



Maine Municipal  
Association

60 COMMUNITY DRIVE  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04330-9486  
(207) 623-8428  
www.memun.org

To: Key Municipal Officials, & Town Clerks in Identified Communities  
Fr: Rebecca Graham, Legislative Advocate, MMA State and Federal Relations  
Re: Concealed Weapons Permit Processing Survey  
Date: October 5, 2021

Your community has been identified as one without a police department or a contract with the Maine State Police (MSP) to provide the necessary background checks for a concealed weapons permit, or with a police agency that does not have access to the State and Federal system.

This past session, the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety held a public hearing on LD 1446, *An Act To Aid Municipalities in the Issuance of Concealed Handgun Permits*. The intent of the bill was to ensure that municipalities who had not contracted with the Maine State Police prior to the enactment of the "Permit-less Carry" statute, to provide the necessary background, character, and health history checks, and verification of handgun safety training, required for the issuance of a permit to carry a concealed weapon under Maine State law.

MMA has been directed to work with MSP to gather information regarding your municipality's process for conducting conceal weapon permit applications for the second session of the 130th Legislature at the request of the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety (CJPS). To collect this information, you are being asked to fill out a survey either electronically, available [here](#), or by returning the attached paper version.

The CJPS committee learned that the majority of Maine's municipalities without a police chief, had an existing contract with MSP at the time of enactment, and that several positions were removed from the office providing this municipal assistance at the time of "Permit-less Carry" enactment under the belief that such requests would be reduced.

There has not been a significant reduction in the request for permits in part because Maine's permits receive reciprocity from several other states allowing users to carry their weapons away from home and on some federally protected lands and for other personal reasons to the applicant. The integrity of Maine's concealed weapons permit process is key in maintaining these benefits.

To that end, the CJPS committee would like MMA and MSP to report back next session on the willingness and possible impacts on state resources for opening the process to a larger pool of communities.

We would welcome your responses to the questions in this form and any questions you may have about the effort. Please feel free to contact Rebecca Graham, MMA Legislative Advocate at [rgraham@memun.org](mailto:rgraham@memun.org) or 624-0101 if you have any questions or would like further information about the process.

Information regarding all of the appropriate measures to consider when issuing a permit is available here: <https://www.maine.gov/dps/msp/sites/maine.gov.dps.msp/files/inline-files/CFP%20Booklet.pdf>

Thank you for your time and assistance!