License to Carry a Firearm

207.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE
The Chief of Police is given the statutory discretion to issue a license to carry a firearm to residents within the community (Penal Code § 26150; Penal Code § 26155). This policy will provide a written process for the application and issuance of such licenses. Pursuant to Penal Code § 26160, this policy shall be made accessible to the public.

207.1.1 APPLICATION OF POLICY
Nothing in this policy shall preclude the Chief or other head of a municipal police department from entering into an agreement with the Sheriff of the county or preclude the Sheriff of the county from entering into an agreement with the Chief of any municipal police department to process all applications and license renewals for the carrying of concealed weapons (Penal Code § 26150; Penal Code § 26155).

207.2 POLICY
The Napa Police Department will fairly and impartially consider all applications to carry firearms in accordance with applicable law and this policy.

207.3 QUALIFIED APPLICANTS
In order to qualify for a license to carry a firearm, the applicant must meet certain requirements, including:

(a) Be a resident of the City of Napa (Penal Code § 26150; Penal Code § 26155).
(b) Be at least 21 years of age (Penal Code § 29610).
(c) Fully complete an application that will include substantial personal information. Much of the information in the application may be subject to public access under the Public Records Act.
(d) Be free from criminal convictions that would disqualify the applicant from carrying a firearm. Fingerprint will be required and a complete criminal background check will be conducted.
(e) Be of good moral character (Penal Code § 26150; Penal Code § 26155).
   1. Provide three (3) character reference letters from individuals, not family members. A "character reference" is a letter or document completed by someone who knows the applicant, who is not directly related, and can attest to the applicant's moral character.
(f) Pay all associated application fees. These fees are set by statute and may not be refunded if the application is denied.
(g) Provide proof of ownership or registration of any firearm to be licensed.
(h) Be free from any psychological conditions that might make the applicant unsuitable for carrying a firearm (Penal Code § 26190).
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(i) Complete required training (Penal Code § 26165).

(j) No issuance if prohibited by state or federal law from possessing, receiving, owning or purchasing a firearm (Penal Code § 26195).

207.4 APPLICATION PROCESS
The application process for a license to carry a firearm shall consist of two phases. Upon the successful completion of each phase, the applicant will advance to the next phase until the process is completed and the license is either issued or denied.

No person determined to fall within a prohibited class described in Penal Code § 29800, Penal Code § 29900, Welfare and Institutions Code § 8100, or Welfare and Institutions Code § 8103 will be issued a license to carry a firearm. A license shall not be issued if the California Department of Justice (DOJ) determines that the applicant is prohibited by state or federal law from possessing, receiving, owning, or purchasing a firearm (Penal Code § 26195).

207.4.1 APPEAL PROCESS
If the applicant does not meet the requirements listed in 207.3 and is considered ineligible to be issued a CCW Permit, the applicant's CCW application will be provided to the Chief of Police or their designee for review.

If the application is denied, the applicant may appeal the decision in writing within 30 days from date of the denial notification. Appeals shall be addressed in writing and submitted to the Chief of Police. The letter shall be specific, clearly outlining the applicant's rebuttal to the reason stated for the denial.

All received appeals will be forwarded to the Chief of Police or their designee for final review. Once the application and appeal letter are reviewed, the applicant will be notified of the final decision made by the Chief of Police or the designee via mail correspondence within 60 days from date the appeal was received.

When an application is denied, the applicant cannot reapply for a CCW permit until a year from the final date of denial.

207.5 LIMITED BUSINESS LICENSE TO CARRY A CONCEALED FIREARM
The authority to issue a limited business license to carry a concealed firearm to a non-resident applicant is granted only to the Sheriff of the county in which the applicant works. A chief of a municipal police department may not issue limited licenses (Penal Code § 26150).

207.6 ISSUED FIREARMS PERMITS
In the event a license to carry a firearm is issued by the Chief of Police, the following shall apply:

(a) The license will be subject to any and all reasonable restrictions or conditions the Chief of Police has deemed warranted, including restrictions as to the time, place, manner, and circumstances under which the person may carry the firearm.
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1. All such restrictions or conditions shall be conspicuously noted on any license issued (Penal Code § 26200).

2. The licensee will be required to sign a Restrictions and Conditions Agreement. Any violation of any of the restrictions and conditions may result in the immediate revocation of the license.

(b) The license shall be laminated, bearing a photograph of the licensee with the expiration date, type of firearm, restrictions, and other pertinent information clearly visible.

1. Each license shall be numbered and clearly identify the licensee.

2. All licenses shall be subjected to inspection by the Chief of Police or any law enforcement officer.

(c) The license will be valid for a period not to exceed two years from the date of issuance (Penal Code § 26220).

1. A license issued to a state or federal magistrate, commissioner, or judge will be valid for a period not to exceed three years.

2. A license issued to any reserve peace officer as defined in Penal Code § 830.6(a) or (b), or a custodial officer employed by the Sheriff as provided in Penal Code § 831.5 will be valid for a period not to exceed four years, except that such license shall be invalid upon the individual's conclusion of service as a reserve officer.

