


<p>California Department of Justice DIVISION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT Stephen Woolery, Chief</p> 	<h1>INFORMATION BULLETIN</h1>	
<p><i>Subject:</i> <b>New and Amended Firearms/Weapons Laws</b></p>	<p><i>No.</i> 2025-DLE-02</p>	<p><i>Contact for information:</i> Bureau of Firearms (916) 210-2300</p>
	<p><i>Date:</i> 02/04/2025</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 2024. For more information regarding firearms/weapons bills previously signed into law and taking effect in 2024, please refer to Information Bulletin 2024-DLE-02, dated March 1, 2024, titled “New and Amended Firearms/Weapons Laws,” which can be accessed at: <https://oag.ca.gov/system/files/media/2024-dle-02.pdf>.

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

### ***BILLS SIGNED INTO LAW IN 2024***

#### **Assembly Bills (AB)**

#### **AB 960 (Stats. 2024, ch. 528) – School safety: web-based or app-based school safety programs.**

*Effective January 1, 2025*

- Encourages public and charter schools that enroll 100 or more students to implement a web-based or app-based school safety program by July 1, 2030. Specifies parameters for the safety programs, including, among other things, a map of the school and remote access to the school’s surveillance system for first responders.
- Requires schools that implement safety programs to ensure that program developers implement best practices to protect the security and data of students and staff, and keep certain information confidential.

**AB 1252 (Stats. 2024, ch. 529) – Office of Gun Violence Prevention.**

*Effective January 1, 2025*

- Establishes the Office of Gun Violence Prevention within the Department, which must advise the Attorney General on, among other things, gun violence prevention-related matters.
- Requires the Office to consult with experts and stakeholders and issue a report by July 1, 2026 on achieving sustained gun violence reduction, including through new legislation and improvements to statutory implementation. The Office must make its report publicly available and transmit copies to the public safety committees of both houses of the Legislature and the Governor's office, within 60 days of the report's completion.

**AB 1858 (Stats. 2024, ch. 530) – Comprehensive school safety plans: active shooters: armed assailants: drills.**

*Effective January 1, 2025*

- Requires comprehensive school safety plans, that already include drills to prepare for active shooters or other armed assailants, to develop specified procedures related to those drills, including a trauma-informed approach and a prohibition on the use of real weapons.
- Authorizes chartering authorities to deny charter school petitions that do not include in their proposed school safety plan the same procedures and policies.
- Requires the State Department of Education to prepare and post best practices regarding school shooter or other armed assailant drills on its website by June 15, 2025, and encourages school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools to comply with these best practices.

**AB 1974 (Stats. 2024, ch. 303) – Family conciliation courts: evaluator training.**

*Effective January 1, 2025*

- Expands topics that must be addressed in mandatory annual advanced trainings for family conciliation court evaluators. Requires the list of topics in advanced training regarding family and psychological assessments in domestic violence cases to include risks associated with access to firearms and ways to reduce those risks.

**AB 2565 (Stats. 2024, ch. 531) – School facilities: interior locks.**

*Effective January 1, 2025*

- Contingent on appropriation, requires charter schools, school districts, and county offices of education serving students in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, to install interior locks on each door of any room in the school building with an occupancy of five or more when altering a school building, except as provided.

**AB 2621 (Stats. 2024, ch. 532) – Law enforcement training.**

*Effective January 1, 2025*

- Expands law enforcement hate crime training to include instruction on responding to hate crime waves against specific groups.
- Requires law enforcement training courses to include instruction on when a gun violence restraining order (GVRO) may be appropriate, and procedures for seeking a GVRO.
- Requires law enforcement to update GVRO policies and standards to incorporate changes in GVRO laws and include procedures and instruction for officers related to specified GVRO-related topics.

**AB 2629 (Stats. 2024, ch. 527) – Firearms: prohibited persons.**

*Effective September 1, 2025*

- Revises existing law that is in effect until September 1, 2025 concerning persons who are prohibited from possessing or receiving a firearm.
- Effective September 1, 2025, repeals and replaces Welfare and Institutions Code section 8103, expanding existing prohibitions on firearm possession to include any person found mentally incompetent to stand trial in a post-release community supervision hearing or parole revocation hearing.
- Effective September 1, 2025, expands the existing requirement that courts must notify the Department when the court finds a person mentally incompetent to stand trial pursuant to Penal Code sections 1370 or 1370.1 to now require that courts must notify the Department of a finding of mental incompetency regardless of whether the finding of incompetency is pursuant to Penal Code section 1370 or 1370.1.

