



**A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE**

RELATING TO THE PUBLIC CARRY OF FIREARMS.

BE IT ORDAINED by the People of the City and County of Honolulu:

SECTION 1. Purpose. The purpose of this ordinance is to define those sensitive locations within the City and County of Honolulu ("City") where the carrying of firearms is prohibited, consistent with an individual's Second Amendment right to bear arms and the United States Supreme Court's ruling in *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association, Inc. v. Bruen*, 142 S. Ct. 2111 (2022).

It is the further purpose of this ordinance to protect sensitive areas that have traditionally been subject to restrictions on carrying or possessing arms therein; to protect health, life, and property; and to preserve the order and security of the City, its inhabitants, and its visitors.

It is the further purpose of this ordinance to facilitate communication to the public of decisions by private businesses and charitable establishments in permitting or restricting firearms on their property. Inasmuch as the public's expectations have been shaped by legal restrictions on public carry that have been in place in Hawai'i for 170 years (see 1852 Haw. Sess. Laws Act of May 25, 1852, § 1 at 19), setting a default rule for businesses and charitable establishments that is consistent with these public expectations will ease public confusion and avoid individual confrontations, while facilitating private decision-making by businesses and charitable establishments.

SECTION 2. Chapter 41, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021 ("Public Health and Safety"), is amended by adding a new article to be appropriately designated by the Revisor of Ordinances and to read as follows:

**"ARTICLE \_\_: PUBLIC CARRY OF FIREARMS**

**§ 41-\_\_1 Declaration of legislative intent.**

It is declared to be the intent of this article to protect sensitive areas that have traditionally been subject to restrictions on the carrying or possessing of firearms therein; to facilitate private decision-making on private property; to protect health, life, and property; and to preserve the order and security of the city, its inhabitants, and its visitors.



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§ 41-\_\_2 Definitions.

For the purposes of this article, the following definitions apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

**Business.** Any sole proprietorship, partnership, joint venture, business trust, limited liability company, business corporation, professional corporation, or other business entity formed for profit-making purposes.

**Business Establishment.** Includes any of the following establishments operated by a business:

- (1) Any hotel, except individual hotel rooms and when actively traveling through a hotel to or from an individual hotel room;
- (2) Any financial institution;
- (3) Any industrial, commercial, or wholesale establishment;
- (4) Any utility;
- (5) Any retail establishment where goods or services are sold, leased, or otherwise provided to the public or to another business; and
- (6) Any restaurant or bar, as those terms are defined in § 41-14.1.

**Carry on their Person.** The person has immediate physical access to the firearm, such as by carrying the firearm in a holster or other receptacle.

**Charitable Establishment.** Any organization classified under § 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code.

**Child or Minor.** A person under 18 years of age.

**Child Care.** Includes those situations where a person or organization has agreed to assume and has been entrusted with the responsibility for the child's supervision, development, safety, and protection apart from the parent or guardian. "Child care" includes any program or camp for children that occurs before school hours, after school hours, and during breaks in school instructional periods, including Summer Fun programs, A+ programs, children's programs of the YWCA and YMCA, and similar non-profit and government-sponsored programs for children.



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**Child Care Facility.** A place maintained by any individual, organization, or agency for the purpose of providing child care with or without charging a fee at any time. It includes a family child care home, group child care center, and group child care home as those terms are defined in HRS § 346-151. "Child care facility" does not include any dwelling unit or lodging unit when not used as a child care facility.

**Detective, Private Detective, and Investigator.** Have the same meanings as defined in HRS § 463-1.

**Dwelling Unit.** Has the same meaning as defined in § 21-10.1.

**Firearm(s).** Has the same meaning as defined in HRS § 134-1.

**Guard.** Has the same meaning as defined in HRS § 463-1.

**License.** Any license to carry a concealed or unconcealed firearm issued by the Honolulu police department.

**Lodging Unit.** Has the same meaning as defined in § 21-10.1.

**Operating Hours.** Any time at which a place is open for customers or visitors, including any time at which a place is open only for a limited number or group of customers or visitors but otherwise closed to the general public.

