



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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Attorney General DeWine Announces Concealed Carry Reciprocity with Five Additional States

(COLUMBUS, Ohio)— Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine today announced that Ohioans with concealed carry permits will be able to use those permits in five additional states. Pursuant to changes adopted in House Bill 234 of the 130th General Assembly, Ohio now has concealed carry permit reciprocity with Colorado, Georgia, New Hampshire, Texas, and Wisconsin.

House Bill 234 strengthened background check procedures by requiring sheriffs to contact the federal National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) to verify that a concealed carry applicant is lawfully eligible to possess a firearm in the United States. This change allowed Attorney General DeWine to execute a concealed carry reciprocity agreement with Texas, which already had such standards.

Additionally, House Bill 234 provides that a concealed carry permit issued by another state is valid in Ohio so long as the permit holder is not an Ohio resident and is in the state temporarily. This change allowed Attorney General DeWine to confirm similar reciprocity privileges for Ohio citizens with Colorado, Georgia, New Hampshire, and Wisconsin.

Including the five additional states, Ohio now has concealed carry reciprocity with 28 total states. Ohio had already confirmed reciprocity with Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Idaho, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Missouri, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Nebraska, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, and Wyoming.

The changes enacted by House Hill 234 became effective today. The Ohio Attorney General's Office has updated its concealed carry laws manual, as well as the State of Ohio concealed carry license and renewal application to reflect the changes in law. The manual is available online at www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/CCWManual, and the application is available at www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/CCWApplication.





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March 24, 2015

CONSTITUENT SERVICES

The Honorable Mike DeWine
Attorney General of Ohio
30 E. Broad Street, 17th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Attorney General DeWine:

Thank you for your March 11, 2015 letter regarding changes in Ohio's carrying concealed weapon (CCW) legislation. You indicated that all Ohio background checks for concealed carry permits on or after the effective date of the legislation (March 23rd, 2015) will include a check of the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS). In addition you indicated that Ohio will honor the concealed carry license of any non-resident who holds a valid concealed carry permit from the State of Wisconsin and grant that person the same rights and privileges that the holder of an Ohio permit enjoys.

We have reviewed the legislation you attached and are pleased to announce that Ohio's CCW licenses issued on or after March 23rd, 2015 are comparable to the Wisconsin background check for concealed carry licenses. Ohio licenses issued on or after March 23rd, 2015 will be honored in Wisconsin pursuant to s. 165.25 (16) Wis. Stats. Wisconsin statutes do not require a formal reciprocity document between the states and we will proceed with updating our list of states that issue CCW licenses recognized in Wisconsin to indicate those issued in Ohio on or after March 23rd, 2015 will be recognized here in Wisconsin. This change will benefit the citizens of both of our states.

Wisconsin CCW licenses are maintained within a centralized database with access restricted in accordance with state statute. The Nlets Help File (WIGUNHELP) outlines when a law enforcement agency can access the Wisconsin concealed carry database through the Nlets CWQ query transaction. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at (608) 264-6207 or via email at nevermanwm@doj.state.wi.us

Sincerely,

Walt Neverman
Director
Crime Information Bureau
Wisconsin Department of Justice