**AB 2642 (Stats. 2024, ch. 533) – Elections: intimidation.**

*Effective September 24, 2024*

- Prohibits a person from intimidating, threatening, or coercing, or attempting to intimidate, threaten, or coerce, any other person for engaging in specified election-related activities.
- Provides a presumption that a person has engaged in prohibited intimidation when the person openly carries a firearm or imitation firearm while interacting with or observing specified election-related activities. Law enforcement officers acting within the scope of their official duties are not subject to this presumption.
- Provides that the Attorney General, elections officials, or an aggrieved person may file a civil lawsuit to enforce these prohibitions.

**AB 2739 (Stats. 2024, ch. 534) – Firearms.**

*Effective January 1, 2025*

- Provides that the unlawful carrying of a loaded firearm and the unlawful open carrying of an unloaded handgun are a nuisance, and renders the firearm subject to surrender to law enforcement and subsequent destruction, except as specified.

**AB 2759 (Stats. 2024, ch. 535) – Domestic violence protective orders: possession of a firearm.**

*Effective January 1, 2025*

- Authorizes a court to grant a firearms relinquishment exemption when considering or issuing a protective order where the restrained person is not otherwise prohibited from owning or possessing firearms and specified conditions apply related to the person’s employment as a peace officer or need to carry a firearm for work.
- Requires the court to review an exemption to a temporary restraining order and make a finding that the exemption remains appropriate if the court subsequently issues a restraining order against the person or renews a restraining order.
- Authorizes the court to terminate or modify an exemption if the restrained person demonstrates a need to modify the specific firearm or ammunition authorized by the court, if the exemption requirements are no longer met or the person violates the restraining order.

**AB 2842 (Stats. 2024, ch. 537) – Firearms.**

*Effective January 1, 2025*

- Requires a law enforcement agency that contracts with a third party for the destruction of firearms or other weapons to ensure that the contract explicitly prohibits the sale of any firearm or weapon, or any part or attachment, except for purposes of recycling any scrap material resulting from the destruction.
- Provides that a firearm acquired pursuant to a government buyback program may be donated to a public or private nonprofit historical society, museum, or institutional collection, subject to laws related to such transfers.

**AB 2907 (Stats. 2024, ch. 538) – Firearms: restrained persons.**

*Effective January 1, 2025*

- Prohibits persons who are subject to specified criminal protective orders issued in domestic violence convictions from purchasing or possessing firearms. Applies the same restrictions and relinquishment procedures that exist for persons who are subject to various temporary restraining orders, restraining orders, and injunctions.

- Requires the arresting officer in domestic violence cases to question the arrestee, victim, and other household members regarding firearms or ammunition possessed by the arrestee, query the Automated Firearms System to find any firearms owned by the arrestee, and ensure that any firearm at the scene is seized, in accordance with applicable law. The officer must document these actions and report certain information to the district attorney or prosecutor. The court must consider this information when determining the length of a protective order.

**AB 2917 (Stats. 2024, ch. 539) – Firearms: restraining orders.**

*Effective January 1, 2025*

- Expands the prior threats or acts of violence that a court may consider in determining whether to issue a gun violence restraining order (GVRO) preventing an individual from purchasing or possessing a firearm to include threats or acts of violence directed at another group or location.
- Adds city attorneys and county counsel pursuing GVROs to the list of entities who receive summary criminal history reports from the Department, as required by law.

**AB 3064 (Stats. 2024, ch. 540) – Firearms.**

*Effective January 1, 2026*

- Establishes requirements for firearm-storage devices listed on the firearm safety device roster, including authorizing the Department to assess fees on the device manufacturer or importer to cover the cost of approving new devices and storing prototype devices.
- Authorizes the Department to charge a fee for processing certain firearms importation and transfer reports, request photos of firearms listed in these reports, and examine reports to determine whether the transferee is prohibited from firearm possession. Creates a misdemeanor for the furnishing of false information in these reports.

