



*State of New Jersey*

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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** All Law Enforcement and NJ Certified Firearms Instructors

**FROM:** Attorney General Matthew J. Platkin & Colonel Patrick J. Callahan

**RE:** Certain Temporary Exemptions to CCARE Requirements

**DATE:** December 21, 2023

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The State has received inquiries regarding pregnant and breastfeeding individuals and the ability to safely complete the CCARE protocol.

Issuing agencies shall grant temporary accommodations for these individuals, if they have previously successfully completed a live-fire range test and otherwise satisfy the requirements of N.J.S.A. 2C:58-4, but are temporarily unable to complete an updated live-firing test at a firearms range without risk to their own health or the health of their fetus or child. To request such an accommodation, such individuals shall submit a written attestation from their treating physician to the issuing agency as to the following (all four components are required):

- 1) Identifying the individual's temporary medical status or condition, and stating that participating in a live-firing test at a firearms range would pose a risk to the individual's own health or the health of their fetus or child;
- 2) Protective measures, such as but not limited to face masks, gloves, and noise-cancelling headphones, and/or choosing to complete the test at an outdoor range facility, would not mitigate that risk;
- 3) The individual's medical status or condition is not one that would prevent the individual from otherwise safely handling a firearm under N.J.S.A. 2C:58-3(c)(3); and
- 4) The expected duration of the temporary disability.

Such individuals must still also submit a certificate from a certified firearms instructor certifying that the individual has successfully completed the Use of Force Training for Private Citizen Concealed Carry. However, the instructor should indicate on the certification that the course-of-fire qualification was not completed due to temporary disability.

**Existing Permit Holders:** If the individual obtained a permit to carry prior to July 1, 2023 that is not scheduled to expire until after December 22, 2023, the individual must submit the foregoing prior to January 15, 2024. If properly submitted, the permit shall remain valid for the duration of the temporary disability, plus 30 days.

**Renewals:** If the individual is seeking to renew a permit-to-carry previously received, the individual must submit the foregoing along with their renewal application. If the individual otherwise satisfies the requirements of N.J.S.A. 2C:58-4, the agency shall issue a renewal permit, contingent on completion of the CCARE requirement within 30 days of the end of the temporary disability.

It is the individual's duty to comply with the timelines ascribed here; failure to do so will render the permit invalid. If the medical status changes, the individual may submit updated requests for exemption.

Issuing agencies are advised to consult with all applicable laws, including but not limited to the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination, N.J.S.A. 10:5-1 *et seq.* and the Americans With Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. § 12101 *et seq.*