

MAINE JUDICIAL BRANCH

INFORMATION REGARDING THE RELINQUISHMENT OF FIREARMS AND WEAPONS

- If you are served with a TEMPORARY or PERMANENT Protection Order that orders you to surrender all firearms and weapons in your possession to a law enforcement officer, you must, within the timeframe specified on the order, surrender such items to the law enforcement agency identified on the order; OR
- If you are served with a TEMPORARY OR PERMANENT Protection Order that specifically allows relinquishment to another individual, you must sell or transfer all firearms and weapons in your possession within the timeframe specified on the order, to a third party not residing with you. Within 24 hours after relinquishment, you must then file the Notice of Relinquishment of Weapons as directed on the order, either with the court or with the law enforcement agency designated on the protection order.
- To surrender firearms and weapons to law enforcement:
 - a. Contact the named law enforcement agency to make arrangements for the surrender;
 - b. Unload all firearms and separate firearms and ammunition. If you are transporting firearms by automobile, lock all unloaded firearms in lock boxes or gun cases and place in trunk of car. Or, if you are transporting firearms in a pickup truck, lock all unloaded firearms in lock boxes or gun cases and place them in plain sight inside the cab;
 - c. Enter the office or barracks of the law enforcement agency (do not bring any firearms or weapons into the office or barracks) and present a copy of the Protection Order that requires you to relinquish your weapons to law enforcement personnel;
 - d. Advise law enforcement of the quantity and location of firearms and ammunition being surrendered; and
 - e. Follow procedure chosen by law enforcement personnel to complete surrender.

WARNING: Possession of a firearm or ammunition while a permanent protection order is in effect may be prohibited under federal and/or state law.

The penalty for violating this prohibition may include up to ten (10) years in prison.

If there is probable cause to believe that your firearms or dangerous weapons have not been relinquished, any court may issue a search warrant authorizing law enforcement to search for and seize any firearms and dangerous weapons at any location.

ADA Notice: The Maine Judicial Branch complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you need a reasonable accommodation contact the Court Access Coordinator, accessibility@courts.maine.gov, or a court clerk.

Language Services: For language assistance and interpreters, contact a court clerk or interpreters@courts.maine.gov.