from duty, or to the regularly enrolled members of any organization duly authorized to purchase or receive such weapons from the United States or from this state; provided, that such members are at or are going to or from their places of assembly or target practices, or to officers or employees of the United States duly authorized to carry a pistol, or to any person engaged in manufacturing, repairing or dealing in pistols, or the agent or representative of such person possessing, using, or carrying a pistol in the usual or ordinary course of such business, or to any common carrier, except taxicabs, licensed as a common carrier, or to any person permitted by law to possess a pistol while carrying it unloaded in a secure wrapper, from the place of purchase to his home or place of business, or to or from a place of repair or in moving from one place of abode or business to another.

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§ 13A-11-75

Permit to carry pistol in vehicle or concealed on person -- Issuance; fee; revocation; release of information.

(a)(1)a. The sheriff of a county, upon the application of any person residing in that county, within 30 days from receipt of a complete application and accompanying fee, shall issue or renew a permit for such person to carry a pistol in a vehicle or concealed on or about his or her person within this state for one to five year increments, as requested by the person seeking the permit, from date of issue, unless the sheriff determines that the person is prohibited from the possession of a pistol or firearm pursuant to state or federal law, or has a reasonable suspicion that the person may use a weapon unlawfully or in such other manner that would endanger the person's self or others. In making such determination, the sheriff may consider whether the applicant:

1. Was found guilty but mentally ill in a criminal case.

2. Was found not guilty in a criminal case by reason of insanity or mental disease or defect.

3. Was declared incompetent to stand trial in a criminal case.

4. Asserted a defense in a criminal case of not guilty by reason of insanity or mental disease or defect.

5. Was found not guilty only by reason of lack of mental responsibility under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

6. Required involuntary inpatient treatment in a psychiatric hospital or similar treatment facility.

7. Required involuntary outpatient treatment in a psychiatric hospital or similar treatment facility based on a finding that the person is an imminent danger to himself or herself or to others.

8. Required involuntary commitment to a psychiatric hospital or similar treatment facility for any reason, including drug use.

9. Is or was the subject of a prosecution or of a commitment or incompetency proceeding that could lead to a prohibition on the receipt or possession of a firearm under the laws of Alabama or the United States.

10. Falsified any portion of the permit application.
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11. Caused justifiable concern for public safety.

b. The sheriff shall take into account how recent any consideration under paragraph a. is in relation to the date of the application. The sheriff shall provide a written statement of the reasons for a denial of a permit and the evidence upon which it is based must be disclosed to the applicant, unless disclosure would interfere with a criminal investigation.

c. Except as otherwise provided by the laws of this state, a permit issued under this subdivision is valid throughout the state, and a sheriff may not place conditions or requirements on the issuance of the permit or limit its scope or applicability.

(2)a. The sheriff may revoke a permit issued under subdivision (1) for any reason that could lead to a denial of a permit under that subdivision.

b. The sheriff shall provide a written statement of the reasons for the revocation and the evidence upon which it is based must be disclosed to the applicant, unless disclosure would interfere with a criminal investigation.

(3) A person who is denied a permit under subdivision (1), or a person whose permit is revoked under subdivision (2), within 30 days of notification of the denial or revocation, may appeal the denial or revocation to the district court of the county where the denial or revocation was issued. Upon a review of a denial under this subdivision, the sheriff shall have the burden of proving by clear and convincing evidence that the person is prohibited from possession of a pistol or other firearm pursuant to state or federal law or, based on any of the considerations enumerated in subsection (a)(1) that the person may use a weapon unlawfully or in such other manner as would endanger the person's self or others if granted a permit to carry a concealed weapon under this section.

(4) Within 30 days of receipt of the appeal, the district court shall review the appeal and issue a determination providing the reasons for the determination.

(5) If the district court issues a determination in favor of a person whose permit was denied or revoked, the person shall be issued a permit or the permit must be reinstated.

(6) Nothing in this section shall be construed to permit a sheriff to disregard any federal law or regulation pertaining to the purchase or possession of a firearm.

