

STATE OF NEW YORK

3930

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 21, 2019

Introduced by Sens. SEWARD, AMEDORE, ANTONACCI, GALLIVAN, GRIFFO, HELMING, JORDAN, RANZENHOFER, TEDISCO -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Codes

AN ACT to amend the penal law, in relation to authorizing the transfer of certain weapons from an estate to an immediate member of the decedent's family; to amend the penal law, in relation to the filing of approved applications for licenses to carry, possess, repair and dispose of firearms; to amend the mental hygiene law, in relation to reports of substantial risk or threat of harm by mental health professionals; to amend the penal law, in relation to licenses to carry, possess, repair and dispose of firearms; and to repeal section 400.03 of the penal law relating to sellers of ammunition

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Section 400.03 of the penal law is REPEALED.

2 § 2. Paragraph (g) of subdivision 22 of section 265.00 of the penal
3 law is amended by adding a new subparagraph (vii) to read as follows:

4 (vii) any weapon legally possessed and validly registered pursuant to
5 subdivision sixteen-a of section 400.00 of this chapter prior to such
6 person's death and bequeathed or passed through intestacy to an immedi-
7 ate family member of the deceased. Such weapons shall be subject to the
8 provisions of paragraph (h) of this subdivision. For purposes of this
9 subparagraph, the meaning of immediate family member is as defined by
10 subdivision one of section eight hundred ninety-eight of the general
11 business law;

12 § 3. Paragraph (h) of subdivision 22 of section 265.00 of the penal
13 law, as added by chapter 1 of the laws of 2013, is amended to read as
14 follows:

15 (h) (i) Any weapon defined in paragraph (e) or (f) of this subdivision
16 and any large capacity ammunition feeding device that was legally
17 possessed by an individual prior to the enactment of [~~the~~] chapter one

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 of the laws of two thousand thirteen [~~which added this paragraph~~], may
2 only be sold to, exchanged with or disposed of to a purchaser authorized
3 to possess such weapons or to an individual or entity outside of the
4 state provided that any such transfer to an individual or entity outside
5 of the state must be reported to the entity wherein the weapon is regis-
6 tered within seventy-two hours of such transfer. An individual who
7 transfers any such weapon or large capacity ammunition device to an
8 individual inside New York state or without complying with the
9 provisions of this paragraph shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor
10 unless such large capacity ammunition feeding device, the possession of
11 which is made illegal by [~~the~~] chapter one of the laws of two thousand
12 thirteen [~~which added this paragraph~~], is transferred within one year of
13 the effective date of [~~the~~] chapter one of the laws of two thousand
14 thirteen [~~which added this paragraph~~].

15 (ii) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (i) of this para-
16 graph, any weapon defined in paragraph (e) or (f) of this subdivision
17 that was legally possessed and validly registered by an individual prior
18 to his or her death may be transferred by the estate of such individual
19 to one of his or her immediate family members. For purposes of this
20 subparagraph, the meaning of immediate family member is as defined by
21 subdivision one of section eight hundred ninety-eight of the general
22 business law.

23 § 4. Subdivision 5 of section 400.00 of the penal law, as amended by
24 chapter 1 of the laws of 2013, is amended to read as follows:

25 5. Filing of approved applications. [~~(a)~~] The application for any
26 license, if granted, shall be filed by the licensing officer with the
27 clerk of the county of issuance, except that in the city of New York
28 and, in the counties of Nassau and Suffolk, the licensing officer shall
29 designate the place of filing in the appropriate division, bureau or
30 unit of the police department thereof, and in the county of Suffolk the
31 county clerk is hereby authorized to transfer all records or applica-
32 tions relating to firearms to the licensing authority of that county.
33 [~~Except as provided in paragraphs (b) through (f) of this subdivision,~~
34 ~~the name and address~~] The application and any supporting records,
35 including any information contained therein, of any person to whom an
36 application for any license has been granted shall not be a public
37 record and shall not be subject to disclosure pursuant to article six of
38 the public officers law. Upon application by a licensee who has changed
39 his or her place of residence such records or applications shall be
40 transferred to the appropriate officer at the licensee's new place of
41 residence. A duplicate copy of such application shall be filed by the
42 licensing officer in the executive department, division of [~~state~~
43 ~~police~~] criminal justice services, Albany, within ten days after issu-
44 ance of the license. The [~~superintendent~~] commissioner of [~~state police~~]
45 criminal justice services may designate that such application shall be
46 transmitted to the division of [~~state police~~] criminal justice services
47 electronically. In the event the [~~superintendent~~] commissioner of the
48 division of [~~state police~~] criminal justice services determines that it
49 lacks any of the records required to be filed with the division, it may
50 request that such records be provided to it by the appropriate clerk,
51 department or authority and such clerk, department or authority shall
52 provide the division with such records. In the event such clerk, depart-
53 ment or authority lacks such records, the division may request the
54 license holder provide information sufficient to constitute such record
55 and such license holder shall provide the division with such informa-
56 tion. Such information shall be limited to the license holder's name,