**Pistol or Revolver.** Has the same meaning as defined in HRS § 134-1.

**Place of Deposit.** Has the same meaning as defined in HRS § 11-1.

**Public Park.** Has the same meaning as defined in § 10-1.1.

**School.** Includes all institutions that provide preschool, elementary, secondary, post-secondary, technical, trade, or vocational education, including youth challenge academies, and includes all athletic facilities, offices, cafeterias, eating establishments, health care facilities, research facilities, parking lots, school buses, and shared rooms and common areas of dormitories thereof. "School" does not include a private residence at which education is provided for children who are all related to one another by blood, marriage, or adoption.



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***Sensitive Place.*** Within the city:

- (1) All areas within or on city-owned or -controlled buildings or offices, excluding:
  - (A) Any dwelling unit or lodging unit when not used as a child care facility;
  - (B) The Koko Head Shooting Complex; and
  - (C) The Neal S. Blaisdell Center or other city-owned or -controlled building during the operating hours of an organized, scheduled firearms show or exhibit there;
- (2) Except as otherwise provided by federal or State law, all areas within or on buildings or offices owned or controlled by the United States or the State, excluding any dwelling unit or lodging unit when not used as a child care facility;
- (3) Any school or child care facility, including preschools, public schools, parochial schools, private schools, colleges, or universities;
- (4) Public parks, excluding the Koko Head Shooting Complex, during each park's operating hours;
- (5) Shelters and residential facilities operated by a government entity or a charitable establishment, including those that serve the homeless, homeless children, developmentally disabled persons, victims of domestic violence, children involved in the juvenile justice system, adults involved in the criminal justice system, or persons who are similarly at-risk;
- (6) The buildings, grounds, and appurtenant parking lots of the following, during the respective operating hours of each:
  - (A) Hanauma Bay Nature Preserve;
  - (B) Hawaii Children's Discovery Center;
  - (C) Honolulu Zoo; and
  - (D) Waikiki Aquarium;



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- (7) A voter service center, place of deposit, and its appurtenances, and an area of 200 feet from the perimeter of any voter service center, place of deposit, and its appurtenances, as designated by election officials pursuant to HRS § 11-132, as follows:
  - (A) As applied to a voter service center and its appurtenances, all operating hours, as set forth in HRS § 11-109; and
  - (B) As applied to a place of deposit and its appurtenances, all times at which the place of deposit is accessible to the public;
- (8) The Alapai Transit Center, Kalihi Transit Center, rail stations, nonsecure areas of airports, and cruise terminals, as well as vehicles used for public transportation by air, sea, or land, including rail, TheBus, Handi-Van, or ship;
- (9) Any business establishment licensed to dispense intoxicating liquor for consumption on the premises;
- (10) Within 100 feet of or within the permitted boundaries of a public gathering, demonstration, or event for which a government permit has been obtained, during the conduct of such gathering, demonstration, or event; provided that for parades, marathons, and other events characterized by the movement of people from one place to another, the following are not a sensitive place:
  - (A) Fixed structures along the route, such as businesses and residences, unless firearms are otherwise prohibited in those structures in accordance with this article; and
  - (B) Areas where participants are not present.
- (11) Theaters, stadiums, museums, and amusement parks;
- (12) A medical cannabis dispensary, as defined in HRS § 329D-1; and
- (13) Any public or private hospital, mental health facility, nursing home, clinic, medical office, urgent care facility, or other place at which medical or health services are customarily provided, including appurtenant parking lots.



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**Sidewalk.** Has the same meaning as defined in § 13-1.1.

**Street.** Has the same meaning as defined in § 13-1.1, provided that "street" does not include any portion of a parking lot.

**Structure.** Has the same meaning as defined in § 21-10.1.

**Theater.** Has the same meaning as defined in § 21-10.1.

**Voter Service Center.** Has the same meaning as defined in HRS § 11-1.

**Voter Service Center, Place of Deposit, and its Appurtenances.** Includes those places included within those terms as enumerated in HRS § 11-132.

**§ 41-\_\_3 Prohibition against the public carrying of a pistol or revolver outside a residence without a license.**

(a) **Prohibition.** Except as otherwise provided by federal or State law, it is a violation of this article for any person to intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly carry on their person a pistol or revolver outside the person's residence without having a valid license in the person's immediate possession or to fail to display the license upon the demand of a law enforcement officer.