(b) Each permit shall be written or in an electronic or digital form to be prescribed by the Secretary of State in consultation with the Alabama Sheriff’s Association, and shall bear the name, address, description, and signature of the permittee. The original hardcopy of the permit shall be delivered to the permittee, and a duplicate shall, within seven days, be sent by registered or certified mail to the Director of Public Safety. The application and a copy shall be preserved for six years by the authority issuing the same. The sheriff may charge a fee as provided by local
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law for the issuance of the permit under subdivision (1) of subsection (a). The amount of the fee for a period of one year up to five years shall be the amount of the fee as prescribed by local law multiplied by the number of years of the permit requested by the applicant. The fee shall be paid into the county treasury unless otherwise provided by local law. Prior to issuance or renewal of a permit, the sheriff shall contact available local, state, and federal criminal history data banks, including the National Instant Criminal Background Check System, to determine whether possession of a firearm by an applicant would be a violation of state or federal law.

(c) For the convenience of the applicant, the sheriff may provide for application or renewal of a permit under subdivision (1) of subsection (a) through electronic means. The sheriff may also accept payment for a permit by debit or credit card or other consumer electronic payment method. Any transaction or banking fee charged for the electronic payment method shall be paid by the applicant.

(d) If a person who is not a United States citizen applies for a permit under this section, the sheriff shall conduct an Immigration Alien Query through U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, or any successor agency, and the application form shall require information relating to the applicant's country of citizenship, place of birth, and any alien or admission number issued by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, or any successor agency. The sheriff shall review the results of these inquiries before making a determination of whether to issue a permit or renewal permit. A person who is unlawfully present in this state may not be issued a permit under this section.

(e) The name, address, signature, photograph, and any other personally identifying information collected from an applicant or permittee under this section shall be kept confidential, shall be exempt from disclosure under Section 36-12-40, and may only be used for law enforcement purposes except when a current permittee is charged in any state with a felony involving the use of a pistol. All other information on permits under this section, including information concerning the annual number of applicants, number of permits issued, number of permits denied or revoked, revenue from issuance of permits, and any other fiscal or statistical data otherwise, shall remain public writings subject to public disclosure. Except as provided above, the sheriff of a county shall redact the name, address, signature, photograph, and any other personally identifying information of a permit holder before releasing a copy of a permit for a non-law enforcement purpose. The sheriff may charge one dollar ($1) per copy of any redacted permit record requested other than when requested for law enforcement purposes. To knowingly publish or release to the public in any form any information or records related to the licensing process, or the current validity of any permit, except as authorized in this subsection or in response to a court order or subpoena, is a Class A misdemeanor.
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(f) A concealed pistol permit issued under this section shall be valid for the carrying of a pistol in a motor vehicle or concealed on the permittee's person throughout the state, unless prohibited by this section.

(g) This section shall not be construed to limit or place any conditions upon a person's right to carry a pistol that is not in a motor vehicle or not concealed.

(h) If a person issued a pistol permit in this state establishes residence in another state, the pistol permit shall expire upon the establishment of residence in the other state.


§ 13A-11-76

Delivery to minors, habitual drunkards, etc.

No person shall deliver a pistol to any person under the age of 18 or to one who he has reasonable cause to believe has been convicted of a crime of violence or is a drug addict, an habitual drunkard or of unsound mind.


§ 13A-11-78

Dealers' licenses -- Required.

No retail dealer shall sell or otherwise transfer, or expose for sale or transfer, or have in his possession with intent to sell, or otherwise transfer, any pistol without being licensed as hereinafter provided.

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§ 13A-11-79

Dealers' licenses -- Issuance; conditions; display; fees.