1 date of birth, gender, race, residential address, social security number
2 and firearms possessed by said license holder. Nothing in this subdivi-
3 sion shall be construed to change the expiration date or term of such
4 licenses if otherwise provided for in law. Records assembled or
5 collected for purposes of inclusion in the database established by this
6 section shall be released pursuant to a court order. Records assembled
7 or collected for purposes of inclusion in the database created pursuant
8 to section 400.02 of this [~~chapter~~] article shall not be subject to
9 disclosure pursuant to article six of the public officers law except
10 that the total number of persons registered in any county of the state
11 may be disclosed without any other identifying information about a
12 registrant.

13 [~~(b) Each application for a license pursuant to paragraph (a) of this~~
14 ~~subdivision shall include, on a separate written form prepared by the~~
15 ~~division of state police within thirty days of the effective date of the~~
16 ~~chapter of the laws of two thousand thirteen, which amended this~~
17 ~~section, and provided to the applicant at the same time and in the same~~
18 ~~manner as the application for a license, an opportunity for the appli-~~
19 ~~cant to request an exception from his or her application information~~
20 ~~becoming public record pursuant to paragraph (a) of this subdivision.~~
21 ~~Such forms, which shall also be made available to individuals who had~~
22 ~~applied for or been granted a license prior to the effective date of the~~
23 ~~chapter of the laws of two thousand thirteen which amended this section,~~
24 ~~shall notify applicants that, upon discovery that an applicant knowingly~~
25 ~~provided false information, such applicant may be subject to penalties~~
26 ~~pursuant to section 175.30 of this chapter, and further, that his or her~~
27 ~~request for an exception shall be null and void, provided that written~~
28 ~~notice containing such determination is provided to the applicant.~~
29 ~~Further, such forms shall provide each applicant an opportunity to spec-~~
30 ~~ify the grounds on which he or she believes his or her application~~
31 ~~information should not be publicly disclosed. These grounds, which shall~~
32 ~~be identified on the application with a box beside each for checking, as~~
33 ~~applicable, by the applicant, shall be as follows:~~

34 ~~(i) the applicant's life or safety may be endangered by disclosure~~
35 ~~because:~~

36 ~~(A) the applicant is an active or retired police officer, peace offi-~~
37 ~~cer, probation officer, parole officer, or corrections officer;~~

38 ~~(B) the applicant is a protected person under a currently valid order~~
39 ~~of protection;~~

40 ~~(C) the applicant is or was a witness in a criminal proceeding involv-~~
41 ~~ing a criminal charge;~~

42 ~~(D) the applicant is participating or previously participated as a~~
43 ~~juror in a criminal proceeding, or is or was a member of a grand jury;~~
44 ~~or~~

45 ~~(E) the applicant is a spouse, domestic partner or household member of~~
46 ~~a person identified in this subparagraph or subparagraph (ii) of this~~
47 ~~paragraph, specifying which subparagraph or subparagraphs and clauses~~
48 ~~apply.~~

49 ~~(ii) the applicant has reason to believe his or her life or safety may~~
50 ~~be endangered by disclosure due to reasons stated by the applicant.~~

51 ~~(iii) the applicant has reason to believe he or she may be subject to~~
52 ~~unwarranted harassment upon disclosure of such information.~~

53 ~~(c) Each form provided for recertification pursuant to paragraph (b)~~
54 ~~of subdivision ten of this section shall include an opportunity for the~~
55 ~~applicant to request an exception from the information provided on such~~
56 ~~form becoming public record pursuant to paragraph (a) of this subdivi-~~

~~1 sion. Such forms shall notify applicants that, upon discovery that an
2 applicant knowingly provided false information, such applicant may be
3 subject to penalties pursuant to section 175.30 of this chapter, and
4 further, that his or her request for an exception shall be null and
5 void, provided that written notice containing such determination is
6 provided to the applicant. Further, such forms shall provide each appli-
7 cant an opportunity to either decline to request the grant or continua-
8 tion of an exception, or specify the grounds on which he or she believes
9 his or her information should not be publicly disclosed. These grounds,
10 which shall be identified in the application with a box beside each for
11 checking, as applicable, by the applicant, shall be the same as provided
12 in paragraph (b) of this subdivision.~~

