

Self Defense Options – Weapons

Excerpt from my **Self-Defense Options – Weapons** class:

Revision 20210103

See the [Firearms page of my website](#)¹ for more resources on this subject.

In Oklahoma, and [16 other states](#)² (including Missouri, Kansas & Arkansas), we have what is known as “Constitutional carry” or “permitless carry.” The Oklahoma legislature passed House Bill 2597, Gov. Stitt signed it and it went into effect on November 1, 2019. With the passage of this bill, you can now carry a firearm concealed or unconcealed without a permit, assuming you are not otherwise prohibited from carrying a firearms like a felon, certain aggravated misdemeanor convictions, underage, etc., and there are also restrictions on transporting a firearm if you do not have a firearms license (formerly known as a concealed carry permit).

I’ve received a lot of questions regarding medical marijuana card holders possessing firearms, etc., and this is where state and federal laws conflict. I am not a lawyer and do not give legal advice and some of these legal citations may or may not be current, so, you must perform your own due diligence and research the current laws at **official government websites** and contact a firearms law-knowledgeable attorney if you have any questions regarding any of the subjects discussed herein. Now here are the references for you to review:

[Medical Marijuana Card holder](#)³

Click on link for more, very important information.

[Oklahoma Title 63, Chapter 15, Section 425 License Holder Protection - Non-Discrimination - Authorized Use - Zoning - Location - Research License para. E.](#)⁴: *"No person holding a medical marijuana license may unduly be withheld from holding a state-issued license by virtue of their being a medical marijuana license holder including, but not limited to, a concealed carry permit."*

Just as we know that drinking and driving don’t mix, I’m of the opinion that marijuana and firearms ownership don’t mix either. You may disagree and I understand, but until marijuana is descheduled/decriminalized federally, if you ever get involved in an incident where either of these two are items come into question, expect to receive extreme scrutiny from any law enforcement, local prosecutors and attorneys. I’m just sayin’,....

Now, I still recommend to people that they get their permit to carry/firearms license. Even if you know how to handle a firearm fairly well, you will learn a lot that you really need to know about relevant laws and other safety issues when you take the class. Plus, with the license, you will be able to carry into other states which honor our license. Just because another state has Constitutional carry does **NOT** mean that the resident of another state (which may or may not have Constitutional carry) can carry without a license in another state where they are not a resident. The Oklahoma SDA (Self Defense Act) class is not really training, so, I also strongly advise people to take some follow-on classes and there are plenty of places that offer excellent training – see the [Firearms page of my website](#)⁵ for info. Consider this: FBI statistics show that it takes approximately 2.5 bullet strikes to stop an attacker. And, it has been shown that under stressful conditions, even the most highly trained shooters miss 70% of the time. That’s an important fact to take into consideration when choosing a weapon and why limiting magazine capacity is just about one of the stupidest ideas politicians have ever come up with.

¹ <http://www.magnusomnicorps.com/firearms.html>

² <https://www.usconcealedcarry.com/resources/terminology/types-of-concealed-carry-licensurepermitting-policies/unrestricted/>

³ https://osbi.ok.gov/sites/g/files/gmc476/f/SDA_and_Medical_Marijuana_0.pdf

⁴ <https://www.oscn.net/applications/oscn/DeliverDocument.asp?CiteID=483204>

⁵ <http://www.magnusomnicorps.com/firearms.html>

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With all of the above listed items, and especially guns, you have the following considerations:

1. Am I someone who is mentally prepared to take someone else's life in the defense of my own or perhaps others?
2. Do I live in a state where the prevailing laws generally recognize my right to stand my ground, no matter where I am, and use deadly force to defend myself, family or others? You might be surprised by the answer to this.
3. Do I live in a state that has laws strictly prohibiting the confiscation of civilians' firearms in the time of civil emergencies?
4. Do I live in a state with laws that strictly prohibit the disclosure of permit holder information (only available to law enforcement) and therefore not subject to Freedom of Information Act disclosures to the public (press)? And, if firearms have to be registered, are there laws that strictly prohibit the disclosure of the names and addresses of weapons' owners (and only available to law enforcement) and therefore not subject to Freedom of Information Act disclosures to the public (press)?
5. Can I/do I have the physical strength, agility and skill necessary to wield a firearm safely and effectively?
6. Will I need a state license to carry a gun? (See #4.)
7. Will I need to register it? (See #4.)
8. How many hoops will I have to jump through to get this license?
9. How much does the license cost initially and how much to renew it and how often?
10. Will I need certification training to carry it? Re-certification training? Cost?
11. Will the Federal Gun Free School Zone Act affect my ability to carry?
12. Where does the law allow me to carry them and where does it not? (public places/transporting in a vehicle/on public transportation)
13. If I have children in my home or who visit my home or individuals with dementia or other mental health concerns, etc., in my home, how will I secure the weapon(s) to ensure safety yet still be able to access it/them quickly if needed? Cost? Do I know the laws, if any, in my jurisdiction regarding the safe storage of firearms?
14. How much does the weapon cost?
15. How much will it cost to maintain the weapon (cleaning equipment, bullets, batteries, cartridges, etc.)?
16. Which one or ones will work best for me? Revolver, Semi-automatic or Derringer*? Bottom line: What is the firearm with which I am most comfortable AND most EFFECTIVE?
17. How effective is it at stopping an attacker? (appropriate caliber)
18. Is it comfortable in my hand? Can I manipulate the controls easily and properly?
19. Can I shoot it repeatedly (practice) without it hurting my hand/wrist/arm? (recoil, slide bite)
20. Is it comfortable for me to carry around all day? Do I want to carry it around all day?
21. What kind of holster/carrying device(s) will I need? How many? How much do they cost?
22. Is this brand/model pistol a popular one? In other words, are there a wide variety of aftermarket accessories made for it like holsters, lasers, lights, optics, upgraded triggers, springs, other parts? Are replacement parts readily accessible? For example, you will find a lot more accessories for Glock or Smith & Wesson M&P (because they are usually the choice of law enforcement) than you will a Walther, FN, Taurus, Ruger, etc. Those are all quality firearms, but the offerings are nowhere near that of Glock or S&W.)
23. Will I have to modify my wardrobe to conceal my weapon? Cost?
24. How much will I have to invest in additional training/range memberships?
25. Is ammunition for my firearm readily available?
25. How much will a self-defense liability insurance policy (or umbrella liability policy) cost me?

