

<p>California Department of Justice DIVISION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT Stephen Woolery, Chief</p> 	<h1>INFORMATION BULLETIN</h1>	
<p><i>Subject:</i> New and Amended Firearms/Weapons Laws</p>	<p>No. 2026-DLE-02</p> <p><i>Date:</i> 01/30/2026</p>	<p><i>Contact for information:</i> Bureau of Firearms (916) 210-2300</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 summarizes California firearms/weapons bills that were signed into law in 2025. For more information regarding firearms/weapons bills previously signed into law and taking effect in 2026, please refer to Information Bulletin 2025-DLE-02, dated February 4, 2025, titled “New and Amended Firearms/Weapons Laws,” (available at: <https://oag.ca.gov/system/files/media/2025-dle-02.pdf>), and to Information Bulletin 2024-DLE-02, dated March 1, 2024, titled “New and Amended Firearms/Weapons Laws,” (available at: <https://oag.ca.gov/system/files/media/2024-dle-02.pdf>). The laws discussed in this bulletin generally take effect on January 1, 2026; however, certain provisions take effect at later dates, as noted in the specific summaries below.

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 California Department of Justice will hereinafter be referred to as “the Department.”

BILLS SIGNED INTO LAW IN 2025

Assembly Bills (AB)

AB 383 (Stats. 2025, ch. 362) – Firearms: prohibition: minors

Effective January 1, 2026

- Makes certain procedures relating to relinquishment of firearms or ammunition applicable to juveniles who become prohibited from owning, possessing, or having under their custody or control a firearm until they are 30 years of age following certain juvenile delinquency adjudications.
- Allows a search warrant to be issued when the property or things to be seized include a firearm that is owned by, or in the possession of, or in the custody or control of, a juvenile who is subject to the prohibition on owning or possessing a firearm until they are 30 years of age when the court has made a finding that the person has failed to relinquish the firearm as required by law.

AB 451 (Stats. 2025, ch. 693) – Law enforcement policies: restraining orders

Effective January 1, 2026

- Requires state and local law enforcement agencies, on or before January 1, 2027, to develop, adopt, and implement written policies and standards to promote safe, consistent, and effective service, implementation, and enforcement of court protection and restraining orders that include firearm access restrictions.
- Specifies that the policies and standards must provide a standard agency process for law enforcement to serve an order against a restrained person in a timely manner and ensure the agency consistently complies with specified requirements under California law governing service of protection and restraining orders, record reporting, and firearm relinquishment compliance.
- Requires agencies to post information on their website about how petitioners may request service of protection or restraining orders by that agency, and how prohibited persons and other community members may relinquish firearms to the custody of the agency.

AB 561 (Stats. 2025, ch. 267) – Restraining orders

Effective date January 1, 2027

- Authorizes a petition for a temporary restraining order or order after hearing prohibiting harassment (a Civil Harassment Restraining Order) to be submitted electronically, and requires the court to electronically provide specified documents, including a temporary restraining order, if granted, to a petitioner who files the petition electronically, unless the petitioner notes that they intend to pick the documents up from the court.
- Authorizes a party or witness to appear remotely at a hearing on a petition for a Civil Harassment Restraining Order, and prohibits the superior court from charging a fee for the remote appearance.
- Requires the superior court of each county to develop and post on its website local rules and instructions regarding remote appearances for petitions for Civil Harassment Restraining Orders.
- Requires a court that receives petitions for Domestic Violence Restraining Orders to accept electronic filings at no charge to the petitioner and prohibits a superior court from charging a fee for a party, support person, or witness to appear remotely at a Domestic Violence Restraining Order hearing.
- Requires a court that receives petitions for protective orders for elder or dependent adults (an Elder or Dependent Adult Abuse Restraining Order) to permit those petitions and any related filings to be submitted electronically at no charge to the petitioner, and requires the court to electronically provide specified documents, including a temporary restraining order, if granted, to a petitioner who files the petition electronically, unless the petitioner notes that they intend to pick the documents up from the court.
- Authorizes a party, representative of the county adult protective services agency, or witness to appear remotely at the hearing on a petition for an Elder or Dependent Adult Abuse Restraining Order, and prohibits the superior court from charging a fee for the remote appearance.
- Requires the superior court of each county to develop, and post on its internet website, local rules and instructions regarding remote appearances for Elder or Dependent Adult Abuse Restraining

Orders, and requires information regarding electronic filing and access to the court's self-help center to be prominently displayed on each superior court's home page, and requires each self-help center to maintain and make available information related to Elder or Dependent Adult Abuse Restraining Orders.

- Authorizes a court to permit an alternative method of service of relevant documents on the respondent in a Civil Harassment Restraining Order or Elder or Dependent Adult Abuse Restraining Order case, if at the time of the hearing, the court determines that, after diligent effort, the petitioner has been unable to accomplish personal service, and that there is reason to believe that the restrained party is evading service or cannot be located.

AB 584 (Stats. 2025, ch. 40) – Firearms dealers and manufacturers; secure facilities

Effective January 1, 2026

- Expands the definition of "secure facility" as it relates to requirements for how a firearms dealer must store firearms when not open for business to include a perimeter doorway with a windowed or windowless steel door that is equipped with panic hardware that operates a multipoint lock that bolts into the interior frame of the door and meets other specifications.