(d) If the licensee's place of residence was the basis for issuance of a license and the licensee moves out of the county of issuance, the license shall expire 90 days after the licensee has moved (Penal Code § 26210).

(e) The licensee shall notify this department in writing within 10 days of any change of place of residency.

207.6.1 LICENSE RESTRICTIONS

(a) The Chief of Police may place special restrictions limiting time, place, manner and circumstances under which any license shall be valid. In general, these restrictions will prohibit the licensee from:

1. Consuming any alcoholic beverage while armed.

2. Falsely representing him/herself as a peace officer.

3. Unjustified or unreasonable displaying of a firearm.


5. Being under the influence of any medication or drug while armed.

6. Interfering with any law enforcement officer's duties.

7. Refusing to display his/her license or firearm for inspection upon demand of any peace officer.

8. Loading the permitted firearm with illegal ammunition.
9. Being in a place having a primary purpose of dispensing alcoholic beverages for on-site consumption.

10. Carrying a concealed weapon not listed on the permit.

11. Carrying a concealed weapon at times or in circumstances other than those specified in the license.

12. Using any illegal substance(s).

13. Failing to report any arrest to the Napa Police Department's CCW Coordinator within 10 days of occurrence.

(b) The Chief of Police reserves the right to inspect any license or licensed firearm at any time.

(c) The alteration of any previously approved firearm including, but not limited to adjusting the trigger pull, adding laser sights or modifications shall void any license and serve as grounds for revocation.

207.6.2 AMENDMENTS TO LICENSES
Any licensee may apply to amend a license at any time during the period of validity by completing and submitting a written Application for License Amendment along with the current processing fee to the Department in order to (Penal Code § 26215):

(a) Add or delete authority to carry a firearm listed on the license.

(b) Change restrictions or conditions previously placed on the license.

(c) Change the address or other personal information of the licensee (Penal Code § 26210).

In the event that any amendment to a valid license is approved by the Chief of Police, a new license will be issued reflecting the amendment. An amendment to any license will not serve to extend the original expiration date and an application for an amendment will not constitute an application for renewal of the license.

207.6.3 REVOCATION OF LICENSES
Any license issued pursuant to this policy may be immediately revoked by the Chief of Police for any of the following reasons:

(a) The licensee has violated any of the restrictions or conditions placed upon the license.

(b) The licensee becomes psychologically unsuitable to carry a firearm.

(c) The licensee is determined to be within a prohibited class described in Penal Code § 29800, Penal Code § 29900, Welfare and Institutions Code § 8100, Welfare and Institutions Code § 8103, or any state or federal law.

(d) The licensee engages in any conduct which involves a lack of good moral character for the original issuance of the license.

(e) If the licensee is arrested for any criminal charge(s), whether or not convicted.
(f) If the licensee, while armed, commits any unsafe act in an unsafe manner without due regard for public safety.

The issuance of a license by the Chief of Police shall not entitle the holder to either a property or liberty interest as the issuance, amendment, or revocation of such license remains exclusively within the discretion of the Chief of Police as set forth herein.

If any license is revoked, the Department will immediately notify the licensee in writing and the California DOJ (Penal Code § 26225).

207.6.4 LICENSE RENEWAL

No later than 90 days prior to the expiration of any valid license to carry a firearm, the licensee may apply to the Chief of Police for a renewal by:

(a) Verifying all information submitted in the original application under penalty of perjury.
(b) Completing a department-approved training course pursuant to Penal Code § 26165.
(c) Submitting any firearm to be considered for a license renewal to one of the CCW training providers or the Rangemaster for a full safety inspection. The Chief of Police reserves the right to deny a license for any firearm that has been altered from the manufacturer’s specifications or that is unsafe (Penal Code § 31910).
(d) Paying a non-refundable renewal application fee.

Once the Chief of Police or the authorized designee has verified the successful completion of the renewal process, the renewal of the license to carry a firearm will either be granted or denied. Prior issuance of a license shall not entitle any licensee to any property or liberty right to renewal.

Whether an application for renewal is approved or denied, the applicant shall be notified in writing within 90 days of the renewal application or within 30 days after receipt of the applicant's criminal background check from the California DOJ, whichever is later (Penal Code § 26205).

207.7 DEPARTMENT REPORTING AND RECORDS

Pursuant to Penal Code § 26225, the Chief of Police shall maintain a record of the following and immediately provide copies of each to the California DOJ:

(a) The denial of a license
(b) The denial of an amendment to a license
(c) The issuance of a license
(d) The amendment of a license
(e) The revocation of a license

The Chief of Police shall annually submit to the State Attorney General the total number of licenses to carry firearms issued to reserve peace officers and judges.
207.8  CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS
The home address and telephone numbers of any peace officer, public defender, prosecutor, magistrate, court commissioner, or judge contained in an application shall not be considered public record (Government Code § 7923.805).

Any information in an application for a license to carry a firearm that indicates when or where the applicant is vulnerable to attack or that concerns the applicant's medical or psychological history or that of the applicant's family shall not be considered public record (Government Code § 7923.800).