~~13 (d) Information submitted on the forms described in paragraph (b) of
14 this subdivision shall be exempted from disclosure and maintained by the
15 entity retaining such information separate and apart from all other
16 records.~~

~~17 (e) (i) Upon receiving a request for exception from disclosure, the
18 licensing officer shall grant such exception, unless the request is
19 determined to be null and void, pursuant to paragraph (b) or (c) of this
20 subdivision.~~

~~21 (ii) A request for an exception from disclosure may be submitted at
22 any time, including after a license or recertification has been granted.~~

~~23 (iii) If an exception is sought and granted pursuant to paragraph (b)
24 of this subdivision, the application information shall not be public
25 record, unless the request is determined to be null and void. If an
26 exception is sought and granted pursuant to paragraph (c) of this subdivi-
27 sion, the information concerning such recertification application
28 shall not be public record, unless the request is determined to be null
29 and void.~~

~~30 (f) The information of licensees or applicants for a license shall not
31 be disclosed to the public during the first one hundred twenty days
32 following the effective date of the chapter of the laws of two thousand
33 thirteen, which amended this section. After such period, the information
34 of those who had applied for or been granted a license prior to the
35 preparation of the form for requesting an exception, pursuant to para-
36 graph (b) of this subdivision, may be released only if such individuals
37 did not file a request for such an exception during the first sixty days
38 following such preparation; provided, however, that no information
39 contained in an application for licensure or recertification shall be
40 disclosed by an entity that has not completed processing any such
41 requests received during such sixty days.~~

~~42 (g) If a request for an exception is determined to be null and void
43 pursuant to paragraph (b) or (c) of this subdivision, an applicant may
44 request review of such determination pursuant to article seventy-eight
45 of the civil practice laws and rules. Such proceeding must commence
46 within thirty days after service of the written notice containing the
47 adverse determination. Notice of the right to commence such a petition,
48 and the time period therefor, shall be included in the notice of the
49 determination. Disclosure following such a petition shall not be made
50 prior to the disposition of such review.]~~

51 § 5. Section 9.46 of the mental hygiene law, as added by chapter 1 of
52 the laws of 2013, is amended to read as follows:

53 § 9.46 Reports of substantial risk or threat of harm by mental health
54 professionals.

1 (a) For purposes of this section, the term "mental health profes-
2 sional" shall include a physician, psychologist, registered nurse or
3 licensed clinical social worker.

4 (b) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, when a mental
5 health professional currently providing treatment services to a person
6 determines, in the exercise of reasonable professional judgment, that
7 such person is likely to engage in conduct that would result in serious
8 harm to self or others, he or she shall be required to report, as soon
9 as practicable, to the director of community services, or the director's
10 designee~~[, who shall report to the division of criminal justice services~~
11 ~~whenever he or she agrees that the person is likely to engage in such~~
12 ~~conduct]~~. Any report made by a mental health professional to the direc-
13 tor of community services, or the director's designee shall include
14 current contact information for such person including, but not limited
15 to, the person's: (1) name, (2) mailing address, (3) phone number and
16 (4) email address. The director of community services or the director's
17 designee shall report to the division of criminal justice services upon
18 a finding that the person is likely to engage in conduct that would
19 result in serious harm to self or others. Information transmitted to the
20 division of criminal justice services shall be limited to names and
21 other non-clinical identifying information, which may only be used for
22 determining whether a license issued pursuant to section 400.00 of the
23 penal law should be suspended or revoked, or for determining whether a
24 person is ineligible for a license issued pursuant to section 400.00 of
25 the penal law, or is no longer permitted under state or federal law to
26 possess a firearm.