AB 1078 (Stats. 2025, ch. 570) – Concealed carry and firearm purchasing

Effective date January 1, 2026

- Requires licensing authorities for carry concealed weapons (CCW) licenses (i.e., county sheriffs and chiefs of municipal police departments) to issue a CCW license to a non-California resident if the applicant meets specified requirements, such as not being a disqualified person; being at least 21 years of age and presenting clear evidence of identity, age, and state of residence; attesting that the jurisdiction in which they applied is the primary location in California in which they intend to travel or spend time; completing a training course and live-fire shooting exercises as specified; and identifying the make, model, caliber, and serial number of each firearm for which they are applying. Licensing authorities that require a psychological assessment for an initial CCW license application may, as specified, allow a non-California resident applicant to complete a virtual psychological assessment or use an approved examination provider located within 75 miles of the applicant's residence.
- Mandates that a CCW licensing authority shall not issue a CCW license, and shall revoke a CCW license, if the person knowingly provides inaccurate or incomplete information in connection with their application, or if the person fails to inform the licensing authority of any restraining order or arrest, charge, or conviction of a crime referenced in Penal Code section 26202.
- Amends some of the bases for determining that a CCW license applicant is a disqualified person under Penal Code section 26202, and adds an additional basis: the applicant is an unlawful user of or addicted to any controlled substance, as described in United States Code, title 18, section 922(g)(3) and applicable regulations and guidance. A licensing authority's initial disqualified person determination, as described in Penal Code section 26202(d)(1)(A), must include a final determination as to whether applicant is an unlawful user of or addicted to any controlled substance.

- Requires a licensing authority's review of the California Restraining and Protective Order System to include information concerning whether the applicant is reasonably likely to be a danger to self, others, or the community at large, as specified.
- Commencing September 1, 2026, a licensing authority shall not issue a renewal CCW license unless the Department confirms the applicant's eligibility to possess or own a firearm after a fingerprint-based firearms eligibility check.
- Requires that, for each application for a CCW license renewal submitted prior to September 1, 2026, the licensing authority give written notice to the applicant indicating if the license is approved or denied within 120 days of receiving the completed application for a license renewal. On or after September 1, 2026, the licensing authority must give notice of approval or denial within 120 days of receiving the completed application for a license renewal, or 30 days after receipt of the Department's firearms eligibility determination, as specified.
- Requires licensing authorities to immediately request that the Department terminate subsequent notification services if the CCW licensee fails to submit a renewal application within 90 days of the expiration of their license.
- Allows an individual to possess an unloaded firearm for purposes of transporting it on a bus, train, or other form of public transportation or on other property controlled by a public transportation authority so long as the unloaded firearm is locked in a lock box.
- Commencing April 1, 2026, prohibits a person from making an application to purchase one or more firearms that would result in the purchase by the person of more than three firearms cumulatively within the same 30-day period, except as specified. Requires dealers, commencing April 1, 2026, to add this prohibition to the list of warnings that must be conspicuously posted within the licensed premises as specified in Penal Code section 26835.
- Makes provisions criminalizing possession of a firearm by a person convicted of a felony inapplicable to a conviction for a nonviolent felony, as defined, if the conviction has been vacated, set aside, expunged, or otherwise dismissed and, if the conviction resulted in a firearms prohibition, the conviction relief restored the firearms rights.
- Makes provisions criminalizing possession of a firearm by a person convicted of a felony inapplicable to a conviction for a nonviolent felony, as defined, if the person received a full and unconditional pardon of the state in which the felony conviction occurred, the pardon restored the person's firearms rights, and the person's conviction did not involve the use of a dangerous weapon as specified.

AB 1127 (Stats. 2025, ch. 572) – Machinegun-convertible pistols

Effective January 1, 2026

- Expands the Penal Code definition of a machinegun to include any machinegun-convertible pistol equipped with a pistol converter.
- Defines machinegun-convertible pistol as any semiautomatic pistol with a cruciform trigger bar that can be readily converted by hand or with common household tools into a machinegun by the installation or attachment of a pistol converter, as specified.
- Defines "pistol converter" as any device or instrument that, when installed in or attached to the rear of the slide of a semiautomatic pistol, replaces the backplate and interferes with the trigger mechanism and thereby enables the pistol to shoot automatically more than one shot by a single

function of the trigger.

- Commencing July 1, 2026, prohibits a licensed firearms dealer from selling, offering for sale, exchanging, giving, transferring, or delivering any semiautomatic machinegun-convertible pistol, except as specified. There are escalating punishments for violations of this provision, including up to a \$1,000 fine for the first violation, up to a \$5,000 fine as well as possible suspension or revocation of the firearms dealer's license for the second violation, and a misdemeanor that shall result in the revocation of the dealer's license for the third violation.
- Amends the firearm industry standard of conduct, codified in the Civil Code's Firearm Industry Responsibility Act, to require firearm industry members, as defined, to establish, implement, and enforce reasonable controls to "prevent the installation and use of a pistol converter" with a firearm.

