

Senate Bill 143 recently passed in the 2022 Regular Legislative session. The law modifies LRS 14:95 to provide certain exemptions for the concealed carrying of firearms. The law will go into effect on **August 1, 2022**. A quick summary of the law is:

- Under LRS 14:95.M, Louisiana residents meeting **ALL** the following requirements can carry a concealed weapon without a permit if:
 1. The person is **twenty-one years of age or older**,
 2. **The person is not prohibited from possessing a firearm under** R.S. 14:95.1, R.S. 40:1379.3.C(5) through (17), 18 U.S.C. 922(g), or any other **state or federal law**,
 3. **The person is a reserve or active-duty member of any branch of the United States Armed Forces** or a member of the Louisiana National Guard or the Louisiana Air National Guard, **OR**
 4. **The person has an honorable discharge from service** from any component of the United States Armed Forces, the Louisiana National Guard, or the Louisiana Air National Guard.
- At all times when a person has a concealed handgun under R.S. 14:95.M, that person shall prove they meet the qualifications by demonstrating **ONE** of the following:
 1. valid military I.D. card,
 2. driver's license or I.D. card with "Veteran," or
 3. Dept. of Defense Form 214 (DD-214) indicating the character of service as "Honorable" or "Under Honorable Conditions (General)" and a valid driver's license

Furthermore, anyone carrying a concealed handgun under 14:95.M shall notify any police officer who approaches the permittee in an official manner or with an identified official purpose that he has a weapon on his person, submit to a pat-down, and allow the officer to disarm him temporarily. It also prohibits possessing a firearm while under the influence of alcohol or a controlled dangerous substance.

- As a reminder, active-duty military and honorably discharged vets can still apply for permits if they wish. They may want to do this for reciprocity reasons while traveling out of state.
 - Application fees are discounted for active-duty, and honorably discharged vets are fee exempt.