

ORDINANCE NO. 184-24

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 549 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MEDINA, OHIO, PERTAINING TO CARRYING CONCEALED WEAPONS.

WHEREAS: On or about March 14, 2022, Governor DeWine signed Senate Bill 215 (effective June 13, 2022), which will make it legal to carry a carry a concealed handgun without a license.

WHEREAS: It is necessary to update Chapter 549 of the City of Medina Codified Ordinances pursuant to Senate Bill 215.

WHEREAS: That Section 549.02 of the codified ordinances of the City of Medina, Ohio presently reads as follows:

“549.02 CARRYING CONCEALED WEAPONS.

(a) No person shall knowingly carry or have, concealed on the person’s person or concealed ready at hand, any of the following:

- (1) A deadly weapon other than a handgun;
- (2) A handgun other than a dangerous ordnance;
- (3) A dangerous ordnance.

(b) No person who has been issued a concealed handgun license, shall do any of the following:

(1) If the person is stopped for a law enforcement purpose and is carrying a concealed handgun, before or at the time a law enforcement officer asks if the person is carrying a concealed handgun, knowingly fail to disclose that the person then is carrying a concealed handgun, provided that it is not a violation of this section if the person fails to disclose that fact to an officer during the stop and the person already has notified another officer of that fact during the same stop;

(2) If the person is stopped for a law enforcement purpose and is carrying a concealed handgun, knowingly fail to keep the person’s hands in plain sight at any time after any law enforcement officer begins approaching the person while stopped and before the law enforcement officer leaves, unless the failure is pursuant to and in accordance with directions given by a law enforcement officer;

(3) If the person is stopped for a law enforcement purpose and is carrying a concealed handgun, knowingly disregard or fail to comply with any lawful order of any law enforcement officer given while the person is stopped, including, but not limited to, a specific order to the person to keep the person’s hands in plain sight.

(c) (1) This section does not apply to any of the following:

A. An officer, agent or employee or this or any other state or the United States, or to a law enforcement officer, who is authorized to carry concealed weapons or dangerous ordnance, or is authorized to carry handguns and is acting within the scope of the officer's, agent's or employee's duties;

B. Any person who is employed in this State, who is authorized to carry concealed weapons or dangerous ordnance or is authorized to carry handguns, and who is subject to and in compliance with the requirements of Ohio R.C. 109.801 unless the appointing authority of the person has expressly specified that the exemption provided in subsection (c)(1)B. hereof does not apply to the person.

C. A person's transportation or storage of a firearm, other than a firearm described in divisions (G) to (M) of Ohio R.C. 2923.11 in a motor vehicle for any lawful purpose if the firearm is not on the actor's person;

D. A person's storage or possession of a firearm, other than a firearm described in divisions (G) to (M) of Ohio R.C. 2923.11 in the actor's own home for any lawful purpose.

(2) Subsection (a)(2) of this section does not apply to any person who has been issued a concealed handgun license that is valid at the time of the alleged carrying or possession of a handgun or who, at the time of the alleged carrying or possession of a handgun, is an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States and is carrying a valid military identification card and documentation of successful completion of firearms training that meets or exceeds the training requirements described in Ohio R.C. 2923.125(G)(1), unless the person knowingly is in a place described in Ohio R.C. 2923.126(B).

(d) It is an affirmative defense to a charge under subsection (a)(1) of this section of carrying or having control of a weapon other than a handgun and other than a dangerous ordnance, that the actor was not otherwise prohibited by law from having the weapon, and that any of the following applies:

(1) The weapon was carried or kept ready at hand by the actor for defensive purposes, while the actor was engaged in or was going to or from the actor's lawful business or occupation, which business or occupation was of a character or was necessarily carried on in a manner or at a time or place as to render the actor particularly susceptible to criminal attack, such as would justify a prudent person in going armed.

(2) The weapon was carried or kept ready at hand by the actor for defensive purposes, while the actor was engaged in a lawful activity and had reasonable cause to fear a criminal attack upon the actor, a member of the actor's family, or the actor's home, such as would justify a prudent person in going armed.

(3) The weapon was carried or kept ready at hand by the actor for any lawful purpose and while in the actor's own home.

(e) (1) No person who is charged with a violation of this section shall be required to obtain a concealed handgun license as a condition for the dismissal of the charge.

(2) If a person is convicted of, was convicted of, pleads guilty to, or has pleaded guilty to a violation of subsection (b)(1) of this section as it existed prior to June 13, 2022, the person may file an application under Ohio R.C. 2953.35 requesting the expungement of the record of conviction.