(b) **Exceptions.** This prohibition does not apply to:

- (1) Persons exempted from HRS § 134-9 pursuant to HRS § 134-11; and
- (2) Qualified law enforcement officers and qualified retired law enforcement officers pursuant to 18 USC § 926B and 926C who have documentation regarding their qualifications in their immediate possession.

**§ 41-\_\_4 Prohibition against the public carrying of firearms in a sensitive location—Prohibition against carrying a firearm on a private business establishment's or charitable establishment's premises without express consent.**

(a) **Prohibition.** Except as otherwise provided by federal or State law, it is a violation of this article for any person to intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly carry on their person a firearm, concealed or unconcealed, on the premises of:

- (1) Any sensitive place; or



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- (2) Any business establishment or charitable establishment unless the business establishment or charitable establishment, or an agent thereof, has expressly consented thereto. For purposes of this subsection, signage must be in accordance with the requirements specified in § 41-\_\_\_.5.

For the purposes of this section, "the premises of any business establishment or charitable establishment" includes all appurtenant grounds and parking lots of the business establishment or charitable establishment, but does not include privately owned or maintained streets or sidewalks.

(b) *Exceptions.* This section does not apply to:

- (1) Persons exempted from HRS § 134-9 pursuant to HRS § 134-11;
- (2) Detectives, private detectives, investigators, and guards, authorized by the chief of police to carry a firearm in a particular sensitive place, while on duty, in that sensitive place or on the premises of a business establishment or charitable establishment with the authorization of the owner of the premises;
- (3) Any person who has a valid license to carry on their person a pistol or revolver outside the person's residence, or is exempted in accordance with § 41-\_\_\_.3(b), and who is in the act of:
  - (A) Transporting a concealed firearm within a vehicle into or out of a parking area in a location covered under subsection (a), provided that the firearm is secured in a locked container;
  - (B) Transporting a concealed firearm in the immediate area surrounding their vehicle within a prohibited parking lot area only for the purpose of storing or retrieving the firearm within a locked container in the vehicle's trunk or other place inside the vehicle that is out of plain view;
  - (C) Traveling along a public right-of-way that touches or crosses any of the locations identified in subsection (a), if the concealed firearm is carried on their person or is being transported in a vehicle by the licensee in accordance with all other applicable laws, provided that



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nothing in this exception allows a licensee to loiter or remain in a sensitive place longer than necessary to complete their travel; or

- (D) Walking through or within 100 feet of a public gathering, demonstration, or event for which a government permit is obtained in order to access a place where firearms are allowed or their residence, place of business, or vehicle, while the licensee is in the act of walking through the gathering, demonstration, or event to access a place where firearms are allowed or their residence, place of business, or vehicle, provided that nothing in this exception allows a licensee to loiter or remain in a place longer than necessary to complete their travel or business; and

- (4) Public gatherings, demonstrations, or events for which a government permit is obtained, if the permit allows the carrying of a firearm, concealed or unconcealed, during the conduct of the gathering, demonstration, or event.

(c) *Leased Premises.* The landlord of a nonresidential property may, but need not, delegate authority by contractual provision to a lessee operating a business establishment or a charitable establishment to expressly consent to:

- (1) The carrying of firearms concealed or unconcealed by licensed persons generally; or
- (2) The carrying of firearms by licensed detectives, private detectives, investigators, or guards;

on the leased premises.

**§ 41-\_\_ .5 Signage.**

(a) Signage must be posted at a business establishment or charitable establishment to allow or prohibit the carry of firearms when the sign would indicate a permission or prohibition that is different from the default provisions of this article or applicable State law. Signage is not required at a business establishment or charitable establishment to indicate a permission or prohibition that is consistent with the default provisions of this article or applicable State law, but any posted signage must be consistent with the requirements of this section.

(b) Signage posted pursuant to subsection (a) must be posted as follows:





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*For express consent:*

- (1) Where the premises has a physical door, the sign must:
  - (A) Be clearly legible from outside the door;
  - (B) Be at least 8.5 inches wide by 11 inches tall in size;
  - (C) Contain the phrase "GUNS ALLOWED," where "GUNS" is in black 1-inch tall or taller uppercase type and "ALLOWED" is in red 1-inch tall or taller uppercase type, located at the bottom of the sign and centered between the lateral edges of the sign;
  - (D) Contain a black silhouette of a handgun inside a black-outlined circle on a white background; and
  - (E) Be placed not less than 40 inches and not more than 60 inches from the bottom of the premises' entrance door.
  