27 (c) The director of community services or the director's designee
28 shall inform such person via written notice when a report regarding the
29 substantial risk or threat of harm posed by the person is sent to the
30 division of criminal justice services. Such notice shall include, but
31 not be limited to:

32 (1) the person's name;

33 (2) notice that a report has been sent to the division of criminal
34 justice services stating that the named person has been deemed likely to
35 engage in conduct that would result in serious harm to self or others;

36 (3) the date the report was sent to the division of criminal justice
37 services;

38 (4) the person's right to submit a petition for relief from disability
39 to the national instant criminal background check system (NICS) appeals
40 office of the office of mental health or NICS appeals office of the
41 office for people with developmental disabilities, as set forth in
42 subdivision (j) of section 7.09 of this title and subdivision (g) of
43 section 13.09 of this chapter and sections five hundred forty-three and
44 six hundred forty-three of article fourteen of the New York code of
45 rules and regulations;

46 (5) contact information for the NICS appeals office of the office of
47 mental hygiene or the NICS appeals office of the office for people with
48 developmental disabilities; and

49 (6) any applicable deadline for submission of a petition for relief
50 from disability.

51 (d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a mental
52 health professional to take any action which, in the exercise of reason-
53 able professional judgment, would endanger such mental health profes-
54 sional or increase the danger to a potential victim or victims.

55 [~~d~~] (e) The decision of a mental health professional to disclose or
56 not to disclose in accordance with this section, when made reasonably

1 and in good faith, shall not be the basis for any civil or criminal
2 liability of such mental health professional.

3 § 6. Paragraph 2 of subdivision (j) of section 7.09 of the mental
4 hygiene law, as amended by chapter 1 of the laws of 2013, is amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (2) The commissioner shall establish within the office of mental
7 health an administrative process to permit a person who has been or may
8 be disqualified from possessing such a firearm pursuant to 18 USC
9 922(4)(d) or who has been or may be disqualified from continuing to have
10 a license to carry, possess, repair, or dispose of a firearm under
11 section 400.00 of the penal law because such person was involuntarily
12 committed or civilly confined to a facility under the jurisdiction of
13 the commissioner, or who has been the subject of a report submitted by
14 the director of community services or the director's designee to the
15 division of criminal justice services stating that the named person has
16 been deemed likely to engage in conduct that would result in serious
17 harm to self or others pursuant to section 9.46 of this title, to peti-
18 tion for relief from that disability where such person's record and
19 reputation are such that such person will not be likely to act in a
20 manner dangerous to public safety and where the granting of the relief
21 would not be contrary to public safety. The commissioner shall promul-
22 gate regulations to establish the relief from disabilities program,
23 which shall include, but not be limited to, provisions providing for:
24 (i) an opportunity for a disqualified person to petition for relief in
25 writing; (ii) the authority for the agency to require that the petition-
26 er undergo a clinical evaluation and risk assessment; and (iii) a
27 requirement that the agency issue a decision in writing explaining the
28 reasons for a denial or grant of relief. The denial of a petition for
29 relief from disabilities may be reviewed de novo pursuant to the
30 proceedings under article seventy-eight of the civil practice law and
31 rules.

32 § 7. Paragraph 2 of subdivision (g) of section 13.09 of the mental
33 hygiene law, as amended by chapter 1 of the laws of 2013, is amended to
34 read as follows:

35 (2) The commissioner shall establish within the office for people with
36 developmental disabilities an administrative process to permit a person
37 who has been or may be disqualified from possessing such a firearm
38 pursuant to 18 USC 922(4)(d), or who has been or may be disqualified
39 from continuing to have a license to carry, possess, repair, or dispose
40 of a firearm under section 400.00 of the penal law because such person
41 was involuntarily committed or civilly confined to a facility under the
42 jurisdiction of the commissioner, or who has been the subject of a
43 report submitted by the director of community services or the director's
44 designee to the division of criminal justice services stating that the
45 named person has been deemed likely to engage in conduct that would
46 result in serious harm to self or others pursuant to section 9.46 of
47 this chapter, to petition for relief from that disability where such
48 person's record and reputation are such that such person will not be
49 likely to act in a manner dangerous to public safety and where the
50 granting of the relief would not be contrary to public safety. The
51 commissioner shall promulgate regulations to establish the relief from
52 disabilities program, which shall include, but not be limited to,
53 provisions providing for: (i) an opportunity for a disqualified person
54 to petition for relief in writing; (ii) the authority for the agency to
55 require that the petitioner undergo a clinical evaluation and risk
56 assessment; and (iii) a requirement that the agency issue a decision in

1 writing explaining the reasons for a denial or grant of relief. The
2 denial of a petition for relief from disabilities may be reviewed de
3 novo pursuant to the proceedings under article seventy-eight of the
4 civil practice law and rules.