The duly constituted licensing authorities of any city, town or political subdivision of this state may grant licenses in forms prescribed by the secretary of state, effective for not more than one year from date of issue, permitting the licensee to sell pistols at retail within this state subject to the following conditions, in addition to those specified in Section 13A-11-77, for breach of any of which the license shall be forfeited and the licensee subject to punishment as provided in this division. The business shall be carried on only in the building designated in the license. The license or a copy thereof, certified by the issuing authority, shall be displayed on the premises where it can easily be read. No pistol shall be sold in violation of any provisions of this division, nor shall a pistol be sold under any circumstances unless the purchaser is personally known to the seller or shall present clear evidence of his identity. A true record in triplicate shall be made of every pistol sold, in a book kept for the purpose, the form of which may be prescribed by the Secretary of State and shall be personally signed by the purchaser and by the person effecting the sale, the caliber, make, model and manufacturer's number of the weapon, the name, address, occupation, color and place of birth of purchaser and a statement signed by the purchaser that he has never been convicted in this state or elsewhere of a crime of violence. One copy shall be sent within six hours by registered or certified mail to the chief of police of the municipality or the sheriff of the county of which the dealer is a resident; the dealer shall within seven days send the duplicate to the Secretary of State; and the dealer shall retain the triplicate for six years. No pistol or imitation thereof or placard advertising the sale thereof shall be displayed in any part of any premises where it can readily be seen from the outside. The fee for issuing said license shall be $.50, which fee shall be paid into the State Treasury.

(Acts 1936, Ex. Sess., No. 82, p. 51; Code 1940, T. 14, § 181; Acts 1951, No. 784, p. 1378; Code 1975, § 13-6-159.)

§ 13A-11-80

Loans secured by deposit, etc., of pistol prohibited; certain transfers prohibited.

No person shall make any loan secured by a mortgage, deposit or pledge of a pistol contrary to this division, nor shall any person lend or give a pistol to another or otherwise deliver a pistol contrary to the provisions of this division.

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§ 13A-11-81

False information in applications for licenses, purchases, etc.

No person shall, in purchasing or otherwise securing delivery of a pistol or in applying for a license to carry the same, give false information or offer false evidence of his identity.


§ 13A-11-83

Antique pistols.

This division shall not apply to the purchase, possession or sale of pistols as curiosities or ornaments or to the transportation of such pistols unloaded and in a bag, box or securely wrapped package, but not concealed on the person.


§ 13A-11-84

Penalties; seizure and disposition of pistols involved in violations of certain sections.

(a) Every violation of subsection (a) of Section 13A-11-72 or of Sections 13A-11-81 or 13A-11-82 shall be punishable by imprisonment for not more than five years. Every violation of subsection (b) of Section 13A-11-72 or of Sections 13A-11-73, 13A-11-74 and 13A-11-77 through 13A-11-80 shall be punishable by imprisonment for any term less than one year or by a fine of not more than $500.00, or both. The punishment for violating Section 13A-11-78 or 13A-11-79 may include revocation of license.

(b) It shall be the duty of any sheriff, policeman or other peace officer of the State of Alabama, arresting any person charged with violating Sections 13A-11-71 through 13A-11-73, or any one or more of said sections, to seize the pistol or pistols in the possession or under the control of the person or persons charged with violating said section or sections, and to deliver said pistol or
pistols to one of the following named persons: if a municipal officer makes the arrest, to the city clerk or custodian of stolen property of the municipality employing the arresting officer; if a county, state or other peace officer makes the arrest, to the sheriff of the county in which the arrest is made. The person receiving the pistol or pistols from the arresting officer shall keep it in a safe place in as good condition as received until disposed of as hereinafter provided. Within five days after the final conviction of any person arrested for violating any of the above-numbered sections, the person receiving possession of the pistol or pistols, seized as aforesaid, shall report the seizure and detention of said pistol or pistols to the district attorney within the county where the pistol or pistols are seized, giving a full description thereof, the number, make and model thereof, the name of the person in whose possession it was found when seized, the person making claim to same or any interest therein, if the name can be ascertained or is known, and the date of the seizure. Upon receipt of the report from the person receiving possession of the pistol or pistols as aforesaid, it shall be the duty of the district attorney within the county wherein the pistol or pistols were seized to forthwith file a complaint in the circuit court of the proper county, praying that such seized pistol or pistols be declared contraband, be forfeited to the state and be destroyed. Any person, firm or corporation or association of persons in whose possession said pistol or pistols may be seized or who claim to own the same or any interest therein shall be made a party defendant to said complaint, and thereupon such matter shall proceed and be determined in the circuit court of the proper county in the same form and manner, as near as may be, as in the forfeiture and destruction of gaming devices, except as herein otherwise provided. When any judgment of condemnation and forfeiture is made in any case filed under the provisions of this section, the judge making such judgment shall direct therein the destruction of the pistol or pistols by the person receiving possession of said pistol or pistols from the arresting officer in the presence of the clerk or register of the court, unless the judge is of the opinion that the nondestruction thereof is necessary or proper in the ends of justice, in which event and upon recommendation of the district attorney, the judge shall award the pistol or pistols to the sheriff of the county or to the chief of police of the municipality to be used exclusively by the sheriff or the chief of police in the enforcement of law, and the sheriff of the county and the chiefs of police of the municipalities shall keep a permanent record of all pistols awarded to them as provided for herein, to be accounted for as other public property, and said order, in the event that no appeal is taken within 15 days from the rendition thereof, shall be carried out and executed before the expiration of 20 days from the date of the judgment. The court, at its discretion, shall direct in said judgment that the costs of the proceedings be paid by the person in whose possession said pistol or pistols were found when seized, or by any party or parties who claim to own said pistol or pistols, or any interest therein, and who contested the condemnation and forfeiture thereof.

