



2A Maryland

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House Bill 0171

Public Safety – Handgun Permits – Expiration and Renewal Periods for Retired Law Enforcement Officer FAVORABLE with AMENDMENTS

We strongly support changing the period a permit to wear and carry a firearm is valid to 5 years. In view of the Bruen decision, the current 2-year period for a first permit and 3 years for renewals has no basis in logic and is out of step with the policies of most other states where a 5-year permit is the norm.

While we have great respect and admiration for our law enforcement officers, creating another “carve out” on any issue is something we cannot support. This nation was founded upon the concept that all citizens are created equal and have equal protection and equal rights under the law. Further, the creation of “separate classes” of permits runs a close parallel to the “good and substantial” concept which the United States Supreme Court ruled as unconstitutional in the 2022 Bruen decision.

We recommend avoiding a court challenge by simply amending House Bill 0171 by removing the existing bill language and revising Public Safety Article §5-309 (b) as follows:

(a) ~~Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, a~~ A permit expires on the last day of the holder’s birth month following ~~2~~ 5 years after the date the permit is issued.

(b) Subject to subsection (c) of this section, a permit may be renewed for successive periods of ~~3~~ 5 years each if, at the time of an application for renewal, the applicant possesses the qualifications for the issuance of a permit and pays the renewal fee stated in this subtitle.

(c) A person who applies for a renewal of a permit is not required to be fingerprinted unless the Secretary requires a set of the person’s fingerprints to resolve a question of the person’s identity.

~~(d) The Secretary may establish an alternative expiration date for a permit to coincide with the expiration of a license, certification, or commission for:~~

~~(1) a private detective under Title 13 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article;~~

~~(2) a security guard under Title 19 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article; or~~

~~(3) a special police officer under § 3-306 of this article.~~

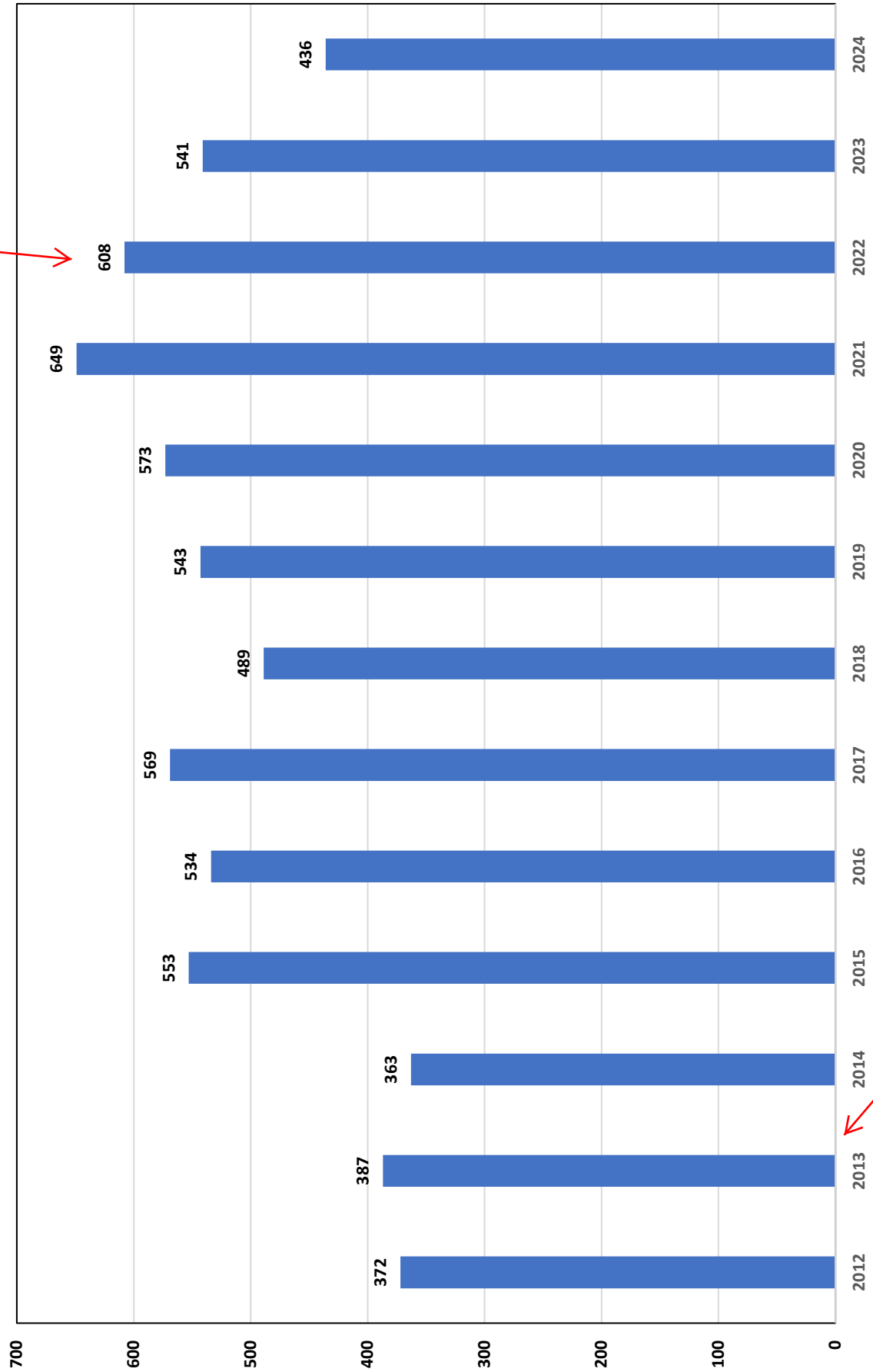
John H. Josselyn
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01/29/2025

