

California Department of Justice DIVISION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT Stephen Woolery, Chief 		INFORMATION BULLETIN	
<i>Subject:</i> Amended Guidance to CCW Licensing Authorities Regarding Relevant Laws Amended Under AB 1078	<i>No.</i> 2026-DLE-13		<i>Contact for information:</i> Bureau of Firearms (916) 210-2751 CCWInfo@doj.ca.gov
	<i>Date:</i> 08/07/2026		

TO: ALL CALIFORNIA CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

This bulletin supersedes Information Bulletin 2026-DLE-03, dated March 24, 2026, which advised Law Enforcement Agencies (licensing authorities) issuing carry concealed weapons (CCW) licenses of the requirements of Assembly Bill (AB) 1078 (Stat. 2025, Ch. 570). Effective January 1, 2026, AB 1078 amended various laws relevant to the CCW license application process and implemented a process for non-residents to apply for CCW licenses in California.

The purpose of this bulletin is to update and supersede the guidance provided in Information Bulletin 2026-DLE-03 about AB 1078. This bulletin incorporates some additional clarifying information about the topics covered in the previous bulletin and also adds new information about (1) the process for non-resident CCW applicants to use the fingerprinting services of either a law enforcement agency in their state of residence or a Live Scan Operator, and (2) the use of criminal justice information for CCW license applications. This updated bulletin includes guidance on all of the following topics:

- Non-resident applications for CCW licenses and fingerprint submissions;
- Updates to the Non-resident Standard Initial and Renewal Application for License to Carry a Weapon Capable of Being Concealed Supplemental Form (BOF 4013);
- Changes to the disqualified person determination and reporting to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System Index;
- Changes relevant to the denial or revocation of CCW Licenses and subsequent notification service;
- Notification timelines for licensing authorities; and
- Use of California Department of Justice (Department) criminal justice information for CCW license applications.

This bulletin is not legal advice. Rather, it summarizes relevant statutes and regulations as of the date of this bulletin. This bulletin supplements, instead of supplanting, relevant statutes and regulations. Licensing authorities should consult with their legal counsel when formulating policies and practices, and addressing any questions regarding the issues covered in this bulletin.

Statutory Requirements for Non-residents to Apply for CCW Licenses

As of January 1, 2026, people who do not reside in California (i.e., non-residents) may apply for a CCW license in California pursuant to the requirements outlined in the new subdivision (b) of Penal Code sections 26150

and 26155. Pursuant to these new requirements, a licensing authority shall issue a CCW license to a non-resident applicant who meets all of the following requirements:

- Applicant must submit fingerprints for the purpose of the eligibility check described in Penal Code section 26185. A non-resident applicant may submit their fingerprints to the licensing authority in accordance with California Code of Regulations, title 11, section 4420, by completing a BCIA 8016, REQUEST FOR LIVE SCAN SERVICE form and taking the completed form to a live scan operator in California to initiate the background check process. Alternatively, a non-resident applicant may submit their fingerprints on an FBI Form FD-258 fingerprint card by using the fingerprinting services of a law enforcement agency in their state of residence. If a non-resident applicant opts to use the FBI Form FD-258, then they should follow the guidance in the section entitled “Fingerprints for Non-Resident Applicant” on page 7 of this bulletin;
- The Department confirms the applicant’s eligibility to possess, receive, own, or purchase a firearm upon receipt of the fingerprints of an applicant;
- Applicant is not a disqualified person as set forth in Penal Code section 26202 and all comparable statutes and provisions of law of the non-resident applicant’s state of residence. (Note that for non-residents, the interview requirement at section 26202, subdivision (b)(1) may be satisfied by an in-person interview or by a virtual interview where the applicant appears by video and audio);
- Applicant is at least 21 years of age and presents clear evidence of identity, age, and state of residence (e.g., a valid driver’s license from their state of residence or valid out-of-state identification card issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles);
- Applicant attests, under oath, that the jurisdiction in which they have applied is the primary location in California in which they intend to travel or spend time;
- Applicant has completed a course of training that meets the criteria set forth in Penal Code section 26165, subdivision (a)(1)-(5) and subdivision (d), as it pertains to the licensing authority to which the application is submitted. If the licensing authority to which the application is submitted has not approved of any online training courses, the applicant may complete an online training course approved by any other licensing authority that issues CCW licenses;
- Applicant has completed live-fire shooting exercises as required by Penal Code section 26165, subdivision (a)(6), for each firearm the applicant seeks to have listed on their CCW license. The applicant shall inform the licensing authority to which they have applied of the live-fire course the applicant intends to complete, and the licensing authority shall either approve the course or suggest an alternative acceptable course within 75 miles of the applicant’s residence; and
- Applicant has identified on the application the make, model, caliber, and serial number of each firearm the applicant seeks to have listed on their CCW license. Note that identification of a firearm that cannot lawfully be carried or possessed in California shall be cause for denial of a license as to that firearm.