Alabama’s Firearms and Weapons Law

§ 13A-11-85

Reciprocity for licenses issued in other states.

(a) A person licensed to carry a handgun in any state shall be authorized to carry a handgun in this state. This section shall apply to a license holder from another state only while the license holder is not a resident of this state. A license holder from another state shall carry the handgun in compliance with the laws of this state.

(b) The Attorney General is authorized to enter into reciprocal agreements with other states for the mutual recognition of licenses to carry handguns and shall periodically publish a list of states which recognize licenses issued pursuant to Section 13A-11-75.

(Act 2001-494, p. 862, § 1; Act 2013-283, § 2.)

Division 3: Firearms in Place of Employment

§ 13A-11-90

Restrictions on firearms by employers.

(a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), a public or private employer may restrict or prohibit its employees, including those with a permit issued or recognized under Section 13A-11-75, from carrying firearms while on the employer's property or while engaged in the duties of the person's employment.

(b) A public or private employer may not restrict or prohibit the transportation or storage of a lawfully possessed firearm or ammunition in an employee's privately owned motor vehicle while parked or operated in a public or private parking area if the employee satisfies all of the following:

(1) The employee either:

   a. Has a valid concealed weapon permit; or

   b. If the weapon is any firearm legal for use for hunting in Alabama other than a pistol:

      i. The employee possesses a valid Alabama hunting license;
ii. The weapon is unloaded at all times on the property;

iii. It is during a season in which hunting is permitted by Alabama law or regulation;

iv. The employee has never been convicted of any crime of violence as that term is defined in Section 13A-11-70, nor of any crime set forth in Chapter 6 of Title 13A, nor is subject to a Domestic Violence Order, as that term is defined in Section 13A-6-141;

v. The employee does not meet any of the factors set forth in Section 13A-11-75(a)(1)a.1-8; and

vi. The employee has no documented prior workplace incidents involving the threat of physical injury or which resulted in physical injury.

(2) The motor vehicle is operated or parked in a location where it is otherwise permitted to be.

(3) The firearm is either of the following:

a. In a motor vehicle attended by the employee, kept from ordinary observation within the person's motor vehicle.

b. In a motor vehicle unattended by the employee, kept from ordinary observation and locked within a compartment, container, or in the interior of the person's privately owned motor vehicle or in a compartment or container securely affixed to the motor vehicle.

(c) If an employer believes that an employee presents a risk of harm to himself/herself or to others, the employer may inquire as to whether the employee possesses a firearm in his or her private motor vehicle. If the employee does possess a firearm in his or her private motor vehicle on the property of the employer, the employer may make any inquiry necessary to establish that the employee is in compliance with subsection (b).

(1) If the employee is not in compliance with subsection (b), the employer may take adverse employment action against the employee, in the discretion of the employer.

(2) If the employee has been in compliance with subsection (b) at all times, the employer may not take adverse employment action against the employee based solely on the presence of the firearm.

