

Background

What is the new Open Carry firearm law?

The new law goes into effect in Texas on Jan. 1, allowing a licensed gun holder in the state to carry their firearm openly in a holster. This is a change from the existing law that requires a licensed gun holder to carry their firearm in a concealed holster.

Why will it still be illegal under the new law for a licensed gun holder to carry a firearm on school property?

The new law does not replace the existing Texas Penal Code Section 46.03, which states that a person commits an offense if the person carries a firearm “on the physical premises of a school or educational institution, any grounds or building on which an activity sponsored by a school or educational institution is being conducted, or a passenger transportation vehicle of a school or educational institution.”

Schools

How will the firearm law impact Dallas ISD?

It will remain illegal under the new law for a licensed gun holder to bring his or her firearm onto school property. This means, for example, that it remains illegal for a parent to carry his or her firearm as he or she walks their child on campus property up to the front door of the school. It will also still be illegal for a licensed gun holder, including a teacher, to bring a firearm into a school.

Will it still be illegal to bring a firearm to a school function?

Yes. It will still be illegal for a licensed gun holder to carry a firearm to school or district functions such as sporting events, field trips, or board meetings.

Will there be information posted at schools about the new Open Carry law?

Yes. Every Dallas ISD school will have two new large signs stating that even though the new Open Carry law is in effect, a licensed gun holder is still prohibited from entering a school with a firearm.

Further Information

Who can I contact if I have more questions about the new law?

If you have any further questions, call the Dallas ISD Police Department at (972) 749-2300.