



CONSUMER GUIDELINES FOR FIREARMS TRAINING

There has been a growing interest recently in obtaining training in the use of handguns, and requests for Concealed Handgun permits continues to be in demand. Firearms training can be expensive, so hopefully the following information will help you select quality training.

Colorado state law requires citizens requesting Concealed Handgun permits to attend a safety course in order to obtain a permit. It does not, though, define any required elements for the course.

Conscientious gun-owner organizations such as the NRA certify their instructors and prescribe the specifics of the course they must teach.

Unfortunately, this is not always the case, and we are aware of some instructors who are putting on classes of questionable quality.

As you consider a firearms safety course you should check to see if the following elements will be covered.

- Does the course teach you about Colorado laws and your responsibilities related to firearms?
- Does the instructor teach and demonstrate basic handgun safety issues and how handguns function?
- Do they discuss handguns and equipment selection, including ammunition?
- Do they discuss and demonstrate how to carry a firearm?
- Do they discuss and demonstrate the skills related to controlling a handgun?
- Do they demonstrate how to reload and how to clean a firearm?
- Do they include a live-fire component in the course? It is not required, but you will be more capable if you have had live-fire instructions and have experienced the actual workings of a firearm.

To cover these subjects properly will require a minimum of six-to-eight hours

We hope these consumer guidelines will assist you in selecting a good instructor so you can learn as much as you can about the proper and safe ownership of firearms.

Delta County Sheriff
Fred McKee