(f) (1) Whoever violates this section is guilty of carrying concealed weapons. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection or subsections (f)(2), (5) and (6) of this section, carrying concealed weapons in violation of subsection (a) of this section is a misdemeanor of the first degree. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection or subsections (f)(2), (5) and (6) of this section, if the offender previously has been convicted of a violation of this section or of any offense of violence, if the weapon involved is a firearm that is either loaded or for which the offender has ammunition ready at hand, or if the weapon involved is dangerous ordnance, carrying concealed weapons in violation of subsection (a) of this section is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law. Except as otherwise provided in subsections (f)(2), (5) and (6) of this section, if the weapon involved is a firearm and the violation of this section is committed at premises for which a D permit has been issued under Chapter 4303, of the Revised Code or if the offense is committed aboard an aircraft, or with purpose to carry a concealed weapon aboard an aircraft, regardless of the weapon involved, carrying concealed weapons in violation of subsection (a) of this section is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law.

(2) A person shall not be arrested for a violation of subsection (a)(2) of this section solely because the person does not promptly produce a valid concealed handgun license. If a person is arrested for a violation of subsection (a)(2) of this section and is convicted of or pleads guilty to the violation, the offender shall be punished as follows:

A. The offender shall be guilty of a minor misdemeanor if both of the following apply:

1. Within ten days after the arrest, the offender presents a concealed handgun license, which license was valid at the time of the arrest to the law enforcement agency that employs the arresting officer.

2. At the time of the arrest, the offender was not knowingly in a place described in division (B) of Ohio R.C. 2923.126.

B. The offender shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined five hundred dollars (\$500.00) if all of the following apply:

1. The offender previously had been issued a concealed handgun license and that license expired within the two years immediately preceding the arrest.

2. Within forty-five days after the arrest, the offender presents any type of concealed handgun license to the law enforcement agency that employed the arresting officer, and the

offender waives in writing the offender's right to a speedy trial on the charge of the violation that is provided in Ohio R.C. 2945.71.

3. At the time of the commission of the offense, the offender was not knowingly in a place described in division (B) of Ohio R.C. 2923.126.

C. If subsections (f)(2)A. and B. and (f)(5) of this section do not apply, the offender shall be punished under subsection (f)(1) or (6) of this section.

(3) Carrying concealed weapons in violation of subsection (b)(1) of this section is a misdemeanor of the second degree.

(4) Carrying concealed weapons in violation of subsection (b)(2) or (b)(3) hereof is a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the offender has previously been convicted or pleaded guilty to a violation of subsection (b)(2) or (b)(3) hereof or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, carrying concealed weapons is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate state law. In addition to any other penalty or sanction imposed for a violation of subsection (b)(2) or (b)(3) hereof, the offender's concealed handgun license shall be suspended pursuant to Ohio R.C. 2923.128(A)(2).

(5) If a person being arrested for a violation of subsection (a)(2) of this section is an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States and is carrying a valid military identification card and documentation of successful completion of firearms training that meets or exceeds the training requirements described in division (G)(1) of Ohio R.C. 2923.125, and if at the time of the violation the person was not knowingly in a place described in division (B) of Ohio R.C. 2923.126, the officer shall not arrest the person for a violation of that division. If the person is not able to promptly produce a valid military identification card and documentation of successful completion of firearms training that meets or exceeds the training requirements described in division (G)(1) of Ohio R.C. 2923.125 and if the person is not in a place described in division (B) of Ohio R.C. 2923.126, the officer shall issue a citation and the offender shall be assessed a civil penalty of not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00). The citation shall be automatically dismissed and the civil penalty shall not be assessed if both of the following apply:

A. Within ten days after the issuance of the citation, the offender presents a valid military identification card and documentation of successful completion of firearms training that meets or exceeds the training requirements described in division (G)(1) of Ohio R.C. 2923.125, which were both valid at the time of the issuance of the citation to the law enforcement agency that employs the citing officer.

B. At the time of the citation, the offender was not knowingly in a place described in division (B) of Ohio R.C. 2923.126.

(6) If a person being arrested for a violation of subsection (a)(2) of this section is knowingly in a place described in division (B)(5) of Ohio R.C. 2923.126, and is not authorized to carry a handgun or have a handgun concealed on the person's person or concealed ready at hand under that division, the penalty shall be as follows:

A. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, if the person produces a valid concealed handgun license within ten days after the arrest and has not previously been convicted or pleaded guilty to a violation of subsection (a)(2) of this section, the person is guilty of a minor misdemeanor;

B. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, if the person has previously been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a violation of subsection (a)(2) of this section, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree;

C. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, if the person has previously been convicted of or pleaded guilty to two violations of subsection (a)(2) of this section, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree;

D. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, if the person has previously been convicted of or pleaded guilty to three or more violations of subsection (a)(2) of this section, or convicted of or pleaded guilty to any offense of violence, if the weapon involved is a firearm that is either loaded or for which the offender has ammunition ready at hand, or if the weapon involved is a dangerous ordnance, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree.

