


<p>California Department of Justice DIVISION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT Luis Lopez, Acting Chief</p> 	<h1>INFORMATION BULLETIN</h1>	
<p><i>Subject:</i> New and Amended Firearms/Weapons Laws</p>	<p><i>No.</i> 2024-DLE-02</p>	<p><i>Contact for information:</i> Bureau of Firearms (916) 210-2300</p>
	<p><i>Date:</i> 03/01/2024</p>	

TO: ALL CALIFORNIA CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, CENTRALIZED LIST OF FIREARMS DEALERS, MANUFACTURERS, EXEMPT FEDERAL FIREARMS LICENSEES, AND CALIFORNIA AMMUNITION VENDORS.

This bulletin provides a brief summary of California firearms/weapons bills that were signed into law in 2023. This bulletin also provides a summary of bills signed into law prior to 2023 that take effect in 2024.

This bulletin is for informational purposes only. Because it is a summary, it does not cover every aspect of the bills addressed below. The full text of the bills can be accessed at: <https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/>. The Department of Justice will hereinafter be referred to as “the Department.”

BILLS SIGNED INTO LAW IN 2023

Assembly Bills (AB)

AB 28 (Stats. 2023, ch. 231) – Firearms and ammunition: excise tax

Effective July 1, 2024

- Imposes an excise tax in the amount of 11% of the gross receipts from the retail sale of firearms, firearm precursor parts, and ammunition.
- Establishes the Gun Violence Prevention and School Safety Fund within the State Treasury. Funds collected pursuant to the new excise tax will be deposited into this fund and allocated to specified gun violence prevention, mental health, law enforcement, and victim service programs.
- Requires firearms dealers and ammunition vendors to possess a valid certificate of registration issued by the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration pursuant to Revenue and Taxation Code section 36036.

AB 92 (Stats. 2023, ch. 232) – Body armor: prohibition

Effective January 1, 2024

- Makes it a misdemeanor offense for a person prohibited from possessing a firearm to own, possess, or purchase body armor.
- Requires that a court advise a person of their body armor prohibition when making them aware of a firearm prohibition.

AB 97 (Stats. 2023, ch. 233) – Firearms: unserialized firearms

Effective January 1, 2024

- Requires the Department to collect and report on arrests related to unserialized firearms until January 1, 2033. Among the other items being reported, the Department will report on the number of arrests and the disposition of the arrests made.
- Requires the Department to issue a report that features data collected regarding unserialized firearms, commencing July 1, 2025, and annually thereafter.

AB 301 (Stats. 2023, ch. 234) – Gun violence restraining orders: body armor

Effective January 1, 2024

- Authorizes the court to consider evidence of acquisition of body armor by an individual when determining whether grounds exist for issuing a Gun Violence Restraining Order.

AB 355 (Stats. 2023, ch. 235) – Firearms: assault weapons: exception for peace officer training

Effective January 1, 2024

- Exempts from the general prohibition on the sale, transfer, or possession of an assault weapon the loaning of an assault weapon to, or the possession of an assault weapon by, a person enrolled in the course of basic training prescribed by the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training, while engaged in firearms training and being supervised by a firearms instructor.
- Prohibits the loaned assault weapon from leaving the training facility and requires the person being loaned an assault weapon to be currently employed with a law enforcement agency, as specified.

AB 455 (Stats. 2023, ch. 236) – Firearms: prohibited persons

Effective July 1, 2024

- Authorizes the prosecution in a criminal case to request a court order prohibiting a criminal defendant, subject to pretrial diversion that was granted under Penal Code section 1001.36 as a result of a mental disorder, from owning or possessing a firearm because they are a danger to themselves or others until successful completion of diversion or their firearm rights are restored, as specified.

AB 574 (Stats. 2023, ch. 237) – Firearms: dealer records of sale

Effective March 1, 2025

- Mandates that the register or record of sale include an acknowledgment by the purchaser or transferee that they have, within the last 30 days, confirmed possession of every firearm that they own or possess.