(d) If an employer discovers by other means that an employee is transporting or storing a firearm in his or her private motor vehicle, the employer may not take any adverse employment action against the employee based solely on the possession of that firearm if the employee has complied with the requirements in subsection (b).
Alabama’s Firearms and Weapons Law

(e) Nothing in this section shall prohibit an employer from reporting to law enforcement a complaint based upon information and belief that there is credible evidence of any of the following:

(1) That the employee's motor vehicle contains:
   a. A firearm prohibited by state or federal law.
   b. Stolen property or a prohibited or illegal item other than a firearm.

(2) A threat made by an employee to cause bodily harm to themselves or others.

(f) If law enforcement officers, pursuant to a valid search warrant or valid warrantless search based upon probable cause, exigent circumstances, or other lawful exception to the search warrant requirement, discover a firearm prohibited by state or federal law, stolen property, or a prohibited or illegal item other than a firearm, the employer may take adverse employment action against the employee.

(g) However, if the employee has fully complied with the requirements of subsection (b) and does not possess a firearm prohibited by state or federal law, that employee is entitled to recovery as specified in this subsection for any adverse employment action against the employee. If demand for the recovery has not been satisfied within 45 calendar days, the employee may file a civil action in the appropriate court of this state against the public or private employer. A plaintiff is entitled to seek an award of all of the following:

(1) Compensation, if applicable, for lost wages or benefits.

(2) Compensation, if applicable, for other lost remuneration caused by the termination, demotion, or other adverse action.

(h) The license requirements set forth in sections (b)(1)a. and (b)(1)b.i. are for the purposes of this section only in order to determine whether an employee may transport or store a lawfully possessed firearm or ammunition in an employee's privately owned motor vehicle while parked or operated in a public or private parking area owned by the employer and shall not be construed to otherwise expand the requirements for the lawful possession of a firearm. These requirements shall not be interpreted to mean that the laws of the State of Alabama create any new connection between the possession of a hunting license and the right of a citizen to keep and bear arms.

(i) Prohibitions regarding the carrying of a firearm under this section shall not apply to law enforcement officers engaged in the lawful execution of their official duties.
Alabama’s Firearms and Weapons Law

(j) Nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize the transportation, carrying, storing, or possession of a firearm or ammunition where prohibited by federal law.

(Act 2013-283, § 4.)

§ 13A-11-91

Liability of employers, etc., for damages resulting from presence of firearms.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (g) of Section 13A-11-90, an employer and the owner and/or lawful possessor of the property on which the employer is situated shall be absolutely immune from any claim, cause of action or lawsuit that may be brought by any person seeking any form of damages that are alleged to arise, directly or indirectly, as a result of any firearm brought onto the property of the employer, owner, or lawful possessor by an employee, including a firearm that is transported in an employee's privately owned motor vehicle.

(b) The presence of a firearm or ammunition on an employer's property under the authority of Act 2013-283 does not, by itself, constitute the failure by the employer to provide a safe workplace.

(c) For the purposes of Act 2013-283, a public or private employer, or the employer's principal, officer, director, employee, or agent, does not have a duty:

(1) To patrol, inspect, or secure:

a. Any parking lot, parking garage, or other parking area the employer provides for employees; or

b. Any privately owned motor vehicle located in a parking lot, parking garage, or other parking area the employer provides for employees; or

(2) To investigate, confirm, or determine an employee's compliance with laws related to the ownership or possession of a firearm or ammunition or the transportation and storage of a firearm or ammunition.

(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to provide immunity from liability to an employer, business entity, or property owner for his or her own affirmative wrongful acts that cause harm, damage, or injury to another.

(e) The denial by a court of a Motion to Dismiss based on immunity grounds shall be appealable in the same manner as a final order to the appellate court which would otherwise have
jurisdiction over the appeal from a final order of the action. Such appeal may only be filed within 42 days of the order denying the Motion to Dismiss. The filing of such appeal, the failure to file an appeal, or the affirmance of the denial of the Motion to Dismiss shall in no way affect the right of the Defendant, after entry of judgment, to appeal the denial of immunity. During the pendency of such appeal, the action in the trial court shall be stayed in all respects.

(f) Nothing in Act 2013-283 is intended to expand or limit the rights an employer or employee currently has under Chapter 5 of Title 25.

(Act 2013-283, § 5.)