Mobile County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Paul Burch, Jr.

Pistol Permit General Guidelines

1. The applicant must be a legal citizen of the United States of America or possess a Permanent Resident Card, and must be a legal citizen of the State of Alabama, and have a primary residence in Mobile County, Alabama.

2. The applicant must have an Alabama Driver's License, an Alabama Identification Card, or an active military identification card.

3. The applicant must be at least 18 years of age.

4. Who may **not** obtain a pistol permit in Mobile County?
Certain people are not allowed to possess a pistol under federal and state law. The Sheriff cannot issue a permit to any person who is prohibited by law from possessing or owning a gun. The following cannot obtain a pistol permit:
   a. Any person who has been convicted of a felony (a crime punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year).
   b. Any person who has been convicted of committing or attempting to commit a crime of violence, including murder, manslaughter (except manslaughter arising from the operation of a vehicle), rape, mayhem, assault with intent to rob, assault with intent to ravish, assault with intent to murder, robbery, distribution of a controlled substance, burglary and kidnapping.
   c. Any person who is an unlawful drug user, a drug addict or a habitual drunkard. *Factors to consider include repeated and recent arrests or convictions for drug crimes, DUI, and/or public intoxication.*
   d. Any person who is under indictment for a crime punishable for imprisonment exceeding one year.
   e. Any person who has been convicted of domestic violence, even if the conviction is a misdemeanor.
   f. Any person discharged from the Armed Forces under dishonorable conditions.
   g. Any person who has been adjudicated as a mental defective or who has been committed to a mental institution, or any person who has asserted a defense of not guilty by reason of insanity or mental defect in a criminal proceeding.
   h. Any person who is or has been a subject of an incompetency proceeding, the result of which may prohibit the possession of a firearm.
   i. Any person who, having been a citizen of the United States, has renounced his/her citizenship.
   j. Any person who is a fugitive from justice.
   k. Any person who is an alien illegally in the United States or under a non-immigrant visa.
   l. Any person who is subject to a court order that restrains that person from harassing, stalking, or threatening an intimate partner or child of an intimate partner.

m. Any person who causes justifiable concern for public safety. Ala. Act. No. 2013-283. *Factors to consider include long arrest histories, erratic behavior, pending cases, misdemeanor drug arrests within the last 5 years, misdemeanor drug convictions within the last 10 years, misdemeanor theft/larceny arrests within the past 5 years, less than 2 years of permanent residency on a "green card;" and lack of references, a diploma/GED and employment or full-time enrollment in post-secondary school for applicants between 18 and 21 years old.*

5. The applicant must not give false information or offer false information about his/her identity or criminal record when applying for a pistol permit. Applicants who do so will have their applications denied.

6. Please note that permit fees are non-refundable. For instance, if you obtain a 5-year permit and move out of the county, our office *cannot* refund the balance of your permit fee.