AB 724 (Stats. 2023, ch. 238) – Firearms: safety certificate instructional materials

Effective January 1, 2024

- Requires that instructional and testing materials for the Firearm Safety Certificate be available in traditional Chinese, simplified Chinese, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Korean, Dari, and Armenian.

AB 725 (Stats. 2023, ch. 239) – Firearms: reporting of lost and stolen firearms

Effective July 1, 2026

- Expands the definition of firearm to include the frame or receiver of the weapon, including both completed frames and receivers, or firearm precursor parts in the provisions that require a person to report any lost or stolen firearm to a law enforcement agency and that require the agency receiving such a report to enter a description of the lost or stolen firearm into the Department's Automated Firearms System.

AB 732 (Stats. 2023, ch. 240) – Crimes: relinquishment of firearms

Effective January 1, 2024

- Amends Proposition 63 by mandating that a defendant not being held in custody relinquish firearms within 48 hours.
- Requires a probation officer to provide a report to the prosecuting attorney, in addition to the court, on whether the defendant complied with the requirement to relinquish their firearms and file the proper paperwork providing proof of relinquishment.
- Requires a court, after a request for a warrant has been made, to order a search warrant for the search and removal of firearms if there is probable cause indicating that the defendant did not relinquish firearms or extend the time required for providing proof of firearm relinquishment to 14 days for good cause. Further requires the court to refer the matter to a prosecuting attorney and schedule a status review in 14 days if additional investigation is needed.
- Eliminates authorization for a law enforcement agency to sell a firearm relinquished by a defendant.
- Requires the Department to provide local law enforcement agencies and district attorneys access

through an electronic portal to information regarding individuals residing in their jurisdiction listed in the Armed Prohibited Persons System (APPS) who have not provided proof of relinquishment of firearms registered in their name. Mandates that each local law enforcement agency designate a person to access or receive this information.

- Requires each local law enforcement agency to report quarterly to the Department on the steps taken to verify that firearms are no longer in possession of the individuals residing in their jurisdiction listed in APPS who have not provided proof of relinquishment.
- Requires the Attorney General to keep and maintain a complete record of reports submitted to the Department pursuant to these measures.

AB 762 (Stats. 2023, ch. 241) – California Violence Intervention and Prevention Grant Program

Effective January 1, 2024

- Defines the purpose of the California Violence Intervention and Prevention Grant Program as supporting community gun violence prevention efforts in communities disproportionately impacted by gun violence.
- Expands the California Violence Intervention and Prevention Grant Program to include counties that have one or more cities disproportionately affected by gun violence and tribal jurisdictions.
- Increases the maximum grant limit to \$2,500,000 per year and establishes a grant cycle as being 3 years in duration.
- Mandates the program governing board to establish an executive steering committee which will include persons impacted by gun violence among its membership. The committee will also include the Director of the Office of Gun Violence Prevention or their designee.
- Authorizes the board to reserve up to 5 percent of its yearly appropriated funds for the purpose of supporting initiatives and actions designed to build and maintain an impactful presence within the arena of gun violence and intervention.
- Repeals a previously established repeal date of January 25, 2025, thereby extending this program indefinitely.

AB 818 (Stats. 2023, ch. 242) – Protective orders

Effective January 1, 2024

- Expands existing provisions governing service of temporary restraining orders or emergency protective orders to now require law enforcement officers to serve any domestic violence restraining order, including an order after a hearing, in specified circumstances.

- Requires that a law enforcement officer serve a domestic violence restraining order (DVRO) or emergency protective order (EPO) if the officer receives a request from a petitioner to serve the order or if the officer is present at the scene of a reported domestic violence incident involving individuals who are parties to the court order, but excludes specified peace officers from this requirement, including parole officers and probation officers. The bill further prohibits a fee from being assessed to a petitioner for service of the restraining or protective order.
- Requires peace officers to take temporary custody of any firearm or deadly weapon observed in plain sight or found pursuant to a consensual or otherwise lawful search for the protection of the peace officers and others present at the scene of an event involving one of the following: domestic violence involving a threat to human life or physical assault; service of a protective order; or service of a gun violence restraining order.
- Requires law enforcement to enter, or cause to be entered, a firearm into the Automated Firearms System if the firearm is obtained at the scene of a domestic violence incident or during service of specified orders.

