

KEN ULMAN  
County Executive



WILLIAM J. McMAHON  
Chief of Police

**HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE**  
3410 COURT HOUSE DRIVE, ELLICOTT CITY, MD 21043

*On July 22, 2004, H.R. 218, also known as the “Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act of 2004,” was signed into law. The law allows qualified active and retired law enforcement officers to carry a concealed firearm nationwide. It is the intent of the Howard County Police Department to offer its retirees the opportunity to certify under the parameters of the law.*

**GUIDELINES FOR H.R. 218**

The classroom portion of the training should be a minimum of two (2) hours, as required by law, and include:

1. Firearm Safety, while training, at home, storing and transporting in a vehicle, or on a person.
2. Firearm Care, cleaning and maintenance.
3. Marksmanship Fundamentals.
4. Legal Issues “You are not a Police Officer.”

The Students need:

1. A functioning firearm, revolver or pistol, that holds at least five rounds. The entire course is shot in five round increments.
2. A belt holster that allows the firearm to be drawn from the strong side. (Cross draws, waist bags, ankle holsters and the use of pants pockets will not be allowed, for safety reasons).
3. One hundred (100) rounds of ammunition suitable for the firearm. (50 rounds for daylight course of fire and 50 rounds for lowlight course of fire.)
4. HCPD will provide the eye and ear protection, which will include goggles to simulate night conditions.

The qualification course includes:

1. 100 round course.
2. A Secret Service –MPPC target, using the HCPD target scoring legend.

3. Firing from the 3, 5, 7, 10, 15, and 25 yard line. Barricade shooting at the 15 and 25-yard line.
4. Minimum score of 70% is required on both the written test and each qualification course of fire for certification.

## **STANDARDS FOR HANDGUNS**

### All Handguns Must:

1. Be capable of firing five rounds without reloading.
2. Have all safety features originally in the firearm intact.
3. Have a full trigger guard.
4. Have a barrel length of minimum 2", maximum 6".
5. Have no trigger shoes.

### Revolvers Must:

1. Have double action capability. If single action capable, must have a trigger pull of no less than 2.5 pounds.
2. Have hammer block safety or transfer bar system that prevents firing unless the trigger is pulled fully to the rear.

### Semi-Automatic Pistols Must:

1. Have a firing pin block or similar passive device that positively blocks the firing pin from forward travel unless the trigger is pulled fully to the rear.
2. Have a trigger pull no less than 3.5 pounds.

### Sights:

1. Must have open sights, fixed or adjustable.
2. No special optical, mirror, telescopic, or other sighting system other than would normally be found on a police service handgun.

### Holsters:

1. Must be a conventional right or left-handed draw holster that attaches to the belt at the waist.
2. No inside-the-pants, shoulder, cross-draw, or "fanny-pack" type holsters.
3. Semi-automatic pistol holster must completely cover the trigger guard when the pistol is holstered.



**HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE**

***QUALIFIED RETIRED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER  
APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION  
TO CARRY A CONCEALED FIREARM***

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(First) (Middle) (Last)

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip Code)

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Area Code)

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_ Race: \_\_\_\_\_ Height: \_\_\_\_\_ Weight: \_\_\_\_\_

Eye color: \_\_\_\_\_ Hair color: \_\_\_\_\_

**Affidavit**

**(Indicate "T" for TRUE or "F" for FALSE)**

I understand that in order to carry a concealed firearm as a qualified retired law enforcement officer in accordance with 18 U.S.C. 926C, I must satisfy certain basic criteria. My satisfaction of the certification will be established based on my answers to these questions.

\_\_\_\_\_The Howard County Department of Police issued me a photographic identification.  
Identification number if available \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_I retired in good standing from the Howard County Police Department.

\_\_\_\_\_My retirement date was \_\_\_\_\_ at the rank of \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ I did not retire for reasons of mental instability.

\_\_\_\_\_ I was authorized to engage in or supervise the prevention, detection, investigation or prosecution of, or the incarceration of any person for, any violation of law, and I had statutory powers of arrest.

\_\_\_\_\_ Before my retirement, I was either (check one):

\_\_\_\_\_ regularly employed as a law enforcement officer for fifteen (15) or more years aggregated, or

\_\_\_\_\_ I retired after completing probation due to service-connected disability as determined by the agency I retired from.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have a non-forfeitable right to benefits under my agency's retirement plan.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am not under the influence of alcohol or another intoxicating or hallucinatory drug substance, and I will not carry a firearm while I am under the influence of alcohol or another intoxicating or hallucinatory drug or substance.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am not prohibited by state or federal law from receiving a firearm.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that the definition of "firearm" does not include any machine gun, firearms silencer, or destructive device.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that I must carry the Howard County Police LEOSA qualification card, along with the retired officer's photographic identification issued by the Howard County Police Department, when I carry the concealed weapon.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that my certification expires twelve months from its issue date.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act of 2004, 18 U.S.C. 926C, does not give me any rights whatsoever to exercise law enforcement authority or take police action any circumstances.

**I do hereby declare and affirm under the penalty of perjury that the contents of this application are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief and I so indicate by signing below in the designated space.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Applicant signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

Please fax the completed form to the  
**Howard County Police Department, Recruitment & Screening Section**  
**410-313-3212 (fax)**