Furthermore, pursuant to Penal Code section 26190, subdivision (e), and section 26202, subdivision (a)(1), if a psychological assessment is required for a non-resident's initial CCW application, the licensing authority may allow the applicant to either complete a virtual psychological assessment, where the applicant appears by video and audio, or approve an examination provider located within 75 miles of the applicant's residence.

Updated Non-resident Standard Initial and Renewal Application for License to Carry a Weapon Capable of Being Concealed Supplemental Form (BOF 4013) - Rev. 01/2026

To implement the attestation requirement for non-residents pursuant to Penal Code sections 26150, subdivision (b)(3), and 26155, subdivision (b)(3), the Department has updated the BOF 4013 (Rev. 01/2026) to allow non-resident CCW applicants to attest that the jurisdiction in which they have submitted a CCW application is the primary location in California that they intend to travel or spend time.

The updated BOF 4013 can be accessed on the Department's website at oag.ca.gov/firearms/forms or on the California Law Enforcement Web (CLEW) at clew.doj.ca.gov/firearms.

Fingerprints for Non-Resident Applicant

In addition to the means set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 11, section 4420, non-resident applicants may submit their fingerprints on an FBI Form FD-258 fingerprint card after getting their fingerprints taken at a law enforcement agency in the applicant's state of residence. The applicant should adhere to the following to help ensure timely processing of their fingerprints:

- The non-resident applicant's local law enforcement agency will supply the FBI Form FD-258 fingerprint card. The law enforcement agency must be the entity that takes the applicant's fingerprints. The card must be on cardstock to avoid processing issues.
- The non-resident applicant will complete each required field on the FBI Form FD-258 by typing or legibly printing using blue or black ink. If the fields are not legible or not complete, the California licensing authority may reject the form.
- The required fields for FBI Form FD-258 are: Name, Originating Agency Identifier (ORI), Agency Name and Address, Date of Birth, Place of Birth, Sex, Miscellaneous No. (must provide Driver's License or Identification Number), Signature of Person Fingerprinted, Signature of Official Taking Fingerprints, date fingerprinted, reason fingerprinted (list CCW Applicant Type: Non-resident Standard or Judicial and the type of license: Concealed Weapon License), and proper completion of fingerprint impression boxes.
- Non-resident applicants will enter the ORI of the California licensing authority to which they intend to apply—not the local law enforcement agency taking their fingerprints. Non-resident applicants should contact the California licensing authority for its ORI, Agency Name, and Address to ensure background results are sent to the appropriate agency.

