

Ohio Passes New Concealed Carry Law Affecting Employers and School Districts

The Ohio General Assembly recently passed Senate Bill 199, which prohibits employers from establishing, maintaining, or enforcing any policies that prevent valid concealed handgun license holders, including employees, from transporting or storing a gun in a privately-owned vehicle on the employer's property. The new law provides:

A business entity, property owner, or public or private employer may not establish, maintain, or enforce a policy or rule that prohibits or has the effect of prohibiting a person who has been issued a valid concealed handgun license from transporting or storing a firearm or ammunition when both of the following conditions are met:

- (1) Each firearm and all of the ammunition remains inside the person's privately owned motor vehicle while the person is physically present inside the motor vehicle, or each firearm and all of the ammunition is locked within the trunk, glove box, or other enclosed compartment or container within or on the person's privately owned motor vehicle;
- (2) The vehicle is in a location where it is otherwise permitted to be.

Ohio employers are now prohibited from enforcing policies that prevent concealed carry license holders from having guns on the employers' property – so long as the gun and ammunition are kept inside the employee's privately-owned vehicle while the employee is inside the vehicle, or locked in the trunk, glove compartment, or other compartment or container when the employee is not inside the vehicle.

The new law also provides immunity from civil actions for Ohio employers, so long as the employer does not intentionally solicit or procure the injurious actions.

Senate Bill 199 also affects school districts, making changes to school safety zones. The new law allows someone to convey, attempt to convey, or possess a gun in a school safety zone if the following conditions are met:

1. The person must be carrying his or her valid concealed handgun license;
2. The person must leave the handgun in a motor vehicle;
3. The handgun does not leave the motor vehicle; and
4. If the person exits the motor vehicle, the person must lock the motor vehicle.

Senate Bill 199, codified as R.C. 2923.1210 and R.C. 2923.122, is effective March 21, 2017.

UPCOMING EVENT

- Marshall & Melhorn's School Leaders Series

March 29, 2017
8:00am-11:45am

Email lorenzen@marshall-melhorn.com to register

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