AB 1089 (Stats. 2023, ch. 243) – Firearms

Effective January 1, 2024

- Changes existing law to now require anyone who utilizes a three-dimensional printer or Computer Numerical Control (CNC) milling machine to manufacture a firearm to be a state-licensed manufacturer.
- Prohibits the sale, purchase, possession or receipt of a three-dimensional printer or CNC milling machine that has the sole or primary purpose of manufacturing firearms by anyone in the state except for state-licensed firearm manufacturers.
- In Civil Code section 3273.50, expands the definition of firearm-related products to now include certain three-dimensional printers and CNC milling machines that are marketed, sold as, or reasonably designed and intended to be used to manufacture or produce firearms. This law requires individuals engaged in the manufacture, distribution, importation, marketing, or sale of these machines to comply with a specified standard of conduct.
- Provides that a civil action may be brought against an individual who distributes any code or digital instructions for manufacturing a firearm using a three-dimensional printer or CNC milling machine, or who violates specified provisions relating to the use, sale, marketing, advertising, transfer, possession, purchase, or receipt of a CNC milling machine or three-dimensional printer.
- Makes an individual strictly liable for any personal injury or property damage, as specified, caused by any firearm manufactured using the distributed code or manufactured by a CNC milling machine, three-dimensional printer, or similar machine.
- Authorizes the Attorney General, a county counsel, and city attorneys to bring an action seeking

injunctive relief and a civil penalty not exceeding \$25,000 for each violation of Civil Code sections 3273.61, 3273.62 and Penal Code section 29185.

AB 1406 (Stats. 2023, ch. 244) – Firearms: waiting periods

Effective January 1, 2024

- Authorizes the Department to request a delay of the delivery of a firearm if additional research or additional records are required to determine a purchaser’s eligibility to possess a firearm.
- Authorizes the Department to request a delay of the delivery of a firearm for up to 30 days if an emergency, as specified, causes the Department to be unable to review records to determine a purchaser’s eligibility to possess a firearm before the conclusion of the ten-day waiting period.
- Mandates that the Department reject an attempted sale or transfer of a firearm if the firearm is reported as stolen and to notify the law enforcement agency that reported the firearm as stolen. Requires the dealer facilitating the transaction to hold the firearm until a law enforcement agency retrieves the firearm from the dealer.
- Institutes changes to the procedures for notifying purchasers of rejected or delayed background checks.

AB 1420 (Stats. 2023, ch. 245) – Firearms

Effective January 1, 2024

- Authorizes the Department to conduct inspections and assess fines on holders of licenses to sell, lease or transfer firearms for possible violations regarding the regulation of those licenses, violation of provisions regulating the sale of secondhand firearms, and violations of other applicable state laws.
- Requires the Department to maintain and make available the number of firearms dealers who have violated any other applicable state law with knowledge or gross negligence.
- Requires the register or record of electronic transfer of a firearm to include the purchaser’s email address for transactions on and after September 1, 2025.

AB 1483 (Stats. 2023, ch. 246) – Firearms: purchase

Effective January 1, 2025

- Eliminates an existing private party transaction exemption from the prohibition on more than one firearm purchase within a 30-day period.
- Creates an exemption to the 30-day period for any private party transfers where the seller is, at the time of the transaction, required under state law or by court order to relinquish all firearms.

- Creates an exemption to the 30-day period for private party transfers where the seller is transferring firearms as a result of death of the owner of the firearms.

AB 1587 (Stats. 2023, ch. 247) – Financial transactions: firearm merchants

Effective July 1, 2024

- Requires payment card networks to make the merchant category code for firearms and ammunition businesses, established by the International Organization for Standardization on September 9, 2022, available for merchant acquirers that provide payment services for firearm merchants.

Effective May 1, 2025

- Requires merchant acquirers to assign to firearm merchants the aforementioned category code.
- Authorizes the Attorney General to enforce these provisions and to bring a civil action to enforce these provisions and remedy harm caused by a violation of these provisions.
- Requires a court that determines that a person or entity has violated these provisions to award specified relief, including injunctive relief and a civil penalty in the amount of \$10,000 for each violation.