5 § 8. Paragraph (a) of subdivision 3 and subdivisions 4, 7, 9, 10, 16-a
6 and 16-b of section 400.00 of the penal law, paragraph (a) of subdivi-
7 sion 3 and subdivisions 4, 9 and 10 as amended and subdivisions 16-a and
8 16-b as added by chapter 1 of the laws of 2013, paragraph (a-1) of
9 subdivision 16-a as added by chapter 98 of the laws of 2013, are amended
10 to read as follows:

11 (a) Applications shall be made and renewed, in the case of a license
12 to carry or possess a pistol or revolver, to the licensing officer in
13 the city or county, as the case may be, where the applicant resides, is
14 principally employed or has his or her principal place of business as
15 merchant or storekeeper; and, in the case of a license as gunsmith or
16 dealer in firearms, to the licensing officer where such place of busi-
17 ness is located. Blank applications shall, except in the city of New
18 York, be approved as to form by the [~~superintendent of state police~~
19 division of criminal justice services]. An application shall state the
20 full name, date of birth, residence, present occupation of each person
21 or individual signing the same, whether or not he or she is a citizen of
22 the United States, whether or not he or she complies with each require-
23 ment for eligibility specified in subdivision one of this section and
24 such other facts as may be required to show the good character, compe-
25 tency and integrity of each person or individual signing the applica-
26 tion. An application shall be signed and verified by the applicant. Each
27 individual signing an application shall submit one photograph of himself
28 or herself and a duplicate for each required copy of the application.
29 Such photographs shall have been taken within thirty days prior to
30 filing the application. In case of a license as gunsmith or dealer in
31 firearms, the photographs submitted shall be two inches square, and the
32 application shall also state the previous occupation of each individual
33 signing the same and the location of the place of such business, or of
34 the bureau, agency, subagency, office or branch office for which the
35 license is sought, specifying the name of the city, town or village,
36 indicating the street and number and otherwise giving such apt
37 description as to point out reasonably the location thereof. In such
38 case, if the applicant is a firm, partnership or corporation, its name,
39 date and place of formation, and principal place of business shall be
40 stated. For such firm or partnership, the application shall be signed
41 and verified by each individual composing or intending to compose the
42 same, and for such corporation, by each officer thereof.

43 4. Investigation. Before a license is issued or renewed, there shall
44 be an investigation of all statements required in the application by the
45 duly constituted police authorities of the locality where such applica-
46 tion is made, including but not limited to such records as may be acces-
47 sible to the [~~division of state police or~~ division of criminal justice
48 services pursuant to section 400.02 of this article. For that purpose,
49 the records of the appropriate office of the department of mental
50 hygiene concerning previous or present mental illness of the applicant
51 shall be available for inspection by the investigating officer of the
52 police authority. In order to ascertain any previous criminal record,
53 the investigating officer shall take the fingerprints and physical
54 descriptive data in quadruplicate of each individual by whom the appli-
55 cation is signed and verified. Two copies of such fingerprints shall be
56 taken on standard fingerprint cards eight inches square, and one copy

1 may be taken on a card supplied for that purpose by the federal bureau
2 of investigation; provided, however, that in the case of a corporate
3 applicant that has already been issued a dealer in firearms license and
4 seeks to operate a firearm dealership at a second or subsequent
5 location, the original fingerprints on file may be used to ascertain any
6 criminal record in the second or subsequent application unless any of
7 the corporate officers have changed since the prior application, in
8 which case the new corporate officer shall comply with procedures
9 governing an initial application for such license. When completed, one
10 standard card shall be forwarded to and retained by the division of
11 criminal justice services in the executive department, at Albany. A
12 search of the files of such division and written notification of the
13 results of the search to the investigating officer shall be made without
14 unnecessary delay. Thereafter, such division shall notify the licensing
15 officer and the executive department, division of state police, Albany,
16 of any criminal record of the applicant filed therein subsequent to the
17 search of its files. A second standard card, or the one supplied by the
18 federal bureau of investigation, as the case may be, shall be forwarded
19 to that bureau at Washington with a request that the files of the bureau
20 be searched and notification of the results of the search be made to the
21 investigating police authority. Of the remaining two fingerprint cards,
22 one shall be filed with the executive department, division of [~~state~~
23 ~~police~~] criminal justice services, Albany, within ten days after issu-
24 ance of the license, and the other remain on file with the investigating
25 police authority. No such fingerprints may be inspected by any person
26 other than a peace officer, who is acting pursuant to his special
27 duties, or a police officer, except on order of a judge or justice of a
28 court of record either upon notice to the licensee or without notice, as
29 the judge or justice may deem appropriate. Upon completion of the inves-
30 tigation, the police authority shall report the results to the licensing
31 officer without unnecessary delay.

