



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## Resident/Non-Resident Advisory

### General Information Pertaining To The Massachusetts Gun Control Act Of 1998

**"Large capacity weapon"**: Any firearm, rifle or shotgun: (i) that is semiautomatic with a fixed large capacity feeding device; (ii) that is semiautomatic and capable of accepting, or readily modifiable to accept, any detachable large capacity feeding device; (iii) that employs a rotating cylinder capable of accepting more than ten rounds of ammunition in a rifle or firearm and more than five shotgun shells in the case of a shotgun or firearm; or (iv) that is an assault weapon. (MGL c.140 §121)

**The term "large capacity weapon"**: Shall be a secondary designation and shall apply to a weapon in addition to its primary designation as a firearm, rifle or shotgun and shall not include: (i) any weapon that was manufactured in or prior to the year 1899; (ii) any weapon that operates by manual bolt, pump, lever or slide action; (iii) any weapon that is a single-shot weapon; (iv) any weapon that has been modified so as to render it permanently inoperable or otherwise rendered permanently unable to be designated a large capacity weapon; or (v) any weapon that is an antique or relic, theatrical prop or other weapon that is not capable of firing a projectile and which is not intended for use as a functional weapon and cannot be readily modified through a combination of available parts into an operable large capacity weapon. (MGL c.140 §121)

**"Large capacity feeding device"**: (i) A fixed or detachable magazine, box, drum, feed strip or similar device capable of accepting, or that can be readily converted to accept, more than ten rounds of ammunition or more than five shotgun shells; or (ii) a large capacity ammunition feeding device as defined in the federal Public Safety and Recreational Firearms Use Protection Act, 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(31). The term "large capacity feeding device" shall not include an attached tubular device designed to accept, and capable of operating only with, .22 caliber ammunition. (MGL c.140 §121)

### GENERAL RESIDENT/NON-RESIDENT LICENSING INFORMATION

**"Class A Resident or Class A Temporary Non-Resident License To Carry Firearms"**: Shall entitle a holder thereof to possess and carry firearms, including large capacity firearms and feeding devices and ammunition therefore, for all lawful purposes subject to restrictions relative to possession, use or carrying of firearms as the licensing authority deems proper. (MGL c.140 §131)

**"Class B Resident or Class B Temporary Non-Resident License To Carry Firearms"**: Shall entitle a holder thereof to possess and carry: (i) non-large capacity firearms and feeding devices and ammunition therefor, for all lawful purposes, subject to such restrictions relative to the possession, use or carrying of such firearm as the licensing authority deems proper; provided, however, that a Class B license shall not entitle the holder thereof to carry or possess a loaded firearm in a concealed manner in any public way or place; and provided further, that a Class B license shall not entitle the holder thereof to possess a large capacity firearm, except under a Class A club license issued under this section or under the direct supervision of a holder of a valid Class A license at an incorporated shooting club or licensed shooting range; and (ii) rifles and shotguns, including large capacity rifles and shotguns, and feeding devices and ammunition therefor, for all lawful purposes; provided, however, that the licensing authority may impose such restrictions relative to the possession, use or carrying of large capacity rifles and shotguns as he deems proper. (MGL c.140 §131)

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Massachusetts General Law Requires That:

Any Licensee shall notify, in writing, the Licensing Authority who issued said license, the Chief of Police into whose jurisdiction the licensee moves, and the Commissioner of the Department of Criminal Justice Information Services of any changes of address. Such notification shall be made by certified mail within 30 days of its occurrence.

Failure to so notify shall be cause for revocation or suspension of said license (M.G.L. c.140, §131 (1)).

A cardholder shall notify, in writing, the Licensing Authority that issued such a card, the Chief of Police into whose jurisdiction such cardholder moves, and the Commissioner of the Department of Criminal Justice Information Services of any changes of address. Such notification shall be made by certified mail within 30 days of its occurrence. Failure to so notify shall be cause for revocation or suspension of such card (M.G.L. c.140, §129B (11)).

**This document is not intended to provide legal advice. If you require any further information, please contact your local licensing authority or seek legal counsel.**