AB 1598 (Stats. 2023, ch. 248) – Gun Violence: firearm safety education

Effective January 1, 2024

- Requires the Department, at the next regularly scheduled update of the Firearm Safety Certificate test, to update the items the test covers to include the reasons for and risks of owning a firearm and bringing a firearm into the home, including the increased risk of death to someone in the household by suicide, homicide, or unintentional injury, and current law as it relates to the eligibility to own or possess a firearm, gun violence restraining orders, domestic violence restraining orders, and privately manufactured firearms.
- Requires the Department to create a Firearm Safety Certificate study guide—in English and Spanish—that explains the information covered in the test. The Department must offer copies of the study guide at actual cost to Firearm Safety Instructors, who are required to provide a study guide to an applicant for a Firearm Safety Certificate prior to their test date. Firearm Safety Instructors may add the cost of the study guide, if any, to the fee described in Penal Code section 31650.

Effective January 1, 2025

- Requires the Department to design a pamphlet in English, Spanish, traditional Chinese, simplified Chinese, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Korean, Dari, and Armenian that explains the reasons for and risks of and bringing a firearm into the home, including the increased risk of death to someone in the household by suicide, homicide, or unintentional injury. The Department must make the pamphlet

available on its internet website.

- Requires licensed firearm dealers to provide the aforementioned pamphlet to firearm purchasers and transferees, and to persons being loaned a firearm.

Senate Bills (SB)

SB 2 (Stats. 2023, ch. 249) – Firearms

*Effective January 1, 2024**

- Requires a licensing authority to issue or renew a concealed carry license if the applicant is not a disqualified person and at least 21 years of age.
- Removes the existing good character and good cause requirements from the criteria to be issued a license.
- Defines “disqualified person” as being, among other things, someone that is reasonably likely to be a danger to self, others, or the community at large.
- Requires a concealed carry license applicant to be the recorded owner of the pistol, revolver, or other firearm for which the license will be issued.
- Exempts particular concealed carry license applicants from reporting their residential address on the

* As of the date this bulletin, a federal district court has issued a partial preliminary injunction as to SB 2, enjoining the enforcement of the prohibition on carrying concealed weapons by holders of permits to carry concealed weapons in the following locations listed in Cal. Penal Code section 26230:

- (7) Hospitals, mental health facilities, nursing homes, medical offices, urgent care facilities, and other places where medical services are customarily provided,
- (8) Public transportation,
- (9) Establishments where intoxicating liquor is sold for consumption on the premises,
- (10) Public gatherings and special events,
- (11) Playgrounds and private youth centers,
- (12) Parks and athletic facilities,
- (13) Department of Parks and Recreation and Department of Fish and Wildlife property, except hunting areas,
- (15) Casinos and gambling establishments,
- (16) Stadiums and arenas,
- (17) Public libraries,
- (19) Amusement parks,
- (20) Zoos and museums,
- (22) Churches, synagogues, mosques, and other places of worship,
- (23) Financial institutions, and
- (26) Any other privately owned commercial establishment that is open to the public, unless the operator clearly and conspicuously posts a sign indicating that licenseholders are permitted to carry firearms on the property,

as well as in the parking lots of each of the sensitive places identified in SB 2 which were defined to include the parking lot of that place. Cal. Penal Code section 26230. The remainder of SB 2 went into effect January 1, 2024 and remains enforceable.

application and instead allows them to provide a business address or an alternative mailing address.

