

## NEWS RELEASE

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### CHANGES TO CONCEALED WEAPON LICENSE LAWS

BISMARCK, ND – Changes to the state’s weapons and concealed weapons license laws take effect tomorrow, Saturday, August 1, 2015.

Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem said one of the major changes is that his office can now explain why an applicant was denied a concealed weapon license. Until now, state law had prohibited release of such information, even to the applicant.

“This situation sometimes caused frustration both for the person who was denied a license and for my staff who were barred by law from providing an explanation. Although it won’t affect the denial of a license, at least now we can include in the notice the specific reason why the individual was denied a concealed weapon license,” said Stenehjem.

Other changes that take effect on August 1, 2015 include:

- No license is required to carry a Taser™ that only delivers a single application of voltage, provided the individual is not otherwise prohibited from possessing a firearm.
- Firearms are prohibited from publicly owned property, however, a new provision in law allows firearms in rest areas on public highways.
- Gun dealers no longer have to submit an extra copy of federal forms to the BCI when they make certain firearms sales.

Detailed information about new weapons and concealed weapon laws, how to apply for a concealed weapon license, and reciprocity with other states is available on the Concealed Weapon License page at [www.ag.nd.gov](http://www.ag.nd.gov).

Applications can be completed online but still have to be printed and mailed in. The link to the online application is on the Concealed Weapon License page. Stenehjem said the online applications are the first step in a multi-phase effort by his office to make the entire application process available online. “It’s a very complicated timeline because it involves interaction with federal systems and compliance with numerous state and federal regulations,” he explained. Stenehjem said his office hopes to roll out the second stage – online payment – within the next twelve months.

There are currently 38,898 active ND concealed weapon licenses. North Dakota Class 1 license holders have reciprocity in 38 states.

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