AB 1263 (Stats. 2025, ch. 636) – Firearms: ghost guns

Effective January 1, 2026

- Creates a new misdemeanor crime prohibiting a person from knowingly or willfully causing another person to engage in the unlawful manufacture of firearms—as defined—or knowingly or willfully aiding, abetting, promoting, or facilitating the unlawful manufacture of firearms.
- Amends the Firearm Industry Responsibility Act's firearm industry standard of conduct, including by updating the definition of "firearm accessory," and "firearm manufacturing machine," and by requiring "firearm industry members" to comply with specified requirements prior to completing the sale or delivery of a firearm accessory, firearm manufacturing machine, or unattached firearm barrel in California. To comply with these requirements, the firearm industry member must provide a notice with specified information about laws governing the unlawful manufacture of firearms to a purchaser of a firearm accessory, firearm manufacturing machine, or unattached firearm barrel; receive an acknowledgement from the purchaser indicating that they received and understand the notice; and require the purchaser to provide proof of age and identity to verify the purchaser is at least 18 years old.
- Expands the definition of "digital firearm manufacturing code" at Civil Code section 3273.60 to include specified firearm-related items, including machine gun conversion devices and firearm barrels, in addition to a firearm and completed frame or receiver.
- Expands who may file a lawsuit for a violation of Civil Code section 3273.61 to include any person who has suffered harm in California from a violation of section 3273.61, and creates a rebuttable presumption that a person violated this provision's prohibition against unlawfully distributing or causing the distribution of digital firearm manufacturing code to individuals who are not licensed to manufacture firearms, if they own or participate in the management of a website that makes digital firearm manufacturing code available for purchase, download, or distribution, and the website encourages individuals to upload, disseminate, or use such code to manufacture firearms or other related items including machine gun conversion devices.
- Prohibits individuals convicted of certain firearm-related misdemeanors from owning or purchasing a firearm for 10 years after conviction, if they are convicted on or after January 1, 2026 of specified offenses related to manufacturing an undetectable firearm; knowingly or willfully causing another person to engage in the unlawful manufacture of firearms; unlawfully selling unserialized firearms; unlawful use or sale of a three-dimensional printer or CNC milling machine

which has the sole or primary function of manufacturing firearms; unlawfully possessing assault weapons or .50 BMG rifles; or violating prohibitions on multiburst trigger activators, short-barreled rifles, short-barreled shotguns, and zip guns.

AB 1344 (Stats. 2025, ch. 573) – Restrictions on firearm possession: pilot project

Effective date January 1, 2026

- Allows Alameda, El Dorado, Santa Clara, and Ventura Counties to establish, until January 1, 2032, pilot programs authorizing a district attorney to file a petition for a Gun Violence Restraining Order (GVRO).
- Commencing April 1, 2027, requires the district attorney of any county adopting a pilot program to annually submit data to the California Firearm Violence Research Center at University of California, Davis (UC Davis), including the number of petitions filed, the reasons for the petitions filed, and demographic data regarding the individuals restrained.
- Commencing April 1, 2027, requires the district attorney of any county adopting a pilot program to make program data available upon request to the California Department of Justice and to the Judicial Council of California.
- Commencing July 1, 2027, authorizes the California Firearm Violence Research Center at UC Davis to conduct an evaluation of the pilot program.

AB 1363 (Stats. 2025, ch. 574) – Protective orders: Wyland's law

Effective January 1, 2026

- Authorizes the California Department of Justice, subject to an appropriation, to establish an automated protected person information and notification system to provide a petitioner or protected person in a protective order case with access to certain information about their case maintained in the California Restraining and Protective Order System.
- Requires certain records regarding the transmission of a protective order from a superior court to the Department to be open to public inspection and copying.

Senate Bills (SB)

SB 132 (Stats. 2025, ch. 17) - Taxation

Effective Date: October 1, 2025

- Deems a licensed firearms dealer, firearms manufacturer, or ammunition vendor in this state who transfers physical possession of any firearm, firearm precursor part, or ammunition to a purchaser in this state on behalf of an out-of-state retailer engaging in business in this state the retailer of that item for the purposes of the “California Firearm Excise Tax Law.”

SB 704 (Stats. 2025, ch. 591) – Firearms barrels

Effective Date: January 1, 2026

- Prohibits the sale or transfer of a firearm barrel, as defined, unless the transaction is completed in person by a licensed firearms dealer, except as specified. The purchaser must be at least 18 years old and not prohibited from possessing or owning a firearm under state or federal law.
- Commencing on July 1, 2027, requires the licensed firearms dealer to conduct a firearms eligibility check of the purchaser or transferee of a firearm barrel and to record specified information pertaining to the transaction, including the date of the sale or transfer of the firearm barrel, and to electronically submit such information to the Department.
- Prohibits a person from possessing a firearm barrel with the intent to sell, or offer to sell, the barrel in violation of Penal Code section 33700.
- Makes the first and section violation of these provisions punishable as a misdemeanor, and any additional violations punishable as a misdemeanor or felony.