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Data Source: 2012-2021 MD UCR

Data Source: 2022-2024 NIBRS

Homicide Trends in Maryland 2012-2024



US Supreme Court decision in Bruen on carry permits.

Firearms Safety Act of 2013 passed

2A Maryland - Maryland Gun Laws 1988-2024

Session	Bill Number	Bill Title
1988	HB1131	Handguns - Prohibition of Manufacture and Sale (Saturday Night Special Ban)
1989	SB0531	Firearms - Assault Weapons
1992	SB0043	Firearms - Access by Minors
1993	SB0330	Gun Shows - Sale, Trade or Transfer of Regulated Firearms
1994	HB0595?	Storehouse Breaking - Penalty
1994	SB0619	Assault Pistol Ban
1996	HB0297	Maryland Gun Violence Act of 1996
1996	HB1254	Education - Expulsion for Bringing a Firearm onto School Property
1999	HB0907	School Safety Act of 1999
2000	SB0211	Responsible Gun Safety Act of 2000
2001	HB0305	Bulletproof Body Armor - Prohibitions
2002	HB1272	Criminal Justice Information System - Criminal History Records Check
2009	HB0296	Family Law - Protective Orders - Surrender of Firearms
2009	HB0302	Family Law - Temporary Protective Orders - Surrender of Firearms
2011	HB0241	Criminal Law - Restrictions Against Use and Possession of Firearms
2011	HB0519	Firearms - Violation of Specified Prohibitions - Ammunition and Penalty
2012	HB0209	Public Safety - Possession of Firearms - Crimes Committed in Other States
2012	HB0618	Task Force to Study Access of Individuals with Mental Illness to Regulated Firearms
2013	SB0281	Firearms Safety Act of 2013
2018	HB1029	Criminal Law - Wearing, Carrying or Transporting Loaded Handgun - Subsequent Offender
2018	HB1302	Public Safety - Extreme Risk Protective Orders
2018	HB1646	Criminal Procedure - Firearms Transfer
2018	SB0707	Criminal Law - Firearm Crimes - Rapid Fire Trigger Activators
2019	SB0346	Public Safety - Regulated Firearms - Prohibition of Loans
2020	HB1629	Office of the Attorney General - Firearm Crime, Injuries, Fatalities, and Crime Firearms - Study
2021	HB1186	Office of the Attorney General - Firearm Crime, Injuries, Fatalities, and Crime Firearms - Study Extension
2022	SB0387	Public Safety - Untraceable Firearms
2022	SB0861	Crimes - Firearms and Inmates - Enforcement, Procedures, and Reporting
2022	HB1021	Public Safety - Licensed Firearms Dealers - Security Requirements
2023	SB0001	Criminal Law - Wearing, Carrying, or Transporting Firearms - Restrictions (Gun Safety Act of 2023)
2023	SB0858	Firearm Safety - Storage Requirements and Youth Suicide Prevention (Jaelynn's Law)
2023	HB0824	Public Safety - Regulated Firearms - Possession and Permits to Carry, Wear, and Transport a Handgun
2024	HB0810	Criminal Law - Rapid-Fire Activator - Switch/Auto-Sear
2024	HB0947	Civil Actions - Public Nuisances - Firearm Industry Members (Gun Industry Accountability Act of 2024)

Article - Public Safety

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§5–304.

(a) An application for a permit shall be made under oath.

(b) (1) Subject to subsections (c) and (d) of this section, the Secretary may charge a nonrefundable fee payable when an application is filed for a permit.

(2) The fee may not exceed:

(i) \$125 for an initial application;

(ii) \$75 for a renewal or subsequent application; and

(iii) \$20 for a duplicate or modified permit.

(3) The fees under this subsection are in addition to the fees authorized under § 5–305 of this subtitle.

(c) The Secretary may reduce the fee under subsection (b) of this section accordingly for a permit that is granted for one day only and at one place only.

 (d) The Secretary may not charge a fee under subsection (b) of this section to:

(1) a State, county, or municipal public safety employee who is required to carry, wear, or transport a handgun as a condition of governmental employment; or

 (2) a retired law enforcement officer of the State or a county or municipal corporation of the State.

(e) The applicant shall pay a fee under this section by an electronic check, a credit card, or a method of online payment approved by the Secretary.

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