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26. Finally, am I willing to dedicate the money and time to do all of the above?

*Depending on the state in which you live, you may only have to qualify with one of these types in order to legally to carry any of the 3 types. For example: In Oklahoma, if you qualify with a semi-automatic pistol, then your license will show that you may carry any of the 3 types of firearms. However, if you qualify with a revolver, you will only be able to carry a revolver or derringer and not a semi-automatic. Be sure to check the laws frequently as they are subject to change.

Remember, even if you legally defend yourself and the government authorities decide not to **criminally** charge you, whomever your defended yourself against or their survivors may file a **civil** lawsuit against you. In either case, you will most likely have to hire an attorney and pay legal fees. The cheapest you will probably get away with is \$5,000-\$10,000. Talk to your attorney about this and also your auto/home insurance agent about the coverage offered by the umbrella policies they offer. Also, there are several outfits that now offer specific policies for self-defense – see the [Firearms page of my website](#)⁶ for a full list and articles about choosing the right policy for you. Personally, I think the policies offered by [U.S. Law Shield](#)⁷ are the most comprehensive and you can get a complete policy with all the options for about \$300 per year. Go to their website and attend one of their very inexpensive informational seminars. Yes, they will include info on their policies, but also other good firearms information as well. Search for their videos on YouTube!

To read the Oklahoma laws related to firearms, go here:

<https://www.oscn.net/applications/oscn/Index.asp?ftdb=STOKST21&level=1> and scroll about 2/3 the way down the page and look for **Title 53 Manufacture, Sale and Wearing of Weapons** and also under that title, **Oklahoma Firearms Act of 1971** and **Oklahoma Self Defense Act**.

Below are **approximate** costs (maybe a little on the high side) to get started carrying a handgun – requirements vary widely from state to state, therefore, so will the costs. So, for this example, I'm going to assume a 9mm semi-automatic pistol, enough ammo to get you through your firearms permit class and have some left over. You usually don't need a belt or holster to go through this particular class, however, you will need them for other training classes and you **will** need other training classes. Trust me, you are **not** prepared to carry if you only go through the short carry class and have had no other, extensive experience handling firearms!!!

Remember, I did not factor in other costs associated with changes to your wardrobe to enable you to carry concealed, which I generally recommend. This is especially applicable to ladies, as you generally do not wear belts with your pants, etc. At least for training purposes, you will need a good pair of tactical pants like [5.11](#)⁸ brand or equivalent - there may be a 5.11 retail store in your area – they have a wide selection of fabrics and styles and are the #1 choice of law enforcement personnel and have pants specifically designed for ladies. You will also need a gun belt [a belt that is specifically made for EDC (everyday carry, like [KORE Essentials](#)⁹ or [Nexbelt](#)¹⁰) and a holster (many, many options, but keep in mind, leather holsters must be broken in, Kydex does not)]. And consider whether you want a passive (non-locking) retention holster or a positive (locking) retention holster. And check the local “cop shops” for gear – most big cities have stores that cater to law enforcement and security personnel, but they will also sell to civilians. I will warn you about one product – Blackhawk SEPPA holsters. Due to their

⁶ <http://www.magnusomnicorps.com/firearms.html>

⁷ <https://www.uslawshield.com/>

⁸ <https://www.511tactical.com/>

⁹ <https://www.koreessentials.com/>

¹⁰ <https://www.nexbelt.com/>

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design configuration, many ranges do not allow them, so you might want to consider other options. Again, see the [Firearms page of my website](#)¹¹ for more resources.

And, you want a **quality** firearm and holster specifically made for your make and model. Do not scrimp on something you are going to depend upon to defend your life and the life of your loved ones!!

TO JUST GET YOU LEGAL TO CARRY (with a Permit):

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|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. Gun | \$400+ (can get good quality for \$200-\$300) |
| 2. Ammo (500 rounds) | \$125 |
| 3. Cleaning kit | \$ 30 |
| 4. Carry Class | \$ 70 |
| 5. Carry Application | \$100/\$200 (5-yr license/10-yr license) |
| 6. Passport photos for lic. | \$ 15 |

TOTAL: \$740 (\$840 if 10-year license)

TO CONTINUE WITH TRAINING AND GET YOU READY TO CARRY:

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|----------------------------------|-------|
| 1. Holster | \$ 70 |
| 2. Gun belt | \$ 60 |
| 3. 2 add'l magazines | \$ 70 |
| 4. Add'l 2-magazine holder | \$ 30 |
| 5. Training ammo (500 rounds) | \$125 |
| 6. Defensive Ammo (50 rounds) | \$ 30 |
| 7. 1-gun vault | \$300 |
| 8. Additional training | \$200 |
| 9. Self-Defense Insurance policy | \$150 |

TOTAL: \$1035

GRAND TOTAL: \$1,775.00 (or \$1,965 for 10-year license)

This document may be updated from time-to-time.

¹¹ <http://www.magnusomnicorps.com/firearms.html>