


<p>California Department of Justice DIVISION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT Stephen Woolery, Chief</p> 	<h1>INFORMATION BULLETIN</h1>	
<p><i>Subject:</i></p> <p>California’s Firearm Open Carry Laws Currently Remain in Effect – Update to Information Bulletin 2026-DLE-04</p>	<p><i>No.</i></p> <p>2026-DLE-10</p>	<p><i>Contact for information:</i></p> <p>Bureau of Firearms (916) 210-2300</p>
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TO: ALL CALIFORNIA CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

This bulletin is an update to Information Bulletin 2026-DLE-04, dated January 7, 2026.

On January 2, 2026, a three-judge panel of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals issued an opinion in *Baird v. Bonta*, Case No. 24-565, holding that certain California laws that restrict openly carrying loaded or unloaded firearms in public in densely populated counties violate the Second Amendment. As explained in Information Bulletin 2026-DLE-04, the Ninth Circuit’s opinion in this case did not take effect because the Court had not issued the mandate. See Fed. R. App. P. 41; *Carver v. Lehman*, 558 F.3d 869, 878 (9th Cir. 2009) (“No opinion of this circuit becomes final until the mandate issues[.]”).

On April 15, 2026, the Ninth Circuit ordered that the case be reheard en banc and vacated the three-judge panel opinion issued on January 2, 2026. A copy of the order is available [here](#). The Ninth Circuit has also indicated that the en banc oral argument will occur the week of June 1, 2026. The mandate will not be issued until after the Ninth Circuit hears and decides the case en banc.

Accordingly, California's restrictions on the open carrying of firearms and issuance of open-carry licenses remain in effect and should continue to be followed by law enforcement agencies and prosecutorial agencies at this time until further action by the Ninth Circuit.