- Once complete, non-resident applicants must mail the completed FBI Form FD-258 to the California licensing authority to which they intend to apply for its review. Pursuant to Penal Code section 26190, non-resident applicants must include the fees for the direct costs of furnishing the information and report required by Section 26185.
- Once received, the California licensing authority should review the FBI Form FD-258 to ensure that it is legible and complete to prevent processing delays.
- If not obtained in another manner, the California licensing authority should maintain a scan of the right thumbprint on the FBI Form FD-258 and ensure that it is of sufficient resolution to comply with California Code of Regulations, title 11, section 4402.
- An FBI Form FD-258 determined to be accurate and complete by the California licensing authority must be sent along with the appropriate fees or Applicant Transmittal Form (JUS 204) to:

California Department of Justice
Prescan Unit, K-111
P.O. Box 903417
Sacramento, CA 94203-4170

- If the fingerprints are accepted, then the responses described in Penal Code section 26185 will be forwarded to the California licensing authority via Applicant Agency Justice Connection. Any incomplete or illegible FBI Form FD-258 will be returned. The California licensing authority may email Appagencyquestions@doj.ca.gov if a response is not received.
- If the California licensing authority has additional questions regarding the FBI Form FD-258 submittal process, you may contact the Department of Justice's Prescan Unit at prescan@doj.ca.gov.
- An example of an FBI Form FD-258 is below. For information on fingerprints, please visit: <https://oag.ca.gov/fingerprints/agencies>.

APPLICANT * See Privacy Act Notice on Back FD-258 (Rev. 11-1-20) 1110-0046		LEAVE BLANK		TYPE OR PRINT ALL INFORMATION IN BLACK				FBI		LEAVE BLANK	
				LAST NAME NAM		FIRST NAME		MIDDLE NAME			
				Doe		John					
SIGNATURE OF PERSON FINGERPRINTED				ALIASES AKA				O R I CA1234567			
Signature required											
RESIDENCE OF PERSON FINGERPRINTED								DATE OF BIRTH Month Day Year			
<insert address of nonresident applicant>								01/01/1980			
DATE		SIGNATURE OF OFFICIAL TAKING FINGERPRINTS		CITIZENSHIP CTZ		SEX		RACE		HGT.	
1/1/25		Signature required		YOUR NO. OCA		M				WGT.	
EMPLOYER AND ADDRESS				UNIVERSAL CONTROL NO. LICN				EYES		HAIR	
<insert California Local Issuing Authority name and address>								PLACE OF BIRTH POR			
REASON FINGERPRINTED Applicant Type: Standard, Type of License: Concealed Weapon License				ARMED FORCES NO. MNU				LEAVE BLANK			
				SOCIAL SECURITY NO. SOC							
				MISCELLANEOUS NO. MNU							
				<insert driver's license or ID number>							
1. R. THUMB		2. R. INDEX		3. R. MIDDLE		4. R. RING		5. R. LITTLE			
6. L. THUMB		7. L. INDEX		8. L. MIDDLE		9. L. RING		10. L. LITTLE			
LEFT FOUR FINGERS TAKEN SIMULTANEOUSLY				R. THUMB		R. THUMB		RIGHT FOUR FINGERS TAKEN SIMULTANEOUSLY			

Changes Relevant to the Penal Code Section 26202 Disqualified Person Determination

AB 1078 made several amendments to Penal Code section 26202, which outlines the standards for determining whether a person is disqualified from receiving a CCW permit. These amendments are concisely summarized below but licensing authorities should review the statutory text carefully for the purpose of conducting the disqualified person investigation described in section 26202.

- AB 1078 added additional criteria that would deem a CCW applicant to be a disqualified person under Penal Code section 26202, including the following:
 - Applicant has been convicted of contempt of court under any federal law or the law of any other state that includes comparable elements of contempt of court under Penal Code section 166.

