

California Department of Justice  
DIVISION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT  
George B. Anderson, Director



# INFORMATION BULLETIN

*Subject:*

**NEW AND AMENDED FIREARMS/WEAPONS  
LAWS**

*No.*

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*Date:*

4/4/08

*Contact for information:*

*Bureau of Firearms*

*(916) 263-4887*

## TO: ALL CALIFORNIA FIREARMS DEALERS AND MANUFACTURERS

This bulletin provides a brief summary of new and amended California firearms/weapons laws effective January 1, 2008. You may contact the California State Capitol Legislative Bill Room at (916) 445-2323 to obtain copies of the bills (order by statute year and chapter number), or access the full text of the bills via the Internet at <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/>. Additional information regarding firearms laws, including the full text of the Dangerous Weapons Control Law, is available on the Internet at the California Department of Justice (DOJ) Bureau of Firearms web site at <http://www.ag.ca.gov/firearms>.

### **AB 821 (Stats. 2007, ch. 570) (Nava)**

- Enacts the Ridley-Tree Condor Preservation Act declaring the Legislature's intent to protect vulnerable wildlife species, including the California condor, from the ongoing threat of lead poisoning. The new law requires the use of non-lead centerfire rifle and pistol ammunition when taking big game and coyote within specified areas. By July 1, 2008, the Fish and Game Commission is required to establish, by regulation, a public process to certify centerfire rifle and pistol ammunition as non-lead ammunition, and to define non-lead ammunition by regulation. To the extent funding is available, the commission is required to provide hunters within the specified areas with non-lead ammunition at no or reduced charge through a coupon program. Violations are punishable by a \$500 fine for the first offense. (Fish & Game Code, § 3004.5)

### **AB 854 (Stats. 2007, ch. 163) (Keene)**

- Provides exceptions to various requirements in connection with the transfer of firearms, when a firearm is loaned to consultant-evaluators who possess a valid Certificate of Eligibility (COE) issued by DOJ pursuant to Penal Code (PC) Section 12071. The exemption is applicable only when the loan is for research or evaluation purposes. (PC, §§ 12001, 12073, 12078, and 12132)

### **AB 1471 (Stats. 2007, ch. 572) (Feuer)**

- As of January 1, 2010, expands the definition of "unsafe handgun" to include semiautomatic pistols that are not designed and equipped to imprint a microscopic array of characters identifying the make, model, and serial number of the pistol on two or more places on each cartridge case fired from the pistol. These provisions go into effect only

after DOJ certifies that the technology necessary to comply with these requirements is available to more than one manufacturer and is unencumbered by any patent restrictions.

**AB 1645 (Stats. 2007, ch. 715) (La Malfa)**

- Establishes that the Governor's authority to invoke various powers in the event of an emergency do not include the power to order the seizure or confiscation of firearms or ammunition from any individual who lawfully possesses the firearm or ammunition. (Gov. Code, § 8571.5)

**SB 248 (Stats. 2007, ch. 639) (Padilla)**

- As of January 1, 2009, authorizes local law enforcement agencies to have specified information related to firearms entered into the United States Department of Justice, National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) to ensure that representative samples of fired bullets and cartridge cases that are collected at crime scenes are recorded in NIBIN. By July 1, 2008, the Attorney General is required to develop a protocol for local law enforcement agencies to submit the information to NIBIN. (PC, § 11108.10)

If you have any questions regarding this Information Bulletin, please contact the DOJ Bureau of Firearms, at (916) 263-4887.

Sincerely,



WILFREDO CID, Chief  
Bureau of Firearms

For EDMUND G. BROWN JR  
Attorney General