



## SHERIFF OF CHEMUNG COUNTY

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WILLIAM A. SCHROM  
Sheriff

DOUGLAS W. HOUPER  
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Over the past several months numerous questions have been asked regarding the new laws as they apply to Pistol Permit Applications. I want to take the time to try to outline some of these changes in an attempt to answer questions that are frequently asked of me, as well as to provide clarity for new applicants going through this process since these changes went into effect. On September 1<sup>st</sup> and September 4<sup>th</sup> new laws were implemented regarding the Pistol Permit Application process, as well as the requirement for semi-automatic rifle licensing.

With regard to new pistol permit applicants, two (2) of the main things that you will need to be aware of is the requirement for an in-person interview with the licensing officer or designee and the proof of completion of a firearms safety training course by a qualified, certified instructor.

Based on these new laws, I did meet with both Chemung County Court Judges and their law clerks. Although, New York State requires an "in-person interview" they provided no guidelines on how that process is to occur. Based on the practices of other Sheriffs in the state, and as a result of the above referenced meetings, it was determined that a questionnaire completed with the applicant in the Pistol Permit Office with the Pistol Permit Clerk will satisfy this requirement.

With regard to the required firearms safety training course, any individual requesting a carry concealed license on or after 9/1/22 will be required to successfully complete a 16-hour classroom and 2-hour live-fire firearm safety training course. This course can only be conducted by a NRA approved firearms instructor and the following are a list of those instructors in or around our area that we are familiar with:

- Pugh Self-Protection & Combatives- Elmira Heights  
607-202-5999  
[info@pughselfprotection.com](mailto:info@pughselfprotection.com)
- 607 Gun Safety Group & Odessa CCC- Odessa  
607-703-1153  
[607gunsafetygroup@gmail.com](mailto:607gunsafetygroup@gmail.com)
- Tioga County Sportsmen's Association- Owego  
607-687-3168  
James Gee and Steve Burrows

- Longarm Investigations, Inc.- Binghamton  
607-759-2658  
[info@longarmgroup.com](mailto:info@longarmgroup.com)
- Rochester Personal Defense, LLC-Rochester  
585-406-6758  
[www.safeinrochester.com](http://www.safeinrochester.com)

**\*\*The Sheriff's Office wants to make it clear that we are not endorsing any one particular instructor and are simply providing this list as a guide for the applicant to research and sign-up for the class on their own.**

Semi-automatic rifle license requirement, starting 9/4/22 any person that wishes to lawfully possess a semi-automatic rifle is required to secure a license for that particular purchase. Again, this is a requirement of the state with no clear guidance on how to license these rifles; therefore, we are simply adding a semi-automatic rifle box to any current, existing pistol permit holder license at the request of the pistol permit holder. Furthermore, we are adding this box to all newly issued pistol permits as this addition is acceptable to federal firearms dealers who sell this particular firearm. Unfortunately, at this time we do not have a separate licensing process outside of the pistol permit license that we can issue to individuals solely wishing to have the semi-automatic rifle license. If you currently possess a pistol permit through Chemung County and wish to have the semi-automatic rifle box added to your permit, it will be incumbent upon you to come to the Sheriff's Office and request that update.

For any other questions/concerns regarding the new laws, I would recommend you go to the **New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services website**

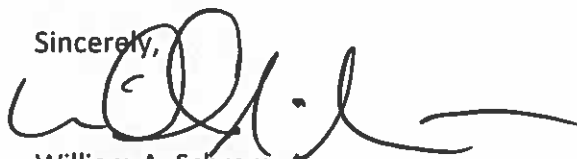
<https://www.criminaljustice.ny.gov/forensic/standardization/firearms.html>

and review the "frequently asked questions regarding recent changes to New York State Firearm Laws" as a guide of the dos and don'ts associated with these laws. Due to the on-going pending litigation over these new laws it may be several more months before we receive a definitive ruling on what will ultimately be required of each of us with regard to these laws.

In the meantime, please don't hesitate to reach out to the Pistol Permit Office or myself directly with any questions and we will do the best to get you any answers you are seeking.

Thank you in advance for your patience and understanding with this matter.

Sincerely,



William A. Schrom

Chemung County Sheriff