

Military Personnel Advisory: Compliance with California Weapons Regulations and Laws

1. If you are scheduled for a Permanent Change of Station (PCS) to California, it is important to be aware of the state's strict regulations on weapons and firearms. California has specific laws regarding what is classified as a **compliant** or **noncompliant** weapon, and it is crucial to understand these rules before bringing any firearms or ammunition into the state.

2. Weapons Permitted (Compliant):

- a. Firearms that comply with California's assault weapon restrictions, including limits on magazine capacity (10 rounds or fewer).
- b. Rifles, shotguns, and handguns that do not meet the state's definition of an assault weapon.
- c. Firearms that have been modified to meet compliance standards (e.g., fixed magazines).
- d. Pistols on the California Department of Justice's approved handgun roster.

3. Weapons Not Permitted (Noncompliant):

- a. Assault weapons as defined by California law, including certain AR-15s, AK-47s, and firearms with features like pistol grips, folding stocks, or flash suppressors.
- b. Firearms with magazines that hold more than 10 rounds.
- c. Certain rifles with bullet-button configurations unless they have been modified to meet compliance standards.
- d. Any firearm that is considered illegal under federal law (e.g., unregistered short-barrel rifles or machine guns).
- e. Rifles chambered in .50cal BMG.
- f. Suppressors/Silencers, short-barreled rifles or shotguns, NFA items, and certain AOWs as defined by California Law, regardless of their registration with the ATF.

4. What You Need to Do:

- a. Review your firearms: Ensure they comply with California's laws. Consult the California Department of Justice website or your local legal advisor to confirm.
- b. Modify or store noncompliant weapons: If your weapon does not meet California's standards, consider modifying it to comply, storing it out of state, or selling it before your move.
- c. Registration requirements: Any firearm brought into California must be registered with the California Department of Justice within 60 days of arrival.

5. Penalties for Noncompliance:

Bringing noncompliant weapons into the state can result in serious legal consequences, including fines and possible criminal charges. It is essential to ensure you are fully compliant before your PCS. For more detailed information, visit: [HTTPS://OAG.CA.GOV/OGVP/OVERVIEW-FIREARM-LAW](https://oag.ca.gov/ogvp/overview-firearm-law), [HTTPS://OAG.CA.GOV/OGVP/FED-ASSAULT-WEAPONS-BAN](https://oag.ca.gov/ogvp/fed-assault-weapons-ban), [HTTPS://OAG.CA.GOV/FIREARMS/CERTIFIED-HANDGUNS/SEARCH](https://oag.ca.gov/firearms/certified-handguns/search)

6. Please take the time to review your firearms and ensure full compliance with state law. If you have any questions, reach out to your chain of command or legal office for assistance.