

HANDGUNS - "CONCEALED" - TO - "OPEN" CARRY - THE NEW FLORIDA LAWS[©]

by Dan Pemble, Kissimmee, Florida – October 6, 2025

I first obtained my "Concealed Weapon or Firearm License State of Florida" during February 18, 2019. I had paid over \$100 for an application and a prerequisite was that I could prove my knowledge about responsible gun ownership and safety rules and had adequate firearm training. Then it took just over 90 days to do an obviously-very-through background check on me before my "license" was granted. So let's examine just what all has now changed in regards to Florida laws.

The following USA Today web link dated September 15, 2025 provides an excellent detailed accounting of the recently-passed Florida laws. It is interesting to note that everyone can now "Concealed carry" and "Open Carry", although there are limitations such that not everyone can walk into the local saloon with a "six shooter" proudly hanging from a belt for everyone to see! Also, for both open and concealed carry, it's important to note that many restrictions related to both public and private establishments apply! For example, if a restaurant specifically bans all weapons in their establishment and someone is caught inside with a gun, the penalties can be quite severe!

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2025/09/15/florida-open-carry-legal-enforcement/86161068007/?tbref=hp>

Do you know that, including recently-passed laws in Florida, currently 47 of our 50 states allow concealed and/or open carry, as has been defined by some as "constitutional carry" - without the need for any "special permits" by gun purchasers. However, there are some restrictions on just who may purchase a gun! Of course when all of these 2nd Amendment freedoms ("right to bear arms") have been granted to the majority of American citizens, the initial thoughts by many in the public have been that surely the crime rate will increase across the country and we will have daily "shoot outs" at the OK Corral; and, a drastic increase in gun-related crimes across the entire country will transpire! In fact there is no evidence that this has been the case; this is as attributed to the majority of those who possess firearms are indeed "**responsible gun owners**" with no criminal intent whatsoever! It's only when those questionable individuals who are legally excluded from gun ownership do acquire guns - illegally through theft and other means and uses them to commit criminal acts - those results in gun owners in general getting an undeserved bad name!

BEING RESPONSIBLE



KEEPS EVERYONE SAFE!