- (2) Where the premises does not have a physical door, the sign must:
  - (A) Be at least 18 inches wide by 24 inches tall in size;
  - (B) Contain the phrase "GUNS ALLOWED," where "GUNS" is in black 1.5-inch tall or taller uppercase type and "ALLOWED" is in red 1.5-inch tall or taller uppercase type, located at the bottom of the sign and centered between the lateral edges of the sign;
  - (C) Contain a black silhouette of a handgun inside a black-outlined circle on a white background;
  - (D) Be placed not less than 40 inches and not more than 70 inches above the ground; and
  - (E) Be posted in sufficient quantities to be clearly legible from any point of entry onto the premises.

*For express prohibition.*

- (1) Where the premises has a physical door, the sign must:



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- (A) Be clearly legible from outside the door;
  - (B) Be at least 8.5 inches wide by 11 inches tall in size;
  - (C) Contain the phrase "GUNS NOT ALLOWED," where "GUNS" and "ALLOWED" are in black 1-inch tall or taller uppercase type and "NOT" is in red 1-inch tall or taller uppercase type, located at the bottom of the sign and centered between the lateral edges of the sign;
  - (D) Contain a black silhouette of a handgun inside a red-outlined circle with a diagonal red bar across the handgun; and
  - (E) Be placed not less than 40 inches and not more than 60 inches from the bottom of the premises' entrance door.
- (2) Where the premises does not have a physical door, the sign must:
- (A) Be at least 18 inches wide by 24 inches tall in size;
  - (B) Contain the phrase "GUNS NOT ALLOWED," where "GUNS" and "ALLOWED" are in black 1.5-inch tall or taller uppercase type and "NOT" is in red 1.5-inch tall or taller uppercase type, located at the bottom of the sign and centered between the lateral edges of the sign;
  - (C) Contain a black silhouette of a handgun inside a red-outlined circle with a diagonal red bar across the handgun;
  - (D) Be placed not less than 40 inches and not more than 70 inches above the ground; and
  - (E) Be posted in sufficient quantities to be clearly legible from any point of entry onto the premises.
- (c) All signs that meet the requirements of this section will be considered public signs under § 21-7.20.



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**§ 41-\_\_6 Duty to inform law enforcement upon contact.**

A person granted a license to carry a concealed or unconcealed firearm and who is in possession of or carrying their licensed firearm when contacted by a law enforcement officer, shall immediately inform the law enforcement officer that the person is in possession of or carrying their licensed firearm, and shall present the license to the law enforcement officer.

**§ 41-\_\_7 Criminal penalties.**

- (a) Any person violating this article is guilty of a misdemeanor.
- (b) A law enforcement officer may arrest an alleged violator of any provision of this article or may issue a citation in lieu of arrest, as provided in HRS § 803-6.
- (c) In any prosecution, it is an affirmative defense that the person was exempt from the prohibition in § 41-\_\_4(a) pursuant to § 41-\_\_4(b).

**§ 41-\_\_8 Enforcement.**

- (a) The presence of a person at any sensitive place is prima facie evidence that the person knows it is a sensitive place.
- (b) The presence of a person on the premises of any business establishment or charitable establishment is prima facie evidence that the person knows it is the premises of a business establishment or charitable establishment.
- (c) The failure of a person to have a valid license in the person's immediate possession while carrying on their person a pistol or revolver outside the person's residence is prima facie evidence that the person knows the person is carrying the pistol or revolver in public without possession of the person's license.
- (d) The failure of a person to display the person's license upon the demand of a law enforcement officer while carrying on their person a pistol or revolver outside the person's residence is prima facie evidence that the person has knowingly, intentionally, and recklessly failed to display the license.



**CITY COUNCIL**  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
HONOLULU, HAWAII

ORDINANCE 23-6

BILL 57 (2022), CD2, FD1

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**§ 41-\_\_9 Severability.**

Every provision in this article and every application of the provisions in this article is severable from each other as a matter of law. If any provision of this article or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of this article that may be given effect without the invalid provision or application. This article must be construed to be enforceable up to, but no further than, the maximum possible extent consistent with federal and State law."



**CITY COUNCIL**  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
HONOLULU, HAWAII

ORDINANCE 23-6

BILL 57 (2022), CD2, FD1

**A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE**

SECTION 3. This ordinance takes effect on May 1, 2023.

INTRODUCED BY:

Tommy Waters (br)

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DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

November 10, 2022  
Honolulu, Hawaii

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Councilmembers

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

Deputy Corporation Counsel  
**DANIEL M. GLUCK**

APPROVED this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2023.

RICK BLANGIARDI, Mayor  
City and County of Honolulu

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
HONOLULU, HAWAII  
CERTIFICATE

BILL 57 (2022), CD2, FD1

Introduced: 11/10/22 By: TOMMY WATERS - BY REQUEST Committee: EXECUTIVE MATTERS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS (EMLA)

Title: RELATING TO THE PUBLIC CARRY OF FIREARMS.

Voting Legend: \* = Aye w/Reservations

11/10/22	INTRO	Introduced.
11/29/22	CCL	Tyler Dos Santos-Tam was appointed to fill a vacancy in the Office of Councilmember for Council District VI. (Refer to RES22-272)  Val A. Okimoto was appointed to fill a vacancy in the Office of Councilmember for Council District VIII. (Refer to RES22-273)
11/29/22	CCL	Passed first reading.  6 AYES: CORDERO, DOS SANTOS-TAM, KIA'ĀINA, OKIMOTO*, SAY, WATERS  2 NOES: TULBA, TUPOLA  1 ABSENT: TSUNEYOSHI
02/07/23	EMLA	Amended to CD1.  9 AYES: CORDERO, DOS SANTOS-TAM, KIA'ĀINA, OKIMOTO, SAY, TULBA, TUPOLA, WATERS, WEYER
02/07/23	EMLA	Reported out for passage on second reading and scheduling of a public hearing as amended in CD1 form.  CR-19(23)  6 AYES: CORDERO, DOS SANTOS-TAM, KIA'ĀINA, SAY, WATERS, WEYER  3 NOES: OKIMOTO, TULBA, TUPOLA
02/10/23	PUBLISH	Public hearing notice published in the Honolulu Star-Advertiser.
02/22/23	CCL/PH	Committee report adopted. Bill passed second reading as amended, public hearing closed and referred to committee.  6 AYES: CORDERO, DOS SANTOS-TAM, KIA'ĀINA, SAY*, WATERS, WEYER  3 NOES: OKIMOTO, TULBA, TUPOLA
02/28/23	EMLA	Reported out for passage on third reading as amended in CD2 form.  CR-50(23)  5 AYES: CORDERO, DOS SANTOS-TAM, KIA'ĀINA, SAY*, WATERS  3 NOES: OKIMOTO, TULBA, TUPOLA  1 ABSENT: WEYER
03/01/23	PUBLISH	Second reading notice published in the Honolulu Star-Advertiser.
03/15/23		Amended to FD1.  OCS2023-0205/3/9/2023 3:55 PM  6 AYES: CORDERO, DOS SANTOS-TAM, KIA'ĀINA, SAY, WATERS, WEYER  3 NOES: OKIMOTO, TULBA, TUPOLA

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03/15/23 CCL Motion to amend to hand-carried FD1 failed.  
OCS2023-0210/3/9/2023 3:13 PM  
3 AYES: OKIMOTO, TULBA, TUPOLA  
6 NOES: CORDERO, DOS SANTOS-TAM, KIA'ĀINA, SAY, WATERS, WEYER

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03/16/23 CCL Committee report adopted and Bill passed third reading.  
6 AYES: CORDERO, DOS SANTOS-TAM, KIA'ĀINA, SAY\*, WATERS, WEYER  
3 NOES: OKIMOTO, TULBA, TUPOLA

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I hereby certify that the above is a true record of action by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu on this BILL.



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GLEN I. TAKAHASHI, CITY CLERK



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TOMMY WATERS, CHAIR AND PRESIDING OFFICER