

GETTING YOUR CONCEALED CARRY LICENSE

LA COUNTY SHERIFF MIGHT MAKE IT EASIER

BY TIFFANY D. CHEUVRONT

Obtaining a concealed carry weapons license (CCW) has been notoriously difficult—and often impossible—for Los Angeles County residents due to the restrictive “May-Issue” policies of the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department (LASD). But that could soon change, as Sheriff Alex Villanueva recently stated he intends to increase the amount of CCWs his Department issues by as much as 400%.

A 2017 report from the California State Auditor determined that there were only 197 active CCW licenses for Los Angeles County. And of those, only 5% (less than 10) were issued to

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individuals “outside the law enforcement community.” So even if Sheriff Villanueva were to issue new licenses exclusively to civilians, a 400% increase would be a drop in the bucket for a

county like Los Angeles with a population of over 10 million residents.

So, what does this mean to gun owners who have been waiting to get their CCW in the state? Well, first of all, there is a misconception that if you live in California you better just give up; however, there are many counties with friendly sheriffs who support the issuance of CCWs to lawful citizens. It can be a confusing process because each and every county has its own process, and you have to visit the county sheriff’s website to confirm your county’s process. Yes, many counties make you go through numerous steps, but don’t let that dissuade you from pressing forward and getting that CCW. A little inconvenience is worth being able to defend yourself and your loved ones, especially with all of the civil unrest and concerns we have seen over the past several months. (A list of some of these issuing counties can be found at crpa.org/news/blogs/los-angeles-county-ccw-application-guide.)

CRPA has been working with friendly sheriffs across the state for decades to ensure that the process is as simple as possible and that as many lawful gun owners as possible can fully exercise their rights. For those jurisdictions that are not as friendly, we work to change their perspective of how having hon-

est, lawful citizens trained to carry a gun in their communities can alter the odds in their favor when it comes to crime. Let's face it, law enforcement cannot be everywhere at once, and many times it is up to individuals to protect themselves and those around them. When that does not work we may end up in court to fight unfair policies in non-issuing jurisdictions (*Flanagan v. Becerra*).

Don't be fooled by the anti-gun media either. In California, CCW holders are required to complete several hours of training and must pass tests in order to get their licenses. New gun owners may not realize that this is part of the process, but if you are a new gun owner, we would encourage you to get the proper training and apply for your CCW as soon as possible. The need for protection does not just exist in your home.

And now we come back to Los Angeles County where it has been nearly impossible to get a CCW for years. But in late June, the sheriff gave a glimmer of hope to gun owners when he announced that he will be issuing more CCWs. This was in direct response to the County Board of Supervisors reducing law enforcement funding in the county. And it is a good response. The sheriff knows that this reduction in funding means his deputies will not be able to provide as much protection and service in the county—so he is telling gun owners to prepare for this reduced safety. CRPA has prepared a guide on how to apply for a CCW in LA County that is available at crpa.org/news/blogs/los-angeles-county-ccw-application-guide. We will try to keep that updated as this situation develops.

While we do not know how many more CCWs will be issued in Los Angeles County, we know it is a start, and we hope gun owners will flood the county with applications. CRPA also hopes Sheriff Villanueva will continue

to issue permits to law-abiding residents in the future. It is important to understand, however, that it is unlikely LASD's "good cause" requirement will be relaxed to any significant degree. *Members should note that a CCW denial for lack of "good cause" should have no effect other than requiring individuals to disclose the denial on future CCW applications.*

TO LEARN MORE

CRPA is working to bring "Shall-Issue" to all California counties, includ-

ing Los Angeles. To learn more about those efforts, including the CRPA supported lawsuit of *Flanagan v. Becerra*, which challenges California's open and concealed carry restrictions, make sure that you are signed up for our email and follow us on social media.

Should you have any questions regarding the CCW application process in Los Angeles County and/or the above information, contact CRPA by sending an email to [contact@CRPA.org](mailto:contact@crpa.org) or by calling **1 (800) 305-2772**. 

VOLUNTEER PLAINTIFFS NEEDED FOR PRO-2A LAWSUITS.

