COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

Bill No. __2022-________________________________________________________
Chapter No. _51___________________________________________________________
Introduced by:____________________________________________________________
Date of Introduction:_______________________________________________________

BILL

AN ACT concerning:

WEAPONS AND FIREARMS PROHIBITED ON COUNTY-OWNED OR OPERATED
PROPERTY

FOR the purpose of:

Prohibiting possession of weapons and firearms on the premises of any Charles County
Government owned or operated building, grounds, or park.

BY renaming:

Chapter 51 Firearms
TO
Chapter 51 Firearms and Other Weapons
Charles County Code

BY adding:

Chapter 51-2 Weapons and Firearms Prohibited on County Owned or Operated Property
Charles County Code

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND, that the Laws of Charles County, Maryland read as
follows:

(A) DEFINITIONS. IN THIS SECTION, THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE
MEANINGS INDICATED.

(1) “FIREARM” MEANS A HANDGUN, RIFLE, SHOTGUN, SHORT-BARRELED RIFLE,
OR SHORT-BARRELED SHOTGUN, AS THOSE TERMS ARE DEFINED IN MD ANN.
CODE, CRIMINAL LAW ARTICLE, §4-201.
(2) “WEAPON” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN MD. ANN. CODE, CRIMINAL LAW
ARTICLE, §4-101.

(B) PROHIBITED CONDUCT. EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PART C OF THIS SECTION,
NO PERSON, TO INCLUDE HOLDERS OF ANY STATE ISSUED PERMIT TO CARRY A
CONCEALED FIREARM, MAY AT ANY TIME BE IN THE POSSESSION OF A WEAPON
OR FIREARM WITHIN 100 YARDS OF A BUILDING OWNED OR OPERATED BY
CHARLES COUNTY GOVERNMENT OR THE BOARD OF CHARLES COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS. THIS INCLUDES, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO, A BUILDING OR
PORTION OF A BUILDING LEASED BY CHARLES COUNTY GOVERNMENT OR THE
BOARD OF CHARLES COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WHERE CHARLES COUNTY
GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ARE REGULARLY PRESENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF
PERFORMING THEIR OFFICIAL EMPLOYMENT DUTIES.

(C) EXCEPTIONS. POSSESSION OF A WEAPON OR FIREARM IS PERMISSIBLE
WITHIN 100 YARDS OF A BUILDING OWNED OR OPERATED BY CHARLES COUNTY
GOVERNMENT OR THE BOARD OF CHARLES COUNTY COMMISSIONERS IF THE
PERSON IN POSSESSION IS:

(1) AN ACTIVE SWORN LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER; OR

(2) A SPECIAL POLICE OFFICER EMPLOYED BY CHARLES COUNTY GOVERNMENT
WITH A VALID GOVERNMENT ISSUED PERMIT TO CARRY A WEAPON OR
FIREARM; OR

(3) ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY PERSONNEL ENGAGED IN THE PERFORMANCE OF
THEIR OFFICIAL EMPLOYMENT DUTIES; OR

(4) A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF CHARLES COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

(D) PROOF OF AUTHORITY TO CARRY A WEAPON OR FIREARM. THE CHIEF OF
CENTRAL SERVICES FOR CHARLES COUNTY GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE
RIGHT TO REQUIRE PROOF OF A VALID GOVERNMENT ISSUED PERMIT OR OTHER
GRANTING AUTHORITY FOR ANY PERSON CLAIMING AN EXEMPTION UNDER
PART C (1), (2), (3), OR (4) OF THIS SECTION. FAILURE TO PROVIDE PROOF WHEN
REQUESTED SHALL RESULT IN REFUSAL TO ALLOW THE WEAPON OR FIREARM
WITHIN 100 YARDS OF A BUILDING OWNED OR OPERATED BY CHARLES COUNTY
GOVERNMENT OR THE BOARD OF CHARLES COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

(E) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR
AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 1 YEAR
OR A FINE NOT EXCEEDING $1,000, OR BOTH.

SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED this Act shall take effect forty-five (45)
calendar days after it becomes law.
County Commissioners of
Charles County, Maryland

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Reuben B. Collins,II, Esq., President

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Bobby Rucci, Vice President

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Gilbert O. Bowling, III

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Thomasina O. Coates, M.S.

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Amanda M. Stewart, M.Ed.

ATTEST:

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Carol DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners