

INFORMATION FOR PENNSYLVANIA FIREARM PURCHASERS

&

BASIC FIREARM SAFETY



- § 3502 Burglary
- § 3503 Criminal trespass, if a felony of the second degree or higher
- § 3701 Robbery
- § 3702 Robbery of motor vehicle
- § 3921 Theft by unlawful taking or disposition, upon conviction of the second felony offense
- § 3923 Theft by extortion, when the offense is accompanied by threats of violence
- § 3925 Receiving stolen property, upon conviction of the second felony offense
- §4906 False reports to law enforcement authorities, if the fictitious report involved the theft of a firearm as provided in 4906(c)(2)
- § 4912 Impersonating a public servant if impersonating a law enforcement officer
- § 4952 Intimidation of witnesses or victims
- § 4953 Retaliation against witness, victim or party
- § 5121 Escape
- § 5122 Weapons or implements for escape
- § 5501(3) Riot
- § 5515 Prohibiting of paramilitary training
- § 5516 Facsimile weapons of mass destruction
- § 6110.1 Possession of firearm by minor
- § 6301 Corruption of minors
- § 6302 Sale or lease of weapons and explosives

Any offense equivalent to any of the above offenses under the prior laws of this Commonwealth, or any offense equivalent to any of the above offenses under the statutes of any other state or of the United States.

Prohibiting Conditions – Are you a person who:

1. is a fugitive from justice; or
2. has been convicted of an offense under the Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act (P.L. 233, No. 64) punishable by imprisonment exceeding two years; or
3. has been convicted of driving under the influence (DUI) of alcohol or controlled substance as provided in 75 Pa.C.S. § 3802 (relating to driving under influence of alcohol or controlled substance) or the former 75 Pa.C.S. § 3731, on three or more separate occasions within a five-year period; or
(*Note: Depending on the grade of the offense, certain DUI offenses could be prohibiting under Federal law upon the first conviction.*)

4. has been adjudicated as an incompetent or who has been involuntarily committed to a mental institution for treatment under § 302, 303, or 304 under the Mental Health Procedures Act (P.L. 817, No. 143); or
5. is an alien, is illegally or unlawfully in the United States; or
6. is the subject of an active protection from abuse order issued pursuant to 23 Pa.C.S. § 6108, relating to relief, which order provides for the relinquishment of firearms; or
7. was adjudicated delinquent (with conditions specified in the UFA). With the exception of crimes committed under sections 2502, 2503, 2702, 2703, 2704, 2901, 3121, 3123, 3301, 3502, 3701, and 3923, this prohibition may terminate 15 years after the last applicable delinquent adjudication or upon the person reaching the age of 30, whichever is earlier.
8. was adjudicated delinquent by a court pursuant to 42 Pa.C.S. § 6341 or under any equivalent Federal statute or statute of any other state as a result of conduct which if committed by an adult would constitute an offense enumerated in 18 Pa.C.S. § 6105(b) with the exception of those crimes set forth in paragraph 7. This prohibition shall terminate 15 years after the last applicable delinquent adjudication or upon the person reaching the age of 30, whichever is earlier.
9. is prohibited from possessing or acquiring a firearm under 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(9) (relating to unlawful acts) who has been convicted in any court of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence by a person in any of the following relationships: (i) the current or former spouse, parent or guardian of the victim; (ii) a person with whom the victim shares a child in common; (iii) a person who cohabits with or has cohabited with the victim as a spouse, parent or guardian; or (iv) a person similarly situated to a spouse, parent or guardian of the victim; then the relationship need not be an element of the offense to meet the requirements of this paragraph.

Federal Prohibitions

Prohibitions under federal law (as it applies in Pennsylvania) include: Under indictment for, or conviction of a misdemeanor offense for which the maximum prison term may exceed two years, or a felony, if the maximum prison term exceeds one year.

PENNSYLVANIA INSTANT CHECK SYSTEM PICS

The Pennsylvania State Police implemented the Pennsylvania Instant Check System (PICS) on July 1, 1998. This system provides instant access to background records on an individual to determine if the

person is eligible to purchase a firearm or acquire a license to carry a firearm.

Pennsylvania Firearm Dealers and County Sheriffs access the PICS program through a toll free telephone number. Operation has shown that approximately 91% of the individuals attempting to purchase a firearm can be approved while on the initial call.

By law, no record information may be disseminated as a result of the background check. At times, temporary delays may be necessary. If a record is identified and is incomplete, it is necessary to research the record and contact the agency(s) that may be able to provide information required in order to complete the background check. Individuals with a common name may require time to determine whether or not the record actually belongs to the individual attempting to purchase a firearm.

INFORMATION FOR PENNSYLVANIA FIREARM PURCHASERS INCLUDES:

- **Basic Firearm Safety**
- **Children and Firearms**
- **Commonly asked questions about firearms and the Uniform Firearms Act**
- **Pennsylvania Instant Check System – PICS**

Because of its length, the Uniform Firearms Act (UFA) cannot be included in this brochure. Your State legislator or the PSP can provide you with a copy of the UFA upon written request.

For additional information, contact:

**Pennsylvania State Police
Firearms Division
1800 Elmerton Avenue
Harrisburg PA 17110
Telephone: 717-783-5495**

or visit our website at www.psp.state.pa.us.

The primary purpose of PICS is public safety, to ensure an eligible person may acquire a firearm, and that a prohibited person may not!

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Pennsylvania State Police, Firearms Division

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