

West's Arkansas Code Annotated

Title 12. Law Enforcement, Emergency Management, and Military Affairs

Subtitle 2. Law Enforcement Agencies and Programs (Chapters 6 to 24)

Chapter 15. Weapons

Subchapter 2. Concealed Handgun Permits

A.C.A. § 12-15-202

§ 12-15-202. Eligibility to carry concealed handgun--Active or retired law enforcement officer

Effective: August 1, 2023

[Currentness](#)

(a) A certified law enforcement officer or auxiliary law enforcement officer may carry a concealed handgun at any time if the certified law enforcement officer or auxiliary law enforcement officer:

- (1) Is presently employed by a public law enforcement department, law enforcement office, or law enforcement agency;
- (2) Is not subject to any disciplinary action that suspends his or her authority as a certified law enforcement officer or auxiliary law enforcement officer;
- (3) Is carrying a badge or appropriate written photographic identification issued by the public law enforcement department, law enforcement office, or law enforcement agency identifying him or her as a certified law enforcement officer or auxiliary law enforcement officer;
- (4) Is not otherwise prohibited under federal law from receiving or possessing a firearm;
- (5) Is not under the influence of alcohol or another intoxicating or hallucinatory drug or substance; and
- (6) Has fingerprint impressions on file with the Division of Arkansas State Police automated fingerprint identification system.

(b)(1) A concealed handgun may be carried by any retired law enforcement officer or retired auxiliary law enforcement officer acting as a retired auxiliary law enforcement officer who:

(A) Retired in good standing from service with a public law enforcement department, law enforcement office, or law enforcement agency for reasons other than mental disability;

(B) Immediately before retirement was a certified law enforcement officer authorized by a public law enforcement department, law enforcement office, or law enforcement agency to carry a firearm in the course and scope of his or her duties;

(C) Is carrying appropriate written photographic identification issued by a public law enforcement department, law enforcement office, or law enforcement agency identifying him or her as a retired and former certified law enforcement officer;

(D) Is not otherwise prohibited under federal law from receiving or possessing a firearm;

(E) Has fingerprint impressions on file with the system together with written authorization for state and national level criminal history record screening;

(F) During the most recent twelve-month period has met, at the expense of the retired law enforcement officer, the standards of this state for training and qualification for active law enforcement officers to carry firearms;

(G) Before his or her retirement, worked or was employed as a law enforcement officer or acted as an auxiliary law enforcement officer for an aggregate of ten (10) years or more; and

(H) Is not under the influence of or consuming alcohol or another intoxicating or hallucinatory drug or substance.

(2)(A) The chief law enforcement officer of the city or county shall keep a record of all retired law enforcement officers authorized to carry a concealed handgun in his or her jurisdiction and shall revoke any authorization for good cause shown.

(B) The Director of the Division of Arkansas State Police shall keep a record of all retired Department of Arkansas State Police or Division of Arkansas State Police officers authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the state and shall revoke any authorization for good cause shown.

(c)(1)(A) A firearms instructor certified by the Arkansas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Training who is employed by any law enforcement agency in this state may certify or recertify that a retired law enforcement officer has met the training and qualification requirements for certification set by the commission for active law enforcement officers to carry firearms.

(B) A retired law enforcement officer shall pay the expenses for meeting the training and qualification requirements described in subdivision (c)(1)(A) of this section.

(2) A firearms instructor who certifies or recertifies that a retired law enforcement officer has met the training and qualification requirements for certification set by the commission for active law enforcement officers to carry firearms under subdivision (c)(1)(A) of this section shall complete and submit any required paperwork to the commission.

(d) A certified or retired law enforcement officer or active or retired auxiliary law enforcement officer carrying a concealed handgun under this section is not subject to the prohibitions and limitations of § 5-73-306.

(e)(1) Any presently employed certified law enforcement officer authorized by another state to carry a concealed handgun shall be entitled to the same privilege while in this state, but subject to the same restrictions of this section, provided that the state which has authorized the officer to carry a concealed handgun extends the same privilege to presently employed Arkansas-certified law enforcement officers.

(2) The director shall make a determination as to which states extend the privilege to carry a concealed handgun to presently employed Arkansas-certified law enforcement officers and shall then determine which states' officers' authority to carry concealed handguns will be recognized in Arkansas.

#### **Credits**

Acts of 1995, Act 1332, § 1; Acts of 1997, Act 92, § 1; Acts of 1997, Act 302, § 1; Acts of 2001, Act 251, § 1, eff. Aug. 13, 2001; Acts of 2001, Act 585, § 1, eff. Aug. 13, 2001; Acts of 2003, Act 348, § 1, eff. July 16, 2003; Acts of 2007, Act 134, § 1, eff. July 31, 2007; Acts of 2007, Act 675, § 2, eff. July 31, 2007; Acts of 2013, Act 539, § 3, eff. March 28, 2013; Acts of 2013, Act 415, § 3, eff. Aug. 16, 2013; Acts of 2013, Act 1220, § 3, eff. Aug. 16, 2013; Acts of 2015, Act 958, § 1, eff. July 22, 2015; Acts of 2015, Act 1161, § 1, eff. July 22, 2015; Acts of 2017, Act 957, § 5, eff. Aug. 1, 2017; Acts of 2019, Act 910, §§ 5871, 5872, eff. July 1, 2019; Acts of 2021, Act 710, §§ 1, 2, eff. July 28, 2021; Acts of 2021, Act 766, §§ 2, 3, eff. July 28, 2021; Acts of 2021, Act 948, § 1, eff. July 28, 2021; Acts of 2023, Act 176, § 4, eff. Aug. 1, 2023.

A.C.A. § 12-15-202, AR ST § 12-15-202

The constitution and statutes are current through the 2023 Regular Session and the 2023 First Extraordinary Session of the 94th Arkansas General Assembly. Some statute sections may be more current; see credits for details. Also included are changes made by the Arkansas Code Revision Commission received through March 21, 2024.

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