STAND UP FOR YOUR RIGHTS!

CRPA's lawyers are looking for volunteer plaintiffs to be part of our planned future lawsuits challenging California's unconstitutional gun laws.

There is no obligation, all responses are kept strictly confidential, and there are no fees or costs for folks who volunteer.


MICHEL & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
Attorneys at Law

HELP US HELP YOU!

Email potentialplaintiffs@michellawyers.com for more information.

LOCAL ADVOCACY REPORT

BY TIFFANY D. CHEUVRONT

The **Local Advocacy Project** actively monitors all of California’s 58 counties and 482 municipalities to support or oppose any proposed ordinance, law or policy likely to impact Second Amendment rights. Local efforts include developing and working with a network of professionals, citizens, local government officials and law enforcement professionals to effectively oppose local threats to California gun owners. These efforts also serve as the foundation for litigation efforts against municipalities that enact anti-gun-owner legislation.

JURISDICTION & ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	LOP RESPONSE	STATUS
WINNING! DEL MAR FAIRGROUNDS MORATORIUM ON GUN SHOWS	For months the Del Mar gun show has been under siege from groups seeking to end the show. On September 11, 2018, the Del Mar Fair Board of Directors voted to institute an up to 1-year moratorium on gun shows beginning in 2019 while they “study the safety” of the gun show.	Additional legislation has been introduced at the state level that would prevent gun shows from occurring at the Del Mar Fairgrounds. CRPA is currently a named plaintiff in a federal lawsuit against the fairgrounds in an effort to protect your right to come together with others in the gun culture and hold lawful and safe events on public property. More information on the lawsuit can be found at michellawyers.com/b-l-productions-inc-et-al-v-22nd-district-agricultural-association-et-al	For now, the federal courts have ordered that the gun shows may continue at the Del Mar Fairgrounds while the litigation progresses; the next gun shows will be in 2020. The Fair Board settled rather than get a final ruling against them. Because of its blatant discrimination against gun owners and the gun culture, the fairgrounds had to pay our attorney fees, costs and damages.
VENTURA COUNTY FAIR BOARD CONSIDERS GUN SHOWS	In May 2018, the Ventura County Fair Board considered contracts for upcoming gun shows in 2019 and 2020. They approved the remaining 2018 shows to move forward. At the September 25, 2018, Board meeting, in a room of more than 100 gun show supporters, they considered the future of gun shows at the Ventura Fair facility.	This is a concerted effort by anti-gun groups to end gun shows in California. They are working with the national groups to make a statement that “we just don’t need” gun shows. CRPA is fighting against these groups and the false narrative. Over 100 members and supporters of the Second Amendment flooded the Board room and provided testimony and written comments to the Board.	The Board voted to continue gun shows going forward but may try to place more restrictions on them. CRPA attorneys drafted a letter to the Board concerning the constitutional issues these types of restrictions may bring. Please watch for calls to action and future meeting announcements.
COW PALACE GUN SHOWS DALY CITY	At the state level the California Legislature passed a bill in 2018 that would ban gun shows at the Cow Palace state venue as part of the concerted effort by opposition groups. This bill was vetoed by then Governor Brown. The pending legislation to stop gun shows and dismantle the Cow Palace authority has been dropped; however, this came with the condition that the Cow Palace Board would stop holding gun shows in the future.	CRPA drafted a prelitigation letter to the Board of the Cow Palace to inform them of pending legal action should they persist with denying gun shows access to state property. The Board has reopened its discussion regarding banning gun shows and is currently discussing the matter in committee. Please watch for further calls to action.	The Board voted in November to re-consider its stance against gun shows given the possible constitutional violations that have been outlined by the federal courts on this subject. CRPA will continue to monitor the situation. As of July 2020, we are still waiting on a report from the Cow Palace Board as to what they plan to do with gun shows. COVID-19 has delayed holding meetings on these issues.
STATEWIDE PUBLIC RECORD REQUESTS	CRPA regularly seeks and obtains public records in connection with any anti-gun efforts in California. Such efforts include proposed anti-gun ordinances, gun buyback programs and other anti-gun regulatory enforcement issues.	Responses to these requests often yield valuable results, such as which members of a local government entity are working with anti-gun groups, sources of funding and other important information.	Ongoing. CRPA attorneys monitor and review thousands of pages of public records requests each month.
CITY OF SAN JOSE	The Mayor for the City of San Jose wants to push mandatory insurance for all gun owners in the City as a way of paying for criminal violence that occurs in his City.	CRPA sent a letter previously on this same issue when the Mayor tried to make this a priority for the City.	The City is now waiting for research being done by the County on the feasibility of the issue. CRPA is monitoring the issue.

