

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND**

**1995 Legislative Session**

Bill No. \_\_\_\_\_ CB-8-1995

Chapter No.

Proposed and Presented by \_\_\_\_\_ Council Member Scott

Introduced by \_\_\_\_\_ Council Member Scott

Co-Sponsors

Date of Introduction \_\_\_\_\_ June 6, 1995

**BILL**

AN ACT concerning

Firearms

For the purpose of restricting the discharge of firearms, providing certain exceptions, and providing for certain penalties.

BY repealing and reenacting with amendments:

**SUBTITLE 14. MORALS AND CONDUCT.**

Section 14-142,

The Prince George's County Code

(1991 Edition, 1994 Supplement).

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED by the County Council of Prince George's County, Maryland, that Section 14-142 of the Prince George's County Code be and the same is hereby repealed and reenacted with the following amendments:

**SUBTITLE 14. MORALS AND CONDUCT.**

**DIVISION 6. WEAPONS.**

**Sec. 14-142. Discharge of firearms; permit; exceptions; penalty.**

(a) No person shall practice shooting at any mark, board, sign, tree, bank or other object with any gun, rifle, cannon, mortar, pistol or other firearm within the limits of this County, whether on land or water, for military drill, amusement or skill, without:

(1) Obtaining in writing the consent to so use any such firearms of all [freeholders] owners, tenants or occupants of real estate residing within the carrying capacity of such

firearms; and,

(2) First obtaining a written permit from the Department of Environmental Resources. The petition shall be accompanied with the written consent of each and every such [freeholder] owner, tenant or other occupant. The Department shall in no case grant a permit to practice with firearms if in its opinion the use of the public highways or streets of any real estate subdivision will be endangered by the use of such firearms.

(b) It shall be unlawful for any person to fire or discharge any firearm defined in Subsection (a) wherein the projectile or projectiles traverse the property of another without obtaining the consent of the owner, tenant or occupant of the subject property.

(c) This Section shall not apply to the firing or discharge of any firearm defined in Subsection (a):

(1) [practice in firearms conducted] by the United States Government, where such practice is conducted under the established rule or regulation of the United States Department of Defense or any of its agencies[.];

(2) by any law enforcement officer in the performance of official duty;

(3) on a bona fide rifle, pistol, or shotgun range regulated pursuant to Section 27-404 of the Prince George's County Code and Section 36(H)(d) of Article 27 of the Maryland Annotated Code;

(4) in the defense of a person's life; and

(5) by licensed hunters lawfully hunting in season as authorized pursuant to the Department of Natural Resources of the State of Maryland.

(d) For purposes of Subsections 14-142(c)(3) and 14-142(c)(5), nothing in this Section shall authorize any person to fire or discharge any firearm defined in Subsection (a) wherein the projectile or projectiles traverse the property of another without obtaining the consent of the owner, tenant or occupant of the subject property.

[(c) Any person guilty of a violation of this Section, upon conviction thereof before any court of this State therein having jurisdiction in the County where such shooting is done, shall be fined not less than Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) for each and every shot, ball or shell fired from any such firearm, and be imprisoned in jail in the discretion of the Court.]

(e) It shall be unlawful for any person to organize an event consisting of one or more person(s) for the purposes set forth in Subsection (a), unless such person(s) has complied with the requirements of Subsection (a).

(f) It shall be unlawful for any owner, tenant, or occupant of property to knowingly consent to the firing or discharge of any firearm defined in Subsection (a) by any person(s) on such property, unless such person(s) has complied with the requirements of Subsection (a).

(g) Violation of the provisions of this Section is a misdemeanor and is punishable, upon conviction, by a fine not to exceed One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), or by imprisonment, not to exceed six (6) months, or both.

SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this Act shall take effect forty-five (45) calendar days after it becomes law.

Adopted this 11th day of July , 1995.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE  
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY:  
Anne T. MacKinnon  
Chairwoman

ATTEST:

Joyce T. Sweeney  
Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

BY:  
Wayne K. Curry  
County Executive

**KEY:**

Underscoring indicates language added to existing law.

[Brackets] indicate language deleted from existing law.

Asterisks \*\*\* indicate intervening existing Code provisions that remain unchanged.