**AB 3072 (Stats. 2024, ch. 317) – Child custody: ex parte orders.**

*Effective January 1, 2025*

- Requires a court to consider a parent's illegal access to firearms when determining whether there is a showing of immediate harm to a child in an ex parte custody order.
- Requires a court to determine whether visitation rights should be supervised, suspended, limited, or denied based on the risk of immediate harm to the child or immediate risk that the child will be removed from the State of California.

**AB 3083 (Stats. 2024, ch. 541) – Domestic violence: protective orders: background checks.**

*Effective January 1, 2025*

- Requires courts, before a hearing on a proposed order under the Domestic Violence Prevention Act, to determine whether the subject of the proposed order has a registered firearm as reflected in the Department’s Automated Firearms System.
- Repeals prior law that imposed this search requirement only on courts identified by the Judicial Council as having resources available for that purpose.

**Senate Bills (SB)**

**SB 53 (Stats. 2024, ch. 542) – Firearms: storage.**

*Effective January 1, 2026*

- Requires persons possessing a firearm in a residence to keep the firearm securely stored when not being carried or readily controlled by the person or a lawful authorized user, as specified. A firearm is securely stored if maintained within, locked by, or disabled using a certified firearm safety device or secure gun safe that meets specified standards. The first and second violations of these requirements are punishable as an infraction, and a third or subsequent violation is punishable as a misdemeanor.
- Modifies existing law criminalizing leaving firearms in places where children may access them, removing an exemption based on lack of reasonable expectation that a child is likely to be present on premises.

**SB 758 (Stats. 2024, ch. 543) – Firearms.**

*Effective January 1, 2025*

- Makes it a crime to bring a firearm into California with the intent to transfer the firearm to a minor or evade specified requirements on the transfer of firearms.
- Allows prosecution of certain illegal firearms transactions as felonies if they involve centerfire semiautomatic rifles.

**SB 899 (Stats. 2024, ch. 544) – Protective orders: firearms.**

*Effective January 1, 2026*

- Extends firearm and ammunition relinquishment procedures that exist for purposes of domestic violence restraining orders to other specified protective orders.
- Establishes procedures for courts presented with information that a restrained party has a firearm or ammunition.
- Requires law enforcement to serve protective orders, as specified.

- Authorizes a search warrant to be issued on the grounds that a person subject to these prohibitions has failed to relinquish a firearm or ammunition, as required.

**SB 902 (Stats. 2024, ch. 545) – Firearms: public safety.**

*Effective January 1, 2025*

- Makes it a misdemeanor to own, purchase, receive or possess any firearm for 10 years after a conviction for specified animal cruelty crimes.

**SB 965 (Stats. 2024, ch. 546) – Firearms.**

*Effective January 1, 2025*

- Adds certain categories of information to the firearms report that the Department must annually prepare and submit to the Legislature, including information about inspections of firearms dealers and ammunition vendors and information about the roster of handguns.

**SB 1002 (Stats. 2024, ch. 526) – Firearms: prohibited persons.**

*Effective January 1, 2025*

- Prohibits the possession of ammunition by individuals subject to specified mental illness-related firearms prohibitions and requires them to relinquish any firearms, deadly weapons, or ammunition they own, possess or control within a specified timeframe.
- Authorizes a search warrant to be issued on the grounds that the property to be seized includes ammunition in the possession of individuals subject to these prohibitions.
- Requires healthcare facilities to provide information to the Department related to these prohibitions.

**SB 1019 (Stats. 2024, ch. 547) – Firearms: destruction.**

*Effective January 1, 2025*

- Requires law enforcement agencies to use certain methods to destroy firearms subject to destruction under existing law, except as specified.
- Requires every law enforcement agency to develop and make available on its website a written policy regarding the destruction of firearms.

**SB 1025 (Stats. 2024, ch. 924) – Pretrial diversion for veterans.**

*Effective January 1, 2025*

- Adds certain felony offenses to the pretrial diversion program for a defendant who was, or currently is, a member of the Armed Forces of the United States with a certain trauma, injury, or other condition that was a significant factor in the commission of the charged offense.
- Requires the court to find that the defendant’s condition was a significant factor in the commission of the offense unless there is clear and convincing evidence otherwise.
- Authorizes the prosecution to request an order from the court to prohibit a veteran defendant in diversion from controlling, owning, purchasing, possessing, or receiving a firearm because they are a danger to themselves or others until they successfully complete diversion or their firearm rights are restored.