

Handgun Purchase and Transfer Permit

208.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Chief of Police is given the statutory authority to issue a permit to purchase or transfer a pistol to persons within the community. This policy provides a written process for the application and issuance of such permits.

208.2 APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply for a permit to purchase or transfer a pistol, the applicant must complete and submit a signed and dated Minnesota Uniform Firearm Application/Receipt to the Department (Minn. Stat. § 624.7131, Subd. 1). These forms shall be freely available to members of the community at locations determined by the Chief of Police. Applications are also available on the internet (Minn. Stat. § 624.7131, Subd. 3).

Incomplete applications are not suitable for processing and may not be accepted.

The Department shall provide the applicant a dated receipt upon the presentation of the application (Minn. Stat. § 624.7131, Subd. 1).

208.3 INVESTIGATION

The Department shall conduct an investigation of the applicant to determine if he/she is eligible for a permit (Minn. Stat. § 624.7131, Subd. 2). The investigation shall include no less than:

- (a) A check of criminal histories, records, and warrants regarding the applicant through Minnesota crime information systems, the national criminal record repository, and the National Instant Criminal Background Check System.
- (b) A reasonable effort to check other available state and local record-keeping systems.
- (c) A check for any commitment history through the Minnesota Department of Human Services of the applicant.

208.4 GROUNDS FOR DISQUALIFICATION

The Chief of Police shall deny a permit to an applicant when the applicant is prohibited by state or federal law from possessing a pistol or semiautomatic military-style assault weapon, determined to be a danger to themselves or the public when in possession of a firearm, or listed in the criminal gang investigative data system (Minn. Stat. § 624.7131, Subd. 4).

208.5 GRANTING OR DENIAL OF PERMIT

The Chief of Police shall issue a transferee permit or deny the application within 30 days of application for the permit. The permits and their renewal shall be granted free of charge (Minn. Stat. § 624.7131, Subd. 5).

The Chief of Police shall provide an applicant with written notification of a denial and the specific reason for the denial (Minn. Stat. § 624.7131, Subd. 5).

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When the refusal to grant a permit is due to a substantial likelihood that the applicant is a danger to themselves or the public when in possession of a firearm, the written notification shall provide the specific factual basis justifying the denial, including the source, and inform the applicant that they may submit additional documentation within 20 business days (Minn. Stat. § 624.7131, Subd. 4).

Upon receipt of additional documentation, the Chief of Police shall reconsider the denial and inform the applicant within 15 business days of the result of the reconsideration. A notice of denial after reconsideration must be in the same form and substance as the original denial, specifically address any continued deficiencies, and inform the applicant of the right to judicial review of the denial (Minn. Stat. § 624.7131, Subd. 4).

A permit holder whose permit was denied may seek a judicial review by filing a petition in the district court for the county in which the application was submitted (Minn. Stat. § 624.7131, Subd. 8).

208.6 VOIDING OR REVOKING PERMIT

The permit becomes void at the time that the holder becomes prohibited from possessing or receiving a pistol under Minn. Stat. § 624.713, in which event the holder is required to return the permit within five days to the Department.

The Chief of Police shall revoke a permit once they become aware the permit holder is ineligible to possess firearms and shall provide the holder with written notice (Minn. Stat. § 624.7131, Subd. 7).