- Applicant has been subject to a restraining order, protective order, or other type of court order issued pursuant to California law, federal law, or the law of any other state that includes comparable elements to the relevant provisions of California law pertaining to civil or criminal court protective and restraining orders, including but not limited to, Criminal Protective Orders, Domestic Violence Restraining Orders, Civil Harassment Restraining Orders, and Gun Violence Restraining Orders.
 - Pursuant to AB 1078, this disqualification does not apply if either of the following is true: (1) The court order expired, was vacated, or was otherwise canceled more than five years prior to the licensing authority receiving the completed application for a new license or license renewal; or (2) The order expired, was vacated, or was otherwise canceled and the applicant did not receive notice and an opportunity to be heard before the order was issued.
 - However, information about an expired restraining order, including ex parte orders such as Emergency Protective Orders, may be relevant factors to consider in a disqualified person investigation. AB 1078 requires licensing authorities to review information in the California Restraining and Protective Order System (CARPOS) accessible through CLETS to determine whether the applicant's restraining order history indicates that the applicant is a disqualified person, including because they are reasonably likely to be a danger to self, others, or the community at large, or because the applicant is otherwise disqualified.
- Applicant has been convicted in the 10 years prior to the licensing authority receiving the completed application for a new license or a license renewal of any federal law or the law of any other state that includes comparable elements to the provisions of Penal Code sections 422.6, 422.7, or 422.75 (related to hate or bias-motivated offenses), or to an offense listed in section 29805. Section 29805 identifies a list of misdemeanor offenses that generally result in a 10-year firearm prohibition after conviction under California law, including but not limited to, offenses involving assault, battery, stalking, criminal threats, domestic violence, child abuse, and elder abuse.
- Applicant has been charged with any federal law or law of any other state that includes comparable elements of Penal Code sections 290 (offense requiring sex offender registration), 667.5 (violent felonies), 1192.7 (serious felonies), 1192.8 (same), or 29805 (misdemeanor offenses that generally result in a 10-year firearm prohibition after conviction) that was dismissed pursuant to a plea or dismissed with a waiver pursuant to *People v. Harvey* (1979) 25 Cal.3d 754 in the 10 years prior to the licensing authority receiving the completed application for a new license or a license renewal.
- An applicant is “an unlawful user of or addicted to any controlled substance,” as described in United States Code, title 18, section 922, subdivision (g)(3), and applicable regulations and guidance.
 - An applicable regulation that can assist with this determination is at Code of Federal Regulations, title 27, section 478.11.

- Guidance that can assist with this determination can be found in the interim final rule published by the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), available here: www.federalregister.gov/documents/2026/01/22/2026-01141/revising-definition-of-unlawful-user-of-or-addicted-to-controlled-substance. Please see page 5 in the next section for more information about this interim final rule that was released by the ATF on January 22, 2026, and took effect the same day.
 - Please also note the U.S. Supreme Court opinion in *United States v. Hemani*, No. 24-1234, slip op. (U.S. June 18, 2026), which is available here: https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/25pdf/24-1234_g2bh.pdf.
 - Note that an initial determination that an applicant is not a disqualified person, as described in Penal Code section 26202, subdivision (d)(1)(A), must include a final determination as to whether the applicant is or is not a disqualified person on this basis (Pen. Code, § 26202, subd. (d)(1)(B)).
- AB 1078 added a definition of “abusing” for purposes of the disqualified person basis described at Penal Code section 26202, subdivision (a)(9).

Requirement for Licensing Authorities to Submit Penal Code Section 26202(a)(8) Disqualified Person Information to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) Index

As previously described under AB 1078, an applicant who is determined to be “an unlawful user of or addicted to any controlled substance,” as described in United States Code, title 18, section 922, subdivision (g)(3), and applicable regulations and guidance, is considered a disqualified person and cannot receive a CCW.

Under Penal Code section 26202, subdivision (f), upon determining a CCW applicant is a disqualified person pursuant to Penal Code section 26202, subdivision (a)(8), the licensing authority shall, within five days, submit to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) Index the full name, date of birth, physical description of the applicant (e.g., sex, height, weight, and eye and hair color) reflecting that the applicant meets the criteria of 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(3) and the regulations issued pursuant thereto. Licensing authorities must satisfy this requirement by completing the updated License to Carry Concealed Pistol, Revolver, or Other Firearm – Notification of Denial or Revocation (BOF 1032) form (Rev. 03/2026), providing supporting documentation, and submitting it to the California Department of Justice, Bureau of Firearms within five days of determining a CCW applicant/licensee is a disqualified person.