JURISDICTION & ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	LOP RESPONSE	STATUS
ORANGE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS	For months the Orange County Fair Board has considered the future of gun shows at the venue.	CRPA alerted members to attend a meeting and voice opposition. Submitted letters of opposition informing the Fair Board of the serious legal issues with discriminating against a segment of the population just because some do not like the legal activity.	In October, the Fair Board met to discuss the approval of 2020 contracts for gun shows. Thanks to CRPA members and business affiliates showing up; we were able to get a positive win. Gun shows will be returning to the Orange County Fairgrounds in 2020!
SANTA CLARA COUNTY	The County has made is very difficult for gun owners to exercise their rights during COVID-19, as the County continues to try to keep gun stores labeled as “non-essential” and keep them closed down.	CRPA and our legal team have been working around the clock to pressure the County to do the right thing and end their attempts to push the anti-gun agenda at a time like this.	CRPA has filed a legal action against the County, and we are awaiting responses.
CITY OF MORGAN HILL	City of Morgan Hill recommends drafting ordinances on duty to report theft or lost firearms, a safe storage ordinance while in home, prohibit possession of LCMs and require a permit to conduct retail sales.	CRPA attorneys submitted a letter in advance of actual ordinance language being introduced to inform the City of the problems with the proposal. In August 2018 there was no action on agenda. In November 2018 the ordinance passed the City Council.	The City was alerted to its unconstitutional actions, and members at the meeting in opposition to the ordinance far outweighed those in support of it. The City moved forward with the ordinance in November 2018. CRPA filed legal action against the City. More information regarding the litigation can be found at michellawyers.com/kirk-v-city-of-morgan-hill
WINNING! CITY OF LOS ANGELES BLACKLIST	The City Council passed an ordinance that would require all current and potential contractors to disclose under affidavit their affiliation with the NRA.	NRA and CRPA submitted letters and warned the City attorney of the legal ramifications of blatantly attacking the freedom to associate and speak against government. The City passed the ordinance by calling NRA members “white supremacists” who “peddle in violence.” There was no comment from other Council members regarding the outright falsehood of these statements.	HUGE WIN FOR GUN OWNERS—The federal court awarded the NRA an injunction which prevented the City from enforcing this unconstitutional law. The City of Los Angeles entered into settlement and has agreed to remove the ordinance as it is non-enforceable.
CITY OF ALAMEDA	The City Council passed gun control in March 2020 including: video recording of all firearm purchases, mandatory locked storage of all firearms in the home and 24-hour theft reports (already being challenged in another city).	CRPA sent notification to members and the local chapter and drafted a letter alerting the City Council to all of the potential constitutional violations.	The City is considering additional measures such as mandatory training for gun owners and telling stores where they can place guns within their stores. Please watch for additional calls to action.
CRPA COALITION WORK	The CRPA has been working with other groups across the state for years to influence and advance pro-2A work in the state. We believe in leveraging our combined strength to get things done.	Coalitions are built from other non-profit groups with similar missions coming together. We work with local chapter leaders, elected officials and legislative teams to push support and protection of the Second Amendment.	Watch for joint letters from coalition groups to fight harmful legislation in the state and for work with other groups during this election cycle.



Tiffany D. Chevront leads the local ordinance project for Michel & Associates, P.C. With over 19 years’ experience in the non-profit and regulatory fields, she practices civil rights litigation and corporate governance law (five of those years working specifically in Second Amendment and CA policy). Tiffany has written and provided testimony on issues at the local, state and federal levels of government.