Retiree Concealed Firearms

207.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the issuance, denial, suspension, or revocation of San Diego County Probation Department identification cards to qualified former or retired law enforcement officers under the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act (LEOSA) and California law (18 USC § 926C; Penal Code § 25455).

207.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the San Diego County Probation Department to provide identification cards to qualified former or retired officers to facilitate the lawful carrying of concealed weapons by those individuals.

207.3 LEOSA

The Chief Probation Officer may issue an identification card for LEOSA purposes to any qualified former officer of this department who (18 USC § 926C(c)):

(a) Separated from service in good standing from this department as an officer.

(b) Before such separation, had regular employment as a peace officer for an aggregate 10 years or more or, if employed as a peace officer for fewer than 10 years, separated from service after completing any applicable probationary period due to a service-connected disability as determined by this department.

(c) Has not been disqualified for reasons related to mental health.

(d) Has not entered into an agreement with this department in which the officer acknowledges disqualification to receive a firearms qualification certificate for reasons related to mental health.

(e) Is not prohibited by federal law from receiving or possessing a firearm.

207.3.1 LEOSA CARD FORMAT

The LEOSA identification card should contain a photograph of the former officer and identify the officer as having been employed as an officer.

If the San Diego County Probation Department qualifies the former officer, the LEOSA identification card or separate certification should indicate the date the former officer was tested or otherwise found by the Department to meet the active-duty standards for qualification to carry a firearm.

207.3.2 AUTHORIZATION

Any qualified former peace officer, including a former officer of this department, may carry a concealed firearm under 18 USC § 926C when:

(a) In possession of photographic identification that identifies the member as having been employed as a peace officer, and one of the following:

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1. An indication from the member's former probation agency that the member has, within the past year, been tested or otherwise found by the agency to meet agency-established active-duty standards for qualification in firearms training to carry a firearm of the same type as the concealed firearm.
2. A certification, issued by either the state in which the member resides or by a certified firearms instructor who is qualified to conduct a firearms qualification test for active-duty peace officers within that state, indicating that the member has, within the past year, been tested or otherwise found to meet the standards established by the state or, if not applicable, the standards of any agency in that state.

(b) Not under the influence of alcohol or another intoxicating or hallucinatory drug or substance.

(c) Not prohibited by federal law from receiving a firearm.

(d) Not in a location prohibited by California law or entity on private property if such prohibition is permitted by California law.

207.4 CALIFORNIA IDENTIFICATION CARD

The Chief Probation Officer may issue an identification card with an endorsement to carry a concealed firearm to a person who (Penal Code § 26300):

(a) Honorably retired following service as a full-time sworn officer of this department who was authorized to, and did, carry a concealed firearm during the course and scope of employment (Penal Code § 25455).

1. Honorably retired includes all peace officers who have qualified for, and accepted, a service or disability retirement, however, it shall not include any officer who retires in lieu of termination or who is retiring because of a psychological disability (Penal Code § 26305).

(b) Honorably retired as a peace officer from any jurisdiction that this department now serves under the following conditions (Penal Code § 25905):

1. The retiree's previous agency is no longer providing law enforcement services or the relevant government body is dissolved.
2. This department is in possession of the retiree's complete personnel records or can verify the retiree's honorably retired status.
3. The retiree is in compliance with all of the requirements of this department for the issuance of a Concealed Carry Weapon (CCW) Approved endorsement.

(c) Was a qualified retired reserve officer who met the department requirements for a CCW Approved endorsement (Penal Code § 26300).

207.4.1 CALIFORNIA IDENTIFICATION CARD FORMAT

The card shall be 2 inches by 3 inches and minimally contain (Penal Code § 25460):

(a) Photograph of the retiree.

(b) Retiree's name and date of birth.

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(c) Date of retirement.

(d) Name and address of this department.

(e) A stamped endorsement "CCW Approved" along with the date by which the endorsement must be renewed (not more than one year). In the case in which a CCW endorsement has been denied or revoked, the identification card shall be stamped "No CCW Privilege."

207.4.2 QUALIFIED RETIREES FROM INCORPORATED JURISDICTION

The San Diego County Probation Department shall provide an identification card with a CCW Approved endorsement to honorably retired peace officers from any jurisdiction that this department now serves under the following conditions (Penal Code § 25905):

(a) The retiree's previous agency is no longer providing law enforcement services or the relevant government body is dissolved.

(b) This department is in possession of the retiree's complete personnel record or can verify the retiree's honorably retired status.

(c) The retiree is in compliance with all of the requirements of this department for the issuance of a CCW Approved endorsement.