32 7. License: form. Any license issued pursuant to this section shall,
33 except in the city of New York, be approved as to form by the [~~super-~~
34 ~~intendant of state police~~] division of criminal justice services. A
35 license to carry or possess a pistol or revolver shall have attached the
36 licensee's photograph, and a coupon which shall be removed and retained
37 by any person disposing of a firearm to the licensee. Such license shall
38 specify the weapon covered by calibre, make, model, manufacturer's name
39 and serial number, or if none, by any other distinguishing number or
40 identification mark, and shall indicate whether issued to carry on the
41 person or possess on the premises, and if on the premises shall also
42 specify the place where the licensee shall possess the same. If such
43 license is issued to an alien, or to a person not a citizen of and
44 usually a resident in the state, the licensing officer shall state in
45 the license the particular reason for the issuance and the names of the
46 persons certifying to the good character of the applicant. Any license
47 as gunsmith or dealer in firearms shall mention and describe the prem-
48 ises for which it is issued and shall be valid only for such premises.

49 9. License: amendment. Elsewhere than in the city of New York, a
50 person licensed to carry or possess a pistol or revolver may apply at
51 any time to his or her licensing officer for amendment of his or her
52 license to include one or more such weapons or to cancel weapons held
53 under license. If granted, a record of the amendment describing the
54 weapons involved shall be filed by the licensing officer in the execu-
55 tive department, division of [~~state police~~] criminal justice services,
56 Albany. The [~~superintendent of state police~~] division of criminal

1 justice services may authorize that such amendment be completed and
2 transmitted to the [~~state police~~] division in electronic form. Notifi-
3 cation of any change of residence shall be made in writing by any licen-
4 see within ten days after such change occurs, and a record of such
5 change shall be inscribed by such licensee on the reverse side of his or
6 her license. Elsewhere than in the city of New York, and in the counties
7 of Nassau and Suffolk, such notification shall be made to the executive
8 department, division of [~~state police~~] criminal justice services, Alba-
9 ny, and in the city of New York to the police commissioner of that city,
10 and in the county of Nassau to the police commissioner of that county,
11 and in the county of Suffolk to the licensing officer of that county,
12 who shall, within ten days after such notification shall be received by
13 him or her, give notice in writing of such change to the executive
14 department, division of [~~state police~~] criminal justice services, at
15 Albany.

16 10. License: expiration, certification and renewal. (a) Any license
17 for gunsmith or dealer in firearms and, in the city of New York, any
18 license to carry or possess a pistol or revolver, issued at any time
19 pursuant to this section or prior to the first day of July, nineteen
20 hundred sixty-three and not limited to expire on an earlier date fixed
21 in the license, shall expire not more than three years after the date of
22 issuance. In the counties of Nassau, Suffolk and Westchester, any
23 license to carry or possess a pistol or revolver, issued at any time
24 pursuant to this section or prior to the first day of July, nineteen
25 hundred sixty-three and not limited to expire on an earlier date fixed
26 in the license, shall expire not more than five years after the date of
27 issuance; however, in the county of Westchester, any such license shall
28 be certified prior to the first day of April, two thousand, in accord-
29 ance with a schedule to be contained in regulations promulgated by the
30 commissioner of the division of criminal justice services, and every
31 such license shall be recertified every five years thereafter. For
32 purposes of this section certification shall mean that the licensee
33 shall provide to the licensing officer the following information only:
34 current name, date of birth, current address, and the make, model, cali-
35 ber and serial number of all firearms currently possessed. Such certifi-
36 cation information shall be filed by the licensing officer in the same
37 manner as an amendment. Elsewhere than in the city of New York and the
38 counties of Nassau, Suffolk and Westchester, any license to carry or
39 possess a pistol or revolver, issued at any time pursuant to this
40 section or prior to the first day of July, nineteen hundred sixty-three
41 and not previously revoked or cancelled, shall be in force and effect
42 until revoked as herein provided. Any license not previously cancelled
43 or revoked shall remain in full force and effect for thirty days beyond
44 the stated expiration date on such license. Any application to renew a
45 license that has not previously expired, been revoked or cancelled shall
46 thereby extend the term of the license until disposition of the applica-
47 tion by the licensing officer. In the case of a license for gunsmith or
48 dealer in firearms, in counties having a population of less than two
49 hundred thousand inhabitants, photographs and fingerprints shall be
50 submitted on original applications and upon renewal thereafter only at
51 six year intervals. Upon satisfactory proof that a currently valid
52 original license has been despoiled, lost or otherwise removed from the
53 possession of the licensee and upon application containing an additional
54 photograph of the licensee, the licensing officer shall issue a dupli-
55 cate license.