- Requires that the training course required for concealed carry license applicants issued pursuant to Penal Code sections 26150 or 26155 be taught and supervised by firearms instructors certified by the Department. Also changes the training requirements for such applicants by, among other things, requiring the course to be a certain number of hours in length and requiring that applicants in the course pass a written examination.
- Requires a licensing authority to issue the concealed carry license applicant a notice if a new license or license renewal is denied or revoked. If an application is denied or a license is revoked based on a determination that the applicant is a disqualified person, the bill permits the applicant to request a hearing to challenge the license denial or revocation, and requires the licensing authority to inform the applicant of the ability to seek a hearing. If a new license or license renewal is denied or revoked for any other reason, the bill authorizes the applicant to seek a writ of mandate from a superior court within 30 days of receipt of notice of denial or revocation, and requires the licensing authority to inform the applicant of the ability to seek a writ of mandate.
- Revises an existing requirement for certain information to be featured on a concealed carry license to additionally require, among other items, a licensee's driver license or identification number, fingerprints, and information relating to the date of expiration of the license. The bill also eliminates the requirement that a license detail the reason for requesting a license to carry a firearm.
- Requires a licensing authority to submit fingerprint images and related information to the Department for each applicant applying for a renewal license on or after September 1, 2026.
- Requires the Department to notify the licensing authority if the Department is unable to ascertain, among other things, the final disposition of an arrest or criminal charge under state or federal law that would prohibit the person from possessing, receiving, owning, or purchasing a firearm.
- Allows a licensing authority to charge an additional processing fee for the cost of a license renewal. The licensing authority will be permitted to collect the first 50% of the fee for the filing of the application. This bill removes a prohibition on a licensing authority requiring additional fees or liability insurance.
- Authorizes the Attorney General to revise the standard application form for concealed carry licenses and the design standard for a uniform license if the committee does not revise the form or issue a new design standard within the specified time period.
- Makes it a crime to bring an unloaded firearm into, or upon the grounds of, any residence of the Governor, any other constitutional officer, or Member of the Legislature.
- Prohibits a concealed carry licensee from carrying a firearm on or into the locations specified in Penal Code section 26230, with specific exceptions.
- Prohibits a person from knowingly possessing a firearm in any building, real property, or parking area

under the control of an airport or passenger vessel terminal, as specified.

- Revises the exception for a concealed carry licensee to permit them to carry a specified firearm in an area that is not within any building, real property, or parking area under the control of a public or private school, or on a street or sidewalk immediately adjacent to a building, real property, or parking area under the control of that public or private school, as specified.
- Requires a licensing authority to revoke a concealed carry license if, among other things, a licensee has provided inaccurate or incomplete information on their application for a new license or license renewal.
- Prohibits a concealed carry licensee, while carrying a firearm, from, among other things, consuming an alcoholic beverage or controlled substance and from falsely representing that the licensee is a peace officer.
- For any person convicted on or after January 1, 2024, of a misdemeanor violation of specified provisions in Penal Code sections 25400, 25850, 26350, and 26400, prohibits the possession of a firearm for ten years after the conviction.

SB 241 (Stats. 2023, ch. 250) – Firearms: dealer requirements

Effective July 1, 2026

- Requires a licensed firearms dealer and any employees that handle firearms to annually complete a course of training developed by the Department, which will address the topics specified in Penal Code section 26920 and include an examination.

SB 368 (Stats. 2023, ch. 251) – Firearms: requirements for licensed dealers

Effective January 1, 2024

- Requires a licensed firearms dealer to accept the storage of a firearm transferred by an individual to prevent it from being accessed or used during periods of crisis or heightened risk to the owner of the firearm or members of their household. Also authorizes a licensed firearms dealer to accept the storage of a firearm for a lawful reason not otherwise stated in the law. Furthermore, the bill authorizes a licensed firearms dealer to charge a reasonable fee for the storage of the firearm.
- Establishes a procedure for the return of a firearm to the original transferor, including situations when a dealer cannot legally return a firearm.
- Prohibits a licensed firearms dealer from offering an opportunity to win an item of inventory in a game dominated by chance, except for nonprofit organizations under certain circumstances.
- A person who has been convicted of certain misdemeanors under Penal Code section 29805 on or after January 1, 2024, and who within 10 years of that conviction owns, purchases, receives, possesses, or

has under their custody or control, any firearm is guilty of a misdemeanor or a felony.