207.5 FORMER OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES

A former officer with a card issued under this policy shall immediately notify the Chief Probation Officer or authorized designee of an arrest or conviction in any jurisdiction, or that the individual is the subject of a court order, in accordance with the Reporting of Arrests, Convictions, and Court Orders Policy.

207.5.1 RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER LEOSA

In order to obtain or retain a LEOSA identification card, the former officer shall:

(a) Sign a waiver of liability of the Department for all acts taken related to carrying a concealed firearm, acknowledging both personal responsibility as a private person for all acts taken when carrying a concealed firearm as permitted by LEOSA and also that these acts were not taken as an employee or former employee of the Department.

(b) Remain subject to all applicable department policies and federal, state, and local laws.

(c) Demonstrate good judgment and character commensurate with carrying a loaded and concealed firearm.

(d) Successfully pass an annual criminal history background check indicating that the individual is not prohibited by law from receiving or possessing a firearm.

207.5.2 MAINTAINING A CALIFORNIA IDENTIFICATION CARD CCW ENDORSEMENT

In order to maintain a CCW Approved endorsement on an identification card issued under California law, the retired officer shall (Penal Code § 26305):

(a) Qualify annually with the authorized firearm at a course approved by this department at the retired officer's expense.

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(b) Remain subject to all applicable department policies and federal, state, and local laws.

(c) Not engage in conduct that compromises public safety.

207.6 DENIAL, SUSPENSION, OR REVOCATION

A LEOSA identification card may be denied or revoked upon a showing of good cause as determined by the Department. If an identification card is denied, suspended, or revoked, the former officer may request a review by the Chief Probation Officer. The decision of the Chief Probation Officer is final.

207.6.1 DENIAL, SUSPENSION, OR REVOCATION OF A CALIFORNIA CCW ENDORSEMENT CARD

A CCW endorsement for any officer retired from this department may be denied or revoked only upon a showing of good cause. The CCW endorsement may be immediately and temporarily revoked by the Division Chief when the conduct of a retired peace officer compromises public safety (Penal Code § 25470).

(a) If a CCW endorsement is initially denied, the retired officer shall have 15 days from the date of denial to request a formal hearing. The failure to submit a timely written request for a hearing shall be deemed a waiver of such right. The hearing, absent written agreement between the parties, shall be held no later than 120 days after the request is received.

(b) Prior to revocation of any CCW endorsement, the Department shall provide the affected retiree with written notice of a hearing by either personal service or first-class mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested to the retiree's last known address (Penal Code § 26315).

1. The retiree shall have 15 days from the date of service to file a written request for a hearing.
2. The hearing, absent written agreement between the parties, shall be held no later than 120 days after the request is received (Penal Code § 26315).
3. Failure to submit a timely written request for a hearing shall be deemed a waiver of such right.

(c) A hearing for the denial or revocation of any CCW endorsement shall be conducted before a hearing board composed of three members, one selected by the Department, one selected by the retiree or the retiree's employee organization, and one selected jointly (Penal Code § 26320).

1. The decision of such hearing board shall be binding on the Department and the retiree.
2. Any retiree who waives the right to a hearing or whose CCW endorsement has been revoked at a hearing shall immediately surrender the identification card. The Department will then reissue a new identification card which shall be stamped "No CCW Privilege" (Penal Code § 26325(b)).

(d) Members who have reason to suspect the conduct of a retiree has compromised public safety shall notify the Chief Probation Officer or the authorized designee as soon as

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practicable. The Division Chief should promptly take appropriate steps to look into the matter and, if warranted, contact the retiree in person and advise the individual in writing of the following:

1. The retiree's concealed firearm CCW endorsement is immediately and temporarily suspended.
2. The retiree has 15 days to request a hearing to determine whether the temporary suspension should become permanent revocation.
3. The retiree will forfeit the right to a hearing and the CCW endorsement will be permanently revoked if the retiree fails to respond to the notice of hearing within the 15-day period.
4. In the event that personal contact with the retiree cannot be reasonably achieved in a timely manner, the Division Chief should attempt to make the above notice of temporary suspension through another law enforcement officer. For example, if a retiree was arrested or detained by a distant agency, the Division Chief may request that a law enforcement officer from that agency act as the agent of the Department to deliver the written notification.
5. Notification of the temporary suspension should also be promptly mailed to the retiree via first-class mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested.
    (a) The Division Chief should document the investigation, the actions taken, and, if applicable, any notification made to the former member. The memo should be forwarded to the Chief Probation Officer.

207.7 FIREARM QUALIFICATIONS

The Rangemaster may provide former officers from this department an opportunity to qualify. Written evidence of the qualification and the weapons used will be provided and will contain the date of the qualification. The Rangemaster will maintain a record of the qualifications and weapons used.

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