

## Ohio State Constitution Article I; Section 1.04

The people have the right to bear arms for their defense and security; but standing armies, in time of peace, are dangerous to liberty, and shall not be kept up; and the military shall be in strict subordination to the civil power.

*\*All Ohio firearms laws noted here are provided only for your convenience. You are responsible to know and understand safety and the law before you carry a firearm.*

Ohio does not require firearm registration nor is it necessary to obtain a Concealed Handgun License (CHL) before carrying a firearm or other such weapon openly about the person except where prohibited by statute.

In Ohio, one may openly carry a handgun in plain sight (holstered, of course) with no license. There is also no regulation on the open carry of a rifle

### **Forbidden Carry Zones:** (concealed or open)

- Police stations, Sheriffs' offices, Highway Patrol posts
- Premises controlled by the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation.
- Buildings owned by the state or any political subdivision.
- Any Federal Property (post offices, etc)
- School safety zones
- Any room serving alcoholic beverages for onsite consumption
- Any establishment with a D6 liquor permit selling packaged alcohol not for consumption (Sunday liquor sales)
- Correctional institutions or other detention facilities.
- Airport terminals or commercial airplanes.
- Institutions for the care of mentally ill persons.
- Courthouses or buildings in which a courtroom is located.
- Universities, unless locked in a motor vehicle or in the process of being locked in a motor vehicle.
- Places of worship, unless the place of worship permits otherwise.
- Child day-care centers.
- Private Property / Business When Prohibited by Owner or Posted

## Useful Resources and Links:

Ohioans for Concealed Carry

[www.ohioccw.org](http://www.ohioccw.org)

Packing.org

<http://www.packing.org>

Open Carry Ohio

[www.oco.org](http://www.oco.org)

Open Carry . ORG

[www.opencarry.org](http://www.opencarry.org)

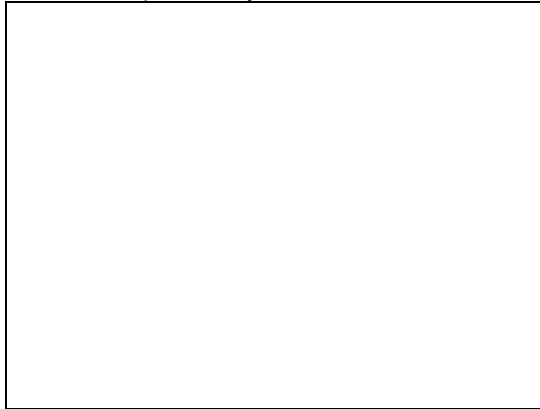
Buckeye Firearms Association

<http://www.buckeyefirearms.org>

National Rifle Association

[www.NRA.org](http://www.NRA.org)

Open Carry Incident Notes:

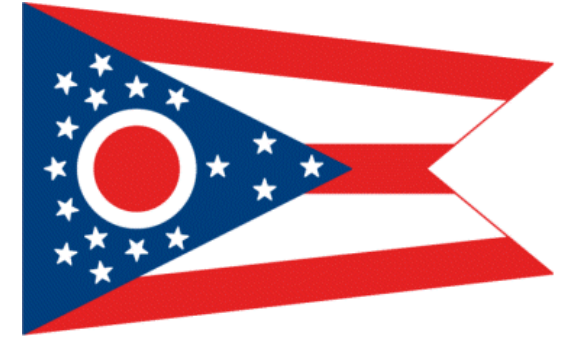


[www.OpenCarry.org](http://www.OpenCarry.org)

<http://opencarry.mywowbb.com>

A website and discussion forum dedicated to promoting the lawful open carrying of firearms.