1 (b) All licensees shall be recertified to the [~~division of state~~
2 ~~police~~] licensing officer every five years thereafter. Any license
3 issued before the effective date of [~~the~~] chapter one of the laws of two
4 thousand thirteen [~~which added this paragraph~~] shall be recertified by
5 the licensee on or before [~~January~~] March thirty-first, two thousand
6 eighteen, and not less than one year prior to such date, the [~~state~~
7 ~~police~~] division of criminal justice services shall send a notice to all
8 license holders who have not recertified by such time. [~~Such recertif-~~
9 ~~ication shall be in a form as approved by the superintendent of state~~
10 ~~police, which shall request the license holder's name, date of birth,~~
11 ~~gender, race, residential address, social security number, firearms~~
12 ~~possessed by such license holder, email address at the option of the~~
13 ~~license holder and an affirmation that such license holder is not~~
14 ~~prohibited from possessing firearms.] Recertification shall contain the
15 information and shall be in the form set forth hereinbelow:~~

RECERTIFICATION

- 17 1. Name _____
- 18 2. Date of Birth _____
- 19 3. Gender _____
- 20 4. Race _____
- 21 5. Residential Address _____
- 22 _____
- 23 _____
- 24 6. Social Security Number _____
- 25 7. Email Address (optional) _____
- 26 8. List all firearms possessed on license: _____
- 27 _____
- 28 _____
- 29 _____
- 30 _____

31 Upon receipt of the completed recertification form, the licensing offi-
32 cer will compare the information provided with the information main-
33 tained by the licensing officer for such license holder, and promptly
34 notify the license holder of any discrepancies that may exist, and
35 provide instruction as to applying for an amendment pursuant to subdivi-
36 sion nine this section. After the resolution of any pending applications
37 for amendments, the licensing officer shall retain a copy of the recer-
38 tification and a copy shall be filed by the licensing officer in the
39 executive department, division of criminal justice services, Albany,
40 within ten days. The form may be in an electronic form if so designated
41 by the [~~superintendent of state police~~] division of criminal justice
42 services. Failure to recertify shall act as a revocation of such
43 license. If the [~~New York state police~~] division shall discover as a
44 result of the recertification process that a licensee failed to provide
45 a change of address, the [~~New York state police~~] division of criminal

1 justice services shall not require the licensing officer to revoke such
2 license.

3 16-a. Registration. (a) An owner of a weapon defined in paragraph (e)
4 or (f) of subdivision twenty-two of section 265.00 of this chapter,
5 possessed before the date of the effective date of [~~the~~] chapter one
6 of the laws of two thousand thirteen [~~which added this paragraph~~], must
7 make an application to register such weapon with the [~~superintendent of~~
8 ~~state police~~] division of criminal justice services, in the manner
9 provided by the [~~superintendent~~] division of criminal justice services,
10 or by amending a license issued pursuant to this section within one year
11 of the effective date of this subdivision except any weapon defined
12 under subparagraph (vi) of paragraph (g) of subdivision twenty-two of
13 section 265.00 of this chapter transferred into the state may be regis-
14 tered at any time, provided such weapons are registered within thirty
15 days of their transfer into the state. Registration information shall
16 include the registrant's name, date of birth, gender, race, residential
17 address, social security number and a description of each weapon being
18 registered. A registration of any weapon defined under subparagraph (vi)
19 of paragraph (g) of subdivision twenty-two of section 265.00 or a feed-
20 ing device as defined under subdivision twenty-three of section 265.00
21 of this chapter shall be transferable, provided that the seller notifies
22 the [~~state police~~] division of criminal justice services within seven-
23 ty-two hours of the transfer and the buyer provides the [~~state police~~]
24 division of criminal justice services with information sufficient to
25 constitute a registration under this section. Such registration shall
26 not be valid if such registrant is prohibited or becomes prohibited from
27 possessing a firearm pursuant to state or federal law. The [~~superinten-~~
28 ~~dent~~] division of criminal justice services shall determine whether such
29 registrant is prohibited from possessing a firearm under state or feder-
30 al law. Such check shall be limited to determining whether the factors
31 in 18 USC 922 (g) apply or whether a registrant has been convicted of a
32 serious offense as defined in subdivision [~~sixteen-b~~] seventeen of
33 section 265.00 of this chapter, so as to prohibit such registrant from
34 possessing a firearm, and whether a report has been issued pursuant to
35 section 9.46 of the mental hygiene law. All registrants shall recertify
36 to the division of [~~state police~~] criminal justice services every five
37 years thereafter. Failure to recertify shall result in a revocation of
38 such registration.

