

1 **COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND**

2

3 **Bill No.** 2022-_____

4 **Chapter No.** 51_____

5 **Introduced by:** Charles County Commissioners_____

6 **Date of Introduction:** November 29, 2022_____

7 **BILL**

8 AN ACT concerning:

9 WEAPONS AND FIREARMS PROHIBITED ON COUNTY-OWNED OR OPERATED
10 PROPERTY

11 FOR the purpose of:

12 Prohibiting possession of weapons and firearms on the premises of any Charles County
13 Government owned or operated building, ~~grounds, or park.~~

14 BY renaming:

15 Chapter 51 Firearms
16 TO
17 Chapter 51 Firearms and Other Weapons
18 Charles County Code

19 BY adding:

20 Chapter 51-2 Weapons and Firearms Prohibited on County Owned or Operated Property
21 Charles County Code

22
23
24 **SECTION 1.** BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
25 CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND, that the Laws of Charles County, Maryland read as
26 follows:
27

28
29
30 (A) DEFINITIONS. IN THIS SECTION, THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE
31 MEANINGS INDICATED.

32
33 (1) “FIREARM” MEANS A HANDGUN, RIFLE, SHOTGUN, SHORT-BARRELED RIFLE,
34 OR SHORT-BARRELED SHOTGUN, AS THOSE TERMS ARE DEFINED IN MD ANN.
35 CODE, CRIMINAL LAW ARTICLE, §4-201.
36

1 (2) "WEAPON" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN MD. ANN. CODE, CRIMINAL LAW
2 ARTICLE, §4-101.

3
4 (B) PROHIBITED CONDUCT. EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PART C OF THIS SECTION,
5 NO PERSON, TO INCLUDE HOLDERS OF ANY STATE ISSUED PERMIT TO CARRY A
6 CONCEALED FIREARM, MAY AT ANY TIME BE IN THE POSSESSION OF A WEAPON
7 OR FIREARM ~~IN WITHIN 100 YARDS OF~~ A BUILDING OWNED OR OPERATED BY
8 CHARLES COUNTY GOVERNMENT OR THE BOARD OF CHARLES COUNTY
9 COMMISSIONERS. THIS INCLUDES, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO, A BUILDING OR
10 PORTION OF A BUILDING LEASED BY CHARLES COUNTY GOVERNMENT OR THE
11 BOARD OF CHARLES COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WHERE CHARLES COUNTY
12 GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ARE REGULARLY PRESENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF
13 PERFORMING THEIR OFFICIAL EMPLOYMENT DUTIES.

14
15 (C) EXCEPTIONS. POSSESSION OF A WEAPON OR FIREARM IS PERMISSIBLE
16 ~~WITHIN 100 YARDS OF IN~~ A BUILDING OWNED OR OPERATED BY CHARLES
17 COUNTY GOVERNMENT OR THE BOARD OF CHARLES COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
18 IF THE PERSON IN POSSESSION IS:

19
20 (1) AN ACTIVE SWORN LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OR ACTIVE CHARLES
21 COUNTY CORRECTIONAL OFFICER; OR

22
23 (2) AN ON-DUTY EMPLOYEE OF A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY AUTHORIZED BY
24 THE AGENCY TO POSSESS FIREARMS WHILE ON-DUTY OR WHOSE DUTY
25 ASSIGNMENT INVOLVES THE POSSESSION OF FIREARMS; OR

26
27 (3) A SPECIAL POLICE OFFICER EMPLOYED BY CHARLES COUNTY GOVERNMENT
28 WITH A VALID GOVERNMENT ISSUED PERMIT TO CARRY A WEAPON OR
29 FIREARM; OR

30
31 (4) ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY PERSONNEL ENGAGED IN THE PERFORMANCE OF
32 THEIR OFFICIAL EMPLOYMENT DUTIES; OR

33
34 (5) A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF CHARLES COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

35
36 (D) PROOF OF AUTHORITY TO CARRY A WEAPON OR FIREARM. THE CHIEF OF
37 CENTRAL SERVICES FOR CHARLES COUNTY GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE
38 RIGHT TO REQUIRE PROOF OF A VALID GOVERNMENT ISSUED PERMIT OR OTHER
39 GRANTING AUTHORITY FOR ANY PERSON CLAIMING AN EXEMPTION UNDER
40 PART C (1), (2), (3), (4) OR (5) OF THIS SECTION. FAILURE TO PROVIDE PROOF
41 WHEN REQUESTED SHALL RESULT IN REFUSAL TO ALLOW THE WEAPON OR
42 FIREARM ~~WITHIN 100 YARDS OF IN~~ A BUILDING OWNED OR OPERATED BY
43 CHARLES COUNTY GOVERNMENT OR THE BOARD OF CHARLES COUNTY
44 COMMISSIONERS.

45

1 (E) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR
2 AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 1 YEAR
3 OR A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$1,000, OR BOTH.
4

5 **SECTION 2.** BE IT FURTHER ENACTED this Act shall take effect forty-five (45)
6 calendar days after it becomes law.
7

8
9 County Commissioners of
10 Charles County, Maryland
11

12
13 _____
14 Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., President
15

16 _____
17 Gilbert O. Bowling, III ~~Thomasina O.~~ **Bobby Rucci,** ←

Vice President

Formatted: Indent: Left: 1", First line: 0"

18
19 _____
20 ~~Gilbert O. Bowling, III~~ Thomasina O.
21

Coates, M.S.

22
23 _____
24 **Ralph E. Patterson, II, M.A.** ~~Thomasina O.~~
25

~~Coates, M.S.~~

26
27 _____
28 Amanda M. Stewart, M.Ed.
29

- ATTEST:

30 _____
31 Carol DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners
32