# YOUR OHIO GUN RIGHTS



*The right to bear arms for defense and security provided by the Ohio Constitution is a fundamental individual right. Arnold v. Cleveland (1993)*

*“Yes, It’s Legal!”  
(Welcome to Ohio)*

[www.OpenCarry.org](http://www.OpenCarry.org)

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## Selected Ohio State Laws, Legislation, and Court Rulings Pertaining to Firearms

<http://codes.ohio.gov>

<http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/>

<http://www.ag.state.oh.us>

**House Bill 347** effective March 2007

### Statewide Pre-emption to local firearms ordinances.

**Sec. 9.68.** (A) The individual right to keep and bear arms, being a fundamental individual right that predates the United States Constitution and Ohio Constitution, and being a constitutionally protected right in every part of Ohio, the general assembly finds the need to provide uniform laws throughout the state regulating the ownership, possession, purchase, other acquisition, transport, storage, carrying, sale, or other transfer of firearms, their components, and their ammunition. Except as specifically provided by the United States Constitution, Ohio Constitution, state law, or federal law, a person, without further license, permission, restriction, delay, or process, may own, possess, purchase, sell, transfer, transport, store, or keep any firearm, part of a firearm, its components, and its ammunition.

(B) In addition to any other relief provided, the court shall award costs and reasonable attorney fees to any person, group, or entity that prevails in a challenge to an ordinance, rule, or regulation as being in conflict with this section.

(C) As used in this section:

(1) The possession, transporting, or carrying of firearms, their components, or their ammunition include, but are not limited to, the possession, transporting, or carrying, openly or concealed on a person's person or concealed ready at hand, of firearms, their components, or their ammunition.

(2) "Firearm" has the same meaning as in section 2923.11 of the Revised Code.

**Klein vs. Leis** September 2003

### Ohio Supreme Court Case Acknowledging Open Carry

{¶23} ...Because a restriction on the manner of exercising a right necessarily leaves open other means of exercising the right...

{¶24}...Further, the state correctly asserts that the statute leaves open the ability to bear arms by openly carrying a firearm...

### 2923.12 Carrying concealed weapons.

(A) No person shall knowingly carry or have, concealed on the person's person or concealed ready at hand, any of the following:

- (1) A deadly weapon other than a handgun;
- (2) A handgun other than a dangerous ordnance;
- (3) A dangerous ordnance.

(C)(1) This section does not apply to any of the following:

(2) Division (A)(2) of this section does not apply to any person who, at the time of the alleged carrying or possession of a handgun, is carrying a valid license or temporary emergency license to carry a concealed handgun issued to the person under section 2923.125 or 2923.1213 of the Revised Code

### 2923.121 Possession of firearm in liquor permit premises - prohibition, exceptions.

(A) No person shall possess a firearm in any room in which liquor is being dispensed in premises for which a D permit has been issued under Chapter 4303. of the Revised Code or in an open air arena for which a permit of that nature has been issued.

### 2923.122 Illegal conveyance or possession of deadly weapon or dangerous ordnance or of object indistinguishable from firearm in school safety zone.

(A) No person shall knowingly convey, or attempt to convey, a deadly weapon or dangerous ordnance into a school safety zone.

(B) No person shall knowingly possess a deadly weapon or dangerous ordnance in a school safety zone.

### 2923.16 Improperly handling firearms in a motor vehicle.

(A) No person shall knowingly discharge a firearm while in or on a motor vehicle.

(B) No person shall knowingly transport or have a loaded firearm in a motor vehicle in such a manner that the firearm is accessible to the operator or any passenger without leaving the vehicle.

(C) No person shall knowingly transport or have a firearm in a motor vehicle, unless it is unloaded and is carried in one of the following ways:

- (1) In a closed package, box, or case;
- (2) In a compartment that can be reached only by leaving the vehicle;
- (3) In plain sight and secured in a rack or holder made for the purpose;
- (4) In plain sight with the action open or the weapon stripped...

"Motor vehicle" means every vehicle propelled or drawn by power other than muscular power. (ORC 4511.01 section B)

### 2923.162 Discharge of firearm on or near prohibited premises.

(A) No person shall do any of the following:

- (1) Without permission from the proper officials and subject to division (B)(1) of this section, discharge a firearm upon or over a cemetery or within one hundred yards of a cemetery;
- (2) Subject to division (B)(2) of this section, discharge a firearm on a lawn, park, pleasure ground, orchard, or other ground appurtenant to a schoolhouse, church, or inhabited dwelling, the property of another, or a charitable institution;
- (3) Discharge a firearm upon or over a public road or highway.

Local Municipalities can still regulate the discharging of a firearm within their jurisdiction.