(g) If a law enforcement officer stops a person to question the person regarding a possible violation of this section, for a traffic stop, or for any other law enforcement purpose, if the person surrenders a firearm to the officer, either voluntarily or pursuant to a request or demand of the officer, and if the officer does not charge the person with a violation of this section or arrest the person for any offense, the person is not otherwise prohibited by law from possessing the firearm, and the firearm is not contraband, the officer shall return the firearm to the person at the termination of the stop. If a court orders a law enforcement officer to return a firearm to a person pursuant to the requirement set forth in this subsection, division (B) of Ohio R.C. 2923.163 applies.

(h) For purposes of this section, “deadly weapon” or “weapon” does not include any knife, razor, or cutting instrument if the instrument was not used as a weapon.

(ORC 2923.12)”

WHEREAS: That Section 549.04 of the codified ordinances of the City of Medina, Ohio presently reads as follows:

“549.04 IMPROPERLY HANDLING FIREARMS IN A MOTOR VEHICLE.

(a) No person shall knowingly transport or have a firearm in a motor vehicle, unless the person may lawfully possess that firearm under applicable law of this state or the United States, the firearm is unloaded, and the firearm is carried in one of the following ways:

- (1) In a closed package, box or case;
- (2) In a compartment which can be reached only by leaving the vehicle;
- (3) In plain sight and secured in a rack or holder made for the purpose;

(4) If the firearm is at least twenty-four inches in overall length as measured from the muzzle to the part of the stock furthest from the muzzle and if the barrel is at least eighteen inches in length, either in plain sight with the action open or the weapon stripped, or, if the firearm is of a type on which the action will not stay open or which cannot easily be stripped, in plain sight.

(b) No person who has been issued a concealed handgun license, or who is an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States and is carrying a valid military identification card and documentation of successful completion of firearms training that meets or exceeds the training requirements described in division (G)(1) of Ohio R.C. 2923.125, who is the driver or an occupant of a motor vehicle that is stopped as a result of a traffic stop or a stop for another law enforcement purpose or is the driver or an occupant of a commercial motor vehicle that is stopped by an employee of the motor carrier enforcement unit for the purposes defined in Ohio R.C. 5503.34, and who is transporting or has a loaded handgun in the motor vehicle or commercial motor vehicle in any manner, shall do any of the following:

(1) Before or at the time a law enforcement officer asks if the person is carrying a concealed handgun, knowingly fail to disclose that the person then possesses or has a loaded handgun in the motor vehicle, provided that it is not a violation of this division if the person fails to disclose that fact to an officer during the stop and the person already has notified another officer of that fact during the same stop;

(2) Before or at the time an employee of the motor carrier enforcement unit asks if the person is carrying a concealed handgun, knowingly fail to disclose that the person then possesses or has a loaded handgun in the commercial motor vehicle, provided that it is not a violation of this division if the person fails to disclose that fact to an employee of the unit during the stop and the person already has notified another employee of the unit of that fact during the same stop;

(3) Knowingly fail to remain in the motor vehicle while stopped, or knowingly fail to keep the person's hands in plain sight at any time after any law enforcement officer begins approaching the person while stopped and before the law enforcement officer leaves, unless the failure is pursuant to and in accordance with directions given by a law enforcement officer.

(4) Knowingly disregard or fail to comply with any lawful order of any law enforcement officer given while the motor vehicle is stopped, including, but not limited to, a specific order to the person to keep the person's hands in plain sight.

(c) (1) This section does not apply to any of the following:

A. An officer, agent or employee of this or any other state or the United States, or a law enforcement officer, when authorized to carry or have loaded or accessible firearms in motor vehicles and acting within the scope of the officer's, agent's or employee's duties;

B. Any person who is employed in this State, who is authorized to carry or have loaded or accessible firearms in motor vehicles, and who is subject to and in compliance with the requirements of Ohio R.C. 109.801, unless the appointing authority of the person has expressly specified that the exemption provided in subsection (c)(1)B. does not apply to the person.

(2) Subsection (a) of this section does not apply to a person who transports or possesses a handgun in a motor vehicle if, at the time of that transportation or possession, both of the following apply:

A. The person transporting or possessing the handgun has been issued a concealed handgun license that is valid at the time in question or the person is an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States and is carrying a valid military identification card and documentation of successful completion of firearms training that meets or exceeds the training requirements described in Ohio R.C. 2923.125(G)(1).

B. The person transporting or possessing the handgun is not knowingly in a place described in division (B) of Ohio R.C. 2923.126.

