STATE OF KANSAS
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

KRIS W. KOBACH
ATTORNEY GENERAL

MEMORIAL HALL
120 SW 10TH AVE., 2ND FLOOR
TOPEKA, KS 66612-1597
(785) 296-2215 • FAX (785) 296-6296
WWW.AG.KS.GOV

December 20, 2023

Honorable Laura Kelly
Governor of the State of Kansas
State Capitol, Room 241-S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Honorable Ty Masterson
President of the Senate
State Capitol, Room 333-E
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Honorable Daniel Hawkins
Speaker of the House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 370-W
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Honorable Dinah Sykes
Minority Leader of the Senate
State Capitol, Room 318-E
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Honorable Vic Miller
Minority Leader of the House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 359-W
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Greetings:

K.S.A. 75-7c16(b) of the Kansas Personal and Family Protection Act (hereinafter "the Act"), also known as the concealed carry handgun law, requires the Attorney General, on or before January 1 of each year, to submit a statistical report to the Governor, President of the Senate, the Senate Minority Leader, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the House Minority Leader indicating the number of concealed carry handgun licenses (hereinafter "license" or "licenses") issued, revoked, suspended and denied during the preceding fiscal year and the reasons for the revocations, suspensions and denials. The day-to-day administration of the Act is monitored by the Attorney General's concealed carry licensing unit (CCLU).

Licenses Issued
Note: Under the Act, the CCLU does not "issue" the actual license card. The CCLU approves an application and sends the applicant (whether initial or renewal) an approval notice. The applicant may then take that approval notice to one of many Kansas Department of Revenue stations in order to have the actual license card issued.

Initial Licenses: In Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23), the CCLU issued 3,783 new or initial concealed carry handgun licenses. From FY16 when the general allowance of *unlicensed* concealed carry became law in Kansas until FY20, initial application numbers declined.[1] In FY21, new license applications increased significantly when compared to the five previous fiscal years. This was due in part to the addition of a provisional concealed carry license for persons aged 18-20. New license application numbers declined in both FY22 and FY23 when compared to FY21.

Renewal Licenses: In FY23, the CCLU issued 13,399 renewed licenses. Initial and renewed Kansas licenses are valid for four years. FY23 was a larger year for renewals as it included renewals for licenses issued in 2007, the first year concealed carry licenses were issued, in addition to those issued in 2011, 2015, and 2019. FY24 will be a smaller year for renewals.

Application Denials
If an applicant's history disqualifies the applicant under the Act's eligibility criteria found under K.S.A. 75-7c04(a), that applicant "shall" be denied a license. During FY23, the CCLU denied 7 initial applications and denied 1 renewal application.

Administrative Actions against Licenses
Suspensions: The Act requires that a license shall be "suspended" if the licensee becomes subject to a criminal charge or other "proceeding" which *could* render them ineligible under K.S.A. 75-7c04(a). See, K.S.A. 75-7c07(b). An *immediate* suspension is required of licenses where the licensee is subject to a qualifying protection order. See, K.S.A. 75-7c07(c). In FY23, 8 suspensions were proposed.

Revocations: If a licensee becomes ineligible to maintain their license, the Act requires the "revocation" of that license. See, K.S.A. 75-7c07(a). In FY23, 3 revocations were proposed.

Any suspended or revoked license holder who is later cleared of a charge, or otherwise regains eligibility for a license, can have their license "reinstated" if the license has not expired. In FY23, no licenses were reinstated.

Surrenders: While the Act generally requires Kansas residency in order to obtain and maintain a license,[2] the Act allows the licensee to notify the CCLU of the move to a new state and the license will remain valid for up to 90 days. After that, the CCLU surrenders the license (as opposed to revoking the license). In FY23, the CCLU voluntarily surrendered 96 licenses following notification by the licensees that they had changed residency to another state.

KAPA: The denial, suspension, and revocation procedures outlined in the Act are performed in accordance with the Kansas Administrative Procedures Act (KAPA). KAPA generally requires that, prior to any denial, suspension, or revocation becoming final, the applicant or licensee be given notice and an

---

[1] See, K.S.A. 21-6302 generally allowing *unlicensed* concealed carry of firearms for those persons at least 21 years of age; and K.S.A. 75-7c03 stating that the "availability" of licensed concealed carry under the Act should not be construed to prohibit handgun carry "whether carried openly or concealed, or loaded or unloaded."

[2] The exception to this general rule is active duty military and their qualifying dependents; they may keep their home of record and still obtain a Kansas license while stationed here in Kansas.

opportunity to request a hearing. Occasionally, because of this notice period, new information can result in a proposed action of the CCLU becoming "vacated" before the action is final. For example: a temporary protection order being dismissed or a criminal charge being misreported or reduced. It should be noted that not requesting a KAPA hearing following a denial, suspension or revocation does not prohibit future licensure should that person later attain eligibility for licensure.

Fluidity: With respect to the suspension and revocation procedures, an occasional result occurs when a license is first "suspended" because of a *possible* ineligibility (i.e. a pending felony charge) followed by a "revocation" of that same license if the licensee later becomes *actually* ineligible under the Act (i.e., the licensee is convicted of that felony charge). It is also possible for a suspension and/or revocation process to span between fiscal years.

8 – License Denials

- *8 – Denied due to disqualifying criminal history:*
  - 7 – Misdemeanor Crime of Domestic Violence Conviction
  - 1 – Felony Drug Conviction

8 – License Suspensions Proposed:[3]

- *5 –Protection Order:*
  - 5 – Protection from abuse order

- *3 –Pending felony charges:*
  - 1 – Aggravated Battery
  - 1 – Attempted Murder
  - 1 – Rape

3 – License Revocations Proposed:

- *2 – Felony convictions:*
  - 1 – Aggravated Battery
  - 1 – Interference with a Law Enforcement Officer

- *1 – Other convictions:*
  - 1 – Carrying Under the Influence

Sincerely,

Kris W. Kobach

Kris Kobach
Kansas Attorney General

[3] Suspensions usually reference allegations of conduct that are still pending in the court system. As a result, any descriptions here are simply recitations of the conduct alleged against the licensee in those matters.