



GEORGIA CARRY.ORG, INC.

P.O. Box 501625 ATLANTA, GEORGIA 31150 info@georgiacarry.org

February 10, 2010

Re: Recognition of Firearms Licenses Issued By
North Dakota

JOSEPH DROLET, ESQ.
Senior Assistant Attorney General
40 Capitol Square, SW
Atlanta, Ga 30334

Dear Mr. Drolet,

I am writing to you on behalf of GeorgiaCarry.Org's 5,600 members, because it has come to our attention that North Dakota's firearms licenses are now in a position to be honored by Georgia. Georgia's Attorney General has not issued a new press release regarding firearms license reciprocity in more than two years, and North Dakota is not on that list.

Reciprocity in North Dakota is entirely at the discretion of Georgia. In fact, according to North Dakota's Attorney General, Wayne Stenehjem, his office already notified Georgia of the change in law in North Dakota and requested that Georgia's attorney general recognize North Dakota's license. According to Mr. Stenehjem's office, Georgia declined without providing a reason. You may see this for yourself where he has publicly posted it, at:

<http://www.ag.state.nd.us/BCI/CW/reciprocity.htm>

The result of Georgia's failure or refusal to recognize North Dakota's license is that Georgians are categorically denied the right to bear arms while visiting North Dakota, since North Dakota is one of the 13 states that requires a license to carry a handgun openly as well as concealed. A Georgian visiting North Dakota with a firearm and a valid Georgia license to carry a pistol or revolver risks arrest and incarceration until your office takes appropriate action.

North Dakota offers two licenses, with one requiring training and one not. This minor complication should not affect Georgia's determination that **both** North Dakota licenses are valid in Georgia. Georgia law requires only that North Dakota will give effect to a Georgia license while in North Dakota, and North Dakota will recognize Georgia's license once they hear from your office.

In closing, I wish to quote from the amicus curiae brief that Attorney General Thurbert Baker joined in the *Parker v. District of Columbia* case (D.C Court of Appeals), "The individual right to keep and bear arms is protected by the United States Constitution and [Georgia's Constitution] . . . Given the significance of this fundamental right, the States have an interest in ensuring that the Second Amendment is accorded its proper scope *in neighboring jurisdictions*." (Emphasis added). And, "Finally, amici States have an interest in ensuring that their citizens who choose to travel to other jurisdictions while carrying properly licensed weapons remain free from unconstitutional arrest and prosecution . . ."

Please ensure that these laudable principles enunciated by Georgia's Attorney General are put into effect between Georgia and North Dakota, so that Georgians in North Dakota with properly licensed weapons do not face unconstitutional arrest and prosecution.

North Dakota Office of Attorney General

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600 E. Boulevard Ave.
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I hope you have found this correspondence helpful. Thank you for your attention to this matter, and, if GCO can be of any assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Edward A. Stone
President
GEORGIA CARRY.ORG, INC.