

SUMMARY OF NC FIREARMS LAWS AND MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

U. S. Supreme Court, in *District of Columbia v. Heller*, 55 U.S. 570 (2008) ruled that the Second Amendment protects an individual's right to possess a firearm. The District's total ban on handguns violated the Second amendment. The Court also stated that the right to bear arms is not unlimited, and some gun restrictions are permissible.

NCGS 160A-189. Municipalities may by ordinance restrict discharge of firearms in the corporate limits and may regulate the display of firearms on streets or other public property.

NCGS 14-415.23. *Statewide Uniformity* (of regulations on concealed handguns). No local government may enact regulations concerning carrying a concealed handgun. A unit of local government may, however, "adopt an ordinance to permit the posting of a prohibition against carrying a concealed handgun, in accordance with GS 14-415.11(c), on local government buildings and their appurtenant premises. "

A local government may adopt an ordinance to prohibit, by posting, concealed carry on recreational facilities (generally described as enclosed facilities, gymnasiums, athletic fields, but only during scheduled events). Concealed carry may not be prohibited in outdoor, passive use areas like greenways.

There is an all-encompassing exception for licensed firearms kept in an enclosed, locked compartment in one's automobile.

NCGS 14-269.2. It is illegal to possess or carry a weapon on school campuses or other educational property, with exceptions noted, including the licensed firearm in a locked vehicle compartment exception.

NCGS 14-415.11 relates to concealed carry permits but provides that concealed carry permits do not authorize concealed carry in state or federal office buildings or in state or federal office located in other buildings.

NCGS 14-269.4 prohibits carrying or possessing a weapon on certain named State properties, and in courthouses, with exceptions, including the licensed firearm in locked vehicle compartment exception.

NCGS 14-277.2 prohibits weapons at parades, processions, picket lines, or demonstrations, with exceptions, including locked vehicle compartment exception.

NCGS 14-269.3 prohibits carrying a firearm in any assembly where an admission fee is charged, or in an establishment where alcoholic beverages are sold.