SB 417 (Stats. 2023, ch. 252) – Firearms: licensed dealers

Effective January 1, 2024

- In addition to the warnings that a licensed firearms dealer must conspicuously post within the licensed premises under Penal Code section 26835, subdivision (a), requires firearms dealers to post an additional notice that includes information for a suicide and crisis lifeline and that notes the risks of having access to a firearm in a home.
- The aforementioned notice shall be posted on the counter of one of the main gun displays or within five feet of the cash register. In the case that posting the statement on the counter of a gun display or within five feet of the cash register is impossible, the licensed dealer shall post the statement conspicuously within the licensed premises. The statement shall not be placed on the floor or the ceiling of the premises.

SB 452 (Stats. 2023, ch. 452) – Firearms

Effective January 1, 2024

- Removes from the definition of an unsafe handgun a semiautomatic pistol without a microstamping component.
- Requires the Department to, by March 1, 2025, engage in an investigation to determine the technological viability of microstamping components producing microstamps on spent cartridge casings discharged by a firearm into which the microstamping component has been installed.
- If the Department determines that microstamping components are technologically viable, then requires the Department to, by September 1, 2025, provide written guidance on performance standards for persons, associations, partnerships, corporations, or other entities engaged in the business of producing microstamping components.
- If the Department determines that microstamping components are technologically viable, then requires the Department to, by January 1, 2026, commence accepting applications for licensure to engage in the business of producing microstamping components.
- If the Department determines that microstamping components are technologically viable, then requires the Department to, by July 1, 2026, provide grants or enter into contracts with one or more entities licensed to engage in the business of producing microstamping components.
- If the Department determines that microstamping components are technologically viable, then requires the Department to, by July 1, 2027, determine if microstamping components are available at commercially reasonable prices and/or if options of microstamping-enabled firearms are readily available for purchase in California.

- If the Department determines that microstamping components are available at commercially reasonable prices and/or if options of microstamping-enabled firearms are readily available for purchase in California, then commencing January 1, 2028, a licensed firearms dealer is prohibited from selling, offering for sale, exchanging, giving, transferring, or delivering a semiautomatic pistol, as defined, unless the pistol has been verified as a microstamping-enabled pistol.
- Prohibits a person from modifying a microstamping-enabled pistol or microstamping component with the intent to prevent the production of a microstamp.

BILLS SIGNED INTO LAW BEFORE 2023 THAT BECOME OPERATIVE, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, IN 2024

Assembly Bills (AB)

AB 228 (Stats. 2022, ch. 138) – Firearms

Effective January 1, 2024

- Requires the Department to conduct inspections of dealers at least every 3 years, with the exception of a dealer whose place of business is located in a jurisdiction that has adopted an inspection program.
- Authorizes the Department to inspect a dealer whose place of business is located in a jurisdiction that has adopted an inspection program.
- Specifies minimum sampling standards for the audit of dealer records during an inspection.

AB 1621 (Stats. 2022, ch. 76) – Firearms: unserialized firearms

Effective January 1, 2024

- Prohibits the possession or transfer of a firearm, frame, receiver, or firearm precursor part without a serial number or mark of identification.
- Generally prohibits a person from purchasing more than one firearm, including a completed frame, receiver, or firearm precursor part, within a 30-day period.

Senate Bills (SB)

SB 715 (Stats. 2021, ch. 250) – criminal law

Effective July 1, 2024

- When a firearm cannot be delivered to the intended purchaser, nor returned to the seller, in a private party transfer, the firearms dealer must retain possession, for 45 days, of the firearm if the seller requests the 45-day retention of possession. The firearms dealer may charge a storage fee not to exceed \$10 per firearm. The firearms dealer must notify the Department of the retention of possession

within 72 hours after retaining possession of the firearm. If, before the end of the 45-day period, the seller designates a person to receive the firearm and that person completes an application to purchase, the dealer shall process the transaction in accordance with the provisions of Penal Code section 27540. But if no such designation is made or can successfully be made before the end of the 45-day period, the firearms dealer must deliver the firearm to a local law enforcement agency, which will then dispose of the firearm, and the dealer must notify the Department of the delivery within 72 hours after the delivery.

SB 1384 (Stats. 2022, ch. 995) – Firearms: dealer requirements

Effective January 1, 2024

- Requires a licensed firearms dealer to ensure that its business premises are monitored by a digital video surveillance system that meets the requirements specified in Penal Code section 26806.