

LD 1557

Honorable Senator Rafferty, Honorable Representative Brenner and all members of the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee

I don't know if any of the members of this committee have a conceal carry permit, and it is something that shouldn't really be revealed except in extraordinary situations. I'm going to assume that you don't so here are the steps to apply for a conceal carry license in Maine.

Step 1: Read the Maine concealed carry pamphlet: Laws Relating to Permits to Carry Concealed Handguns which is 37 pages

Step 2: Download the **application**.

Step 3: Mail your completed application to the state police or take to your local police station. You will need the following:

- An application for a concealed carry permit 6 pages
- Two Authority to Release Information forms 3 pages
- A valid copy of a birth certificate or INS document
- One 2-inch by 2-inch color passport photograph
- A copy of a certificate that has been issued within the past 5 years that shows proof of knowledge of handgun safety
- Any necessary copies of CCW permits issued by other states or municipalities within Maine
- A valid copy of the DD-214 form for members of the Armed Forces
- The appropriate fees
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Then you wait for about 30 days.

So anyone who has a conceal carry license meets all the requirements set out by the State of Maine, which includes a lot of personal information.

Now, do I look like someone who carries a gun? I know you can't see me since I wasn't able to come testify in person. I am a kindly looking grandmother with grey hair up in a bun. I have been licensed in 3 states over a period of 20 years. I have also been subjected to authorization by the FBI every time I've purchased a gun in all three of those states.

So, to say that I am qualified to conceal carry, authorized to conceal carry and maybe the most important of all, not expected to be conceal carrying by those intending to do harm (surprise does give me a great advantage).

I ask you to approve LD 1557. It is people, like me, who are on site that have the opportunity to help stop a tragedy as it unfolds. This is not something I every want to do, but to not be allowed to defend myself, the staff and especially the children is an absolute horror.

Nancy Cashon