39 (a-1) Notwithstanding any inconsistent provisions of paragraph (a) of
40 this subdivision, an owner of an assault weapon as defined in subdivi-
41 sion twenty-two of section 265.00 of this chapter, who is a qualified
42 retired New York or federal law enforcement officer as defined in subdivi-
43 sion twenty-five of section 265.00 of this chapter, where such weapon
44 was issued to or purchased by such officer prior to retirement and in
45 the course of his or her official duties, and for which such officer was
46 qualified by the agency that employed such officer within twelve months
47 prior to his or her retirement, must register such weapon within sixty
48 days of retirement.

49 (b) The [~~superintendent of state police~~] division of criminal justice
50 services shall create and maintain an internet website to educate the
51 public as to which semiautomatic rifle, semiautomatic shotgun or semiau-
52 tomatic pistol or weapon that are illegal as a result of the enactment
53 of [~~the~~] chapter one of the laws of two thousand thirteen [~~which added~~
54 ~~this paragraph~~], as well as such assault weapons which are illegal
55 pursuant to article two hundred sixty-five of this chapter. Such website
56 shall contain information to assist the public in recognizing the rele-

1 vant features proscribed by such article two hundred sixty-five, as well
2 as which make and model of weapons that require registration.

3 (c) A person who knowingly fails to apply to register such weapon, as
4 required by this section, within one year of the effective date of [~~the~~
5 chapter one of the laws of two thousand thirteen [~~which added this para-~~
6 ~~graph~~] shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor and such person who
7 unknowingly fails to validly register such weapon within such one year
8 period shall be given a warning by an appropriate law enforcement
9 authority about such failure and given thirty days in which to apply to
10 register such weapon or to surrender it. A failure to apply or surrender
11 such weapon within such thirty-day period shall result in such weapon
12 being removed by an appropriate law enforcement authority and declared a
13 nuisance.

14 16-b. The cost of the software, programming and interface required to
15 transmit any record that must be electronically transmitted by the deal-
16 er or licensing officer to the division of [~~state-police~~] criminal
17 justice services, and any cost borne by the licensing officer to admin-
18 ister or maintain records related to the recertification process by the
19 licensing officer, both pursuant to this chapter shall be borne by the
20 state.

21 § 9. Section 400.02 of the penal law, as added by chapter 1 of the
22 laws of 2013, is amended to read as follows:

23 § 400.02 Statewide license and record database.

24 There shall be a statewide license and record database which shall be
25 created and maintained by the division of [~~state-police~~] criminal
26 justice services the cost of which shall not be borne by any munici-
27 pality. Records assembled or collected for purposes of inclusion in such
28 database shall not be subject to disclosure pursuant to article six of
29 the public officers law. Records containing granted license applications
30 shall be periodically checked by the division of criminal justice
31 services against criminal conviction, mental health, and all other
32 records as are necessary to determine their continued accuracy as well
33 as whether an individual is no longer a valid license holder. The divi-
34 sion of criminal justice services shall also check pending applications
35 made pursuant to this article against such records to determine whether
36 a license may be granted. All state agencies shall cooperate with the
37 division of criminal justice services, as otherwise authorized by law,
38 in making their records available for such checks. The division of crim-
39 inal justice services, upon determining that an individual is ineligible
40 to possess a license, or is no longer a valid license holder, shall
41 notify the applicable licensing official of such determination and such
42 licensing official shall not issue a license or revoke such license and
43 any weapons owned or possessed by such individual shall be removed
44 consistent with the provisions of subdivision eleven of section 400.00
45 of this article. Local and state law enforcement shall have access to
46 such database, as otherwise authorized by law, in the performance of
47 their duties. Records assembled or collected for purposes of inclusion
48 in the database established by this section shall be released pursuant
49 to a court order.

50 § 10. This act shall take effect immediately; provided that:

51 1. section four of this act shall take effect on the first of November
52 next succeeding the date on which it shall have become a law; and

53 2. sections five, six and seven of this act shall take effect on the
54 ninetieth day after it shall have become a law.