

How Do I Register a Firearm in the District?

To register a firearm, residents must report to the Firearms Registration Section of the Metropolitan Police Department, located at 300 Indiana Avenue, NW. The application process may take up to 14 days. The cost for registering each firearm is \$13, plus \$35 to process fingerprints.

Applicants must:

- » Be 21 years of age
- » Complete a firearms application
- » Bring proof of residency (e.g., D.C. Driver's License)
- » Bring two (2) passport-sized front facing photos
- » Be fingerprinted
- » Pass a 20-question multiple choice test
- » Complete a notarized firearms eligibility statement

Important Things to Remember

- » When transporting your firearm, it must be unloaded, wrapped securely or placed in a gun case on the back seat of your car.
- » If you are stopped by the police, you must immediately tell the officer that you are en route to the Firearms Registration Section to register the firearm.
- » The gun dealer will not give you the firearm until you return with the "Firearms Application" stamped "APPROVED" by the Metropolitan Police Department, Firearms Registration Section. If you have possession of the firearm(s), you must IMMEDIATELY bring it to the Firearms Registration Section, located at 300 Indiana Avenue, NW.
- » **ONLY rifles, shotguns and revolvers** may be registered in the District of Columbia. The following firearms **may not** be registered in the District: sawed-off shotguns, short-barreled rifles, machine guns and semi-automatic handguns.

Resources

Firearms Registration Section

Firearms Registration Hotline 727-9490
Main Number 727-4275
Hours of Operation:
Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 7 AM-3 PM
Wednesday 7 AM-6 PM

Learn more at www.mpdcc.gov/gunregistration

MPDC Gun Recovery Unit

Gun Recovery Unit Task Force 698-5662

24-Hour Violent Crime Tip Line

Crime Tip Line (888) 919-CRIME
Text Message Tip Line 50411

Emergency

Emergency 911

Mayor's Call Center

City Services 311

Get Involved!

No one individual or agency working alone can prevent crime. It takes police and citizens working in partnership. The District of Columbia's community policing strategy provides many ways for police and communities to work together to prevent crime and build safer neighborhoods. These include regular PSA (Police Service Area) meetings in your community, problem-solving groups, citizen patrols and more. To learn more, call your local police district:

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------|---------------|
| 1st District Station Desk: | 698-0555 | TTY: 863-4032 |
| 2nd District Station Desk: | 715-7300 | TTY: 364-3961 |
| 3rd District Station Desk: | 673-6815 | TTY: 518-0008 |
| 4th District Station Desk: | 715-7400 | TTY: 722-1791 |
| 5th District Station Desk: | 698-0150 | TTY: 727-5437 |
| 6th District Station Desk: | 698-0880 | TTY: 398-5397 |
| 7th District Station Desk: | 698-1500 | TTY: 889-3574 |



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Metropolitan Police Department
300 Indiana Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20001

Issued June 26, 2008

Registering a Firearm in the District of Columbia

*How to Properly Register
and Secure a Firearm
in Your Home*



FOR YOUR SAFETY

PLEASE NOTE:

The information contained in this document is projected to become effective **July 17, 2008** and is deemed accurate as of its publication. Its contents are subject to change.



Adrian M. Fenty
Mayor

Cathy L. Lanier
Chief of Police

Owning a gun in the District of Columbia is an awesome responsibility.

Registering your firearm is not only your duty, it's the law.

The Metropolitan Police Department is the agency responsible for administering and maintaining the District's gun registry. As a result of *District of Columbia v. Heller* (US Supreme Court, June 2008), District residents may now legally purchase and register firearms and maintain them in their homes. Following are some frequently asked questions regarding the registration process to help you understand the new law.

WHAT TYPES OF FIREARMS CAN I REGISTER?

Shotguns, rifles, and revolvers. However, a shotgun barrel cannot be less than 20 inches in length, and a rifle barrel cannot be less than 16 inches in length and must have a total overall length of 26 inches or more. No weapon can shoot more than one shot by a single function of the trigger, or semi-automatically shoot more than 12 shots without manual reloading or be readily converted or restored to do so.

WHAT TYPES OF THINGS WOULD CAUSE ME TO BE DISQUALIFIED FROM BEING ABLE TO REGISTER A FIREARM?

To qualify for registration of a firearm in the District of Columbia, you must meet all of the following criteria. You:

1. Must not stand convicted of a crime of violence, or have any prior weapons offenses.
2. Must not be under indictment for a crime of violence or weapons offense.
3. Must not stand convicted within the past five years for a narcotics or dangerous drug offense, threats to do bodily harm or for assault.
4. Must not have been acquitted of any criminal charge by reason of insanity or adjudicated as a chronic alcoholic by any court within the past five years.

5. Must not have been voluntarily or involuntarily committed to any mental hospital or institution within the past five years.

6. Must not suffer from a physical defect which would make it unsafe for you to possess and use a firearm safely and responsibly.

7. Must not be found negligent in any firearm mishap causing death or injury to another human being.

8. Must not be convicted of any felony, or prostitution-related offense.

WHAT ARE THE COSTS AND HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO APPLY TO REGISTER A FIREARM?

The cost to register any firearm is \$13 per weapon. Fingerprint processing — also required — costs \$35. The registration process may take up to 14 days.

DO I HAVE TO BE FINGERPRINTED?

Yes.

WHAT CALIBER WEAPON CAN I REGISTER?

Any caliber of weapon may be registered.

CAN I CARRY MY FIREARME OUTSIDE MY HOME?

No.



A Note on the Safe Storage of Weapons in Your Home

As a registered gun owner, you know how important it is to safely store your weapon in your home. Having a gun in your home, especially if it is not stored properly, can be a significant risk factor for injury and death in children. In fact, firearm related injuries are a leading cause of death in children, and include deaths from unintentional injuries, homicide and suicide.

Between 1994 and 1998, 6,287 children committed suicide with a firearm and an additional 1,896 children were killed by unintentional gun injuries in the United States. All together, 23,776 children under age 19 died from a gun related injury during these years, which is equal to 13 children a day.

The Metropolitan Police Department, with assistance from Project Childsafe, provides a gunlock free of charge for each gun it registers in the District of Columbia. The locks are simple and easy to install. Gun owners are strongly encouraged to use these locks to reduce the likelihood of accidental injury or death.

Project ChildSafe is a program of the National Shooting Sports Foundation and is funded by a grant from the Department of Justice. For more information on gun safety, please visit www.projectchildsafe.org.

