

Missouri “Concealed Carry” Law for Non-Residents

A friend and business partner of mine who owns land in Macon County, Missouri, but lives in Illinois, recently interrogated me about our “concealed carry” laws in Missouri. His specific question was this: Am I, a resident of Illinois, permitted to carry a concealed weapon in Missouri?

Only Missouri residents can receive a concealed carry “endorsement” (permit) from this State to carry a concealed firearm. However, Section 571.030 of the Missouri Statutes honors a “valid permit or endorsement to carry concealed firearms issued by another state or political subdivision of another state.” Though there have been no court decisions on this specific issue, the language allows the non-resident to carry a concealed firearm if another State has issued a permit to that person.

The problem for the Illinois resident is that Illinois is a “non-issuing” State – they are one of the five states that do not allow a person to carry a concealed weapon. As my friend pointed out, though, two States allow non-residents to receive permits to carry a concealed firearm while in that state.

Pennsylvania statutes, for example, allow a person with a permit from another State to apply for a license to carry while in Pennsylvania. It also allows a person from Illinois to apply for a permit to carry while in Pennsylvania because Illinois does not have the concealed carry law. Some counties in Pennsylvania do the entire application process via mail with non-residents.

The reason this is all relevant for our Illinois readers is that Missouri allows a non-resident to carry a concealed weapon if he has a permit from another state. In this man’s situation, he applied for and received a permit to carry from the State of Pennsylvania. This does him no good in his home state of Illinois, but, while he is here

in Missouri, he is entitled to carry the firearm in a concealed manner.

For more information on Missouri’s concealed carry law, contact your county Sheriff’s Department.