Licensing authorities should complete **all fields** on the BOF 1032, ensure all personal identifying information for the applicant is provided, select “Denial” or Revocation,” and select the reason as “Disqualified Person (PC § 26202(a)(8))”. For the Department to report the identity of the applicant to the NICS Index, licensing authorities must provide the following personal identifying information on the BOF 1032:

- Last, first, and middle name
- Date of birth
- Sex
- Driver’s license or identification number

The following descriptors may be reported if available:

- Height
- Weight
- Eye color
- Hair color

As required under Penal Code section 26202, subdivision (f), the supporting documentation shall validate any identifying information provided about the applicant and the licensing authority's determination. The supporting documentation required should "include proof of an arrest or a conviction, results of a test administered on the applicant or substance, or documentation of the admission of use, as applicable, as well as the date of any such arrest, conviction, test, or admission." (Pen. Code, § 26202, subd. (f).)

Upon receipt of the BOF 1032 with supporting documentation, the Department will report the identity of the individual and supporting documentation to the NICS Index on behalf of licensing authorities. Please note that the Department will not review the accuracy of the licensing authority's determination that the applicant meets the criteria of 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(3) and the regulations issued pursuant thereto; rather, the Department's entry of the information into the NICS Index will be ministerial. Licensing authorities are responsible for the entry in the NICS Index; therefore, the Department will notate the name of the licensing authority on the entry. Unless the licensing authority's document retention policies provide for a longer period, the licensing authority shall retain any such supporting documentation for 12 months from the date of submission. (Pen. Code, § 26202, subd. (f).)

The updated BOF 1032 can be accessed on CLEW at clew.doj.ca.gov/firearms.

Please note that on January 22, 2026, the ATF published an interim final rule that revises (effective immediately) the regulatory definition of "an unlawful user of or addicted to any controlled substance," as that phrase is used in United States Code, title 18, section 922, subdivision (g)(3). A copy of the interim final rule is available here: www.federalregister.gov/documents/2026/01/22/2026-01141/revising-definition-of-unlawful-user-of-or-addicted-to-controlled-substance. The revised definition of "unlawful user of or addicted to any controlled substance" at Code of Federal Regulations, title 27, section 478.11 now reads as follows:

Unlawful user of or addicted to any controlled substance.

(1) A person who uses a controlled substance and demonstrates a pattern of compulsively using the controlled substance, characterized by impaired control over use, is addicted to a controlled substance.

(2) A person who regularly uses a controlled substance over an extended period of time continuing into the present, without a lawful prescription or in a manner substantially different from that prescribed by a licensed physician, is an unlawful user of a controlled substance.

(i) Such unlawful use is not limited to using a controlled substance on a particular day, or within a matter of days before shipping, transporting, possessing, or receiving a firearm. Rather, unlawful use requires evidence that the person has unlawfully used the substance with sufficient regularity and recency to indicate that the individual is actively engaged in such conduct. A person may be an unlawful current user of a controlled substance even though the substance is not being used at the precise time the person seeks to acquire, ship, transport,

receive, or possess the firearm.

(ii) A person is not an unlawful user of a controlled substance if the person has ceased regularly unlawfully using the substance, or if the person's unlawful use is isolated or sporadic or does not otherwise demonstrate a pattern of ongoing use. A person is also not an unlawful user if the person, while using a lawfully prescribed controlled substance, deviates slightly or immaterially from the instructions of the prescribing physician.

Licensing authorities should consult with their legal counsel on how to apply this new regulatory definition in determining whether a CCW applicant is a disqualified person pursuant to Penal Code section 26202, subdivision (a)(8). Neither ATF nor NICS has provided guidance to the Department on how to apply this new regulatory definition.

Changes Relevant to the Denial or Revocation of CCW Licenses

AB 1078 made several amendments to Penal Code section 26195, which are summarized below but licensing authorities should review the statutory text carefully for the purpose of knowing the basis for denial or revocation of a CCW license.

- A CCW license shall not be issued by the licensing authority if any of the following occurs:
 - The Department notifies the licensing authority that the applicant is prohibited by state or federal law from possessing, receiving, owning, or purchasing a firearm.
 - The applicant knowingly provides any inaccurate or incomplete information in connection with an application for a license or license renewal or an application to amend a license.
 - The applicant fails to inform the licensing authority that issued the license of any restraining order, arrest, charge, or conviction of a crime referenced in Penal Code section 26202.
- A CCW license shall be revoked by the licensing authority if at any time the licensing authority determines any of the following:
 - The licensee has breached any of the conditions or restrictions set forth in or imposed in accordance with Penal Code section 26200.
 - The licensee knowingly provided any inaccurate or incomplete information in connection with an application for a new license or license renewal or an application to amend a license.
 - The licensee has become a disqualified person, as determined in accordance with Penal Code section 26202.
 - The licensee failed to inform the licensing authority that issued the license of any restraining order, arrest, charge, or conviction of a crime referenced in Penal Code section 26202.

Change Relevant to Subsequent Notification Service

If a CCW license holder fails to submit a renewal application within 90 days of the expiration of their license, the licensing authority shall immediately request that the Department terminate state or federal subsequent notification pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 11105.2. (Pen. Code, § 26225, subd. (e).)

Requirement for Licensing Authorities to Provide Notice to Applicant Under Penal Code Section 26205

AB 1078 amended Penal Code section 26205 to specify the notification requirements for an application for a license renewal depending on when the application was submitted to the licensing authority. For each application for license renewal submitted prior to September 1, 2026, the licensing authority shall give written notice indicating if the CCW license is approved or denied within 120 days of receiving the completed application for a license renewal. (Pen. Code § 26205, subd. (a)(2)).

For each application for a license renewal submitted on or after September 1, 2026, the licensing authority shall give this written notice within 120 days of receiving the completed application for a license renewal, or 30 days after receipt of the firearms eligibility check information from the Department. (Pen. Code § 26205, subd. (a)(3)).

Use of Department Criminal Justice Information for CCW License Applications

As a reminder, licensing authorities should rely upon the following Department databases and services for their CCW License Application in determining whether the applicant is not a disqualified person to receive a CCW license in accordance with the standards set forth in Penal Code section 26202:

State and Federal Criminal History and Subsequent Arrest Notifications

The Department maintains comprehensive state summary criminal history information pursuant to Penal Code section 11105, and is required to furnish these records, in addition to federal-level criminal history information and subsequent arrest notifications to licensing authorities to assist in fulfilling administrative licensing duties.

In conducting the disqualified person investigation, licensing authorities should obtain criminal history from the Department in-lieu of accessing Automated Criminal History System directly by submitting the applicant's fingerprint images and related information in accordance with the procedure specified in Penal Code section 26185. The Department will provide licensing authorities with state and federal criminal history, subsequent arrest notifications in addition to information as to whether the person is prohibited by state or federal law from possessing, receiving, owning, or purchasing a firearm. (Pen. Code, § 26185, subds. (a), (b).)

Once an applicant's fingerprints are received by the Department, the transaction is generally processed electronically and accessible to licensing authorities via the AAJC Portal.

California Restraining and Protective Order System

The Department maintains the California Restraining and Protective Order System (CARPOS), which is accessible to licensing authorities via the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (CLETS) 24 hours a day, seven days a week. CARPOS contains information identifying individuals who are the subject of an active restraining order or protective order, or who have been the subject of a restraining order or protective order that expired, or was canceled or terminated, within the previous five years. Pursuant to Penal Code section 26202, subdivision (b), licensing authorities are required to review information in CARPOS to conduct the disqualified person investigation, including to determine if the applicant is reasonably likely to be a danger to self, others, or the community at large.

Licensing authorities should consult their legal counsel and review any internal policies regarding what other information can be accessed to conduct disqualified person investigations described in Penal Code section 26202.