(3) Subsection (a) of this section does not apply to a person if all of the following apply:

A. The person possesses a valid all-purpose vehicle permit issued under Ohio R.C. 1533.103 by the Chief of the Division of Wildlife.

B. The person is on or in an all-purpose vehicle as defined in Ohio R.C. 1531.01 on private or publicly owned lands or on or in a motor vehicle during the open hunting season for a wild quadruped or game bird.

C. The person is on or in an all-purpose vehicle as defined in Ohio R.C. 1531.01 or a motor vehicle that is parked on a road that is owned or administered by the Division of Wildlife.

(d) (1) The affirmative defenses authorized in Section [549.02](#)(d)(1) and (2) are affirmative defenses to a charge under subsection (a) that involves a firearm other than a handgun.

(2) It is an affirmative defense to a charge under subsection (a) of improperly handling firearms in a motor vehicle that the actor transported or had the firearm in the motor vehicle for any lawful purpose and while the motor vehicle was on the actor's own property, provided that the affirmative defense is not available unless the person, immediately prior to arriving at the actor's own property, did not transport or possess the firearm in a motor vehicle in a manner prohibited by subsection (a) while the motor vehicle was being operated on a street, highway, or other public or private property used by the public for vehicular traffic.

(e) (1) No person who is charged with a violation of subsection (a) shall be required to obtain a concealed handgun license as a condition for the dismissal of the charge.

(2) If a person is convicted of, was convicted of, pleads guilty to, or has pleaded guilty to a violation of subsection (b) of this section as it existed prior to September 30, 2011, and the conduct that was the basis of the violation no longer would be a violation of subsection (b) of this section on or after September 30, 2011, or if a person is convicted of, was convicted of, pleads guilty to, or has pleaded guilty to a violation of subsection (a) of this section as the subsection existed prior to June 13, 2022, the person may file an application under Ohio R.C. 2953.35 requesting the expungement of the record of conviction.

(f) Whoever violates this section is guilty of improperly handling firearms in a motor vehicle. Violation of subsection (a) of this section is a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. A violation of subsection (b)(1) or (b)(2) of this section is a misdemeanor of the second degree. A violation of subsection (b)(3) or (4) of this section is a misdemeanor of the first degree or, if the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a violation of subsection (b)(3) or (4) of this section, a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law. In addition to any other penalty or sanction imposed for a misdemeanor violation of subsection (b)(3) or (4) of this section, the offender's concealed handgun license shall be suspended pursuant to Ohio R.C. 2923.128(A)(2).

(g) If a law enforcement officer stops a motor vehicle for a traffic stop or any other purpose, if any person in the motor vehicle surrenders a firearm to the officer, either voluntarily or pursuant to a request or demand of the officer, and if the officer does not charge the person with a violation of this section or arrest the person for any offense, the person is not otherwise prohibited by law from possessing the firearm, and the firearm is not contraband, the officer shall return the firearm to the person at the termination of the stop. If a court orders a law enforcement officer to return a firearm to a person pursuant to the requirement set forth in this subsection, division (B) of Ohio R.C. 2923.163 applies.

(h) As used in this section:

(1) "Commercial motor vehicle" has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 4506.25(A).

(2) "Motor carrier enforcement unit" means the motor carrier enforcement unit in the Department of Public Safety, Division of State Highway Patrol, that is created by Ohio R.C. 5503.34.

(3) "Motor vehicle", "street" and "highway" have the same meanings as in Ohio R.C. 4511.01.

(4) A. "Unloaded" means:

1. With respect to a firearm other than a firearm described in subsection (h)(4)B. of this section, that no ammunition is in the firearm in question, no magazine or speed loader containing ammunition is inserted into the firearm in question and one of the following applies:

a. There is no ammunition in a magazine or speed loader that is in the vehicle in question and that may be used with the firearm in question.

b. Any magazine or speed loader that contains ammunition and that may be used with the firearm in question is stored in a compartment within the vehicle in question that cannot be accessed without leaving the vehicle or is stored in a container that provides complete and separate enclosure.

2. For the purposes of subsection (h)(4)A.1.b. of this section, a "container that provides complete and separate enclosure" includes, but is not limited to, any of the following:

a. A package, box or case with multiple compartments, as long as the loaded magazine or speed loader and the firearm in question either are in separate compartments within the package, box, or case, or, if they are in the same compartment, the magazine or speed loader is contained within a separate enclosure in that compartment that does not contain the firearm and that closes using a snap, button, buckle, zipper, hook and loop closing mechanism, or other fastener that must be opened to access the contents or the firearm is contained within a separate enclosure of that nature in that compartment that does not contain the magazine or speed loader;

b. A pocket or other enclosure on the person of the person in question that closes using a snap, button, buckle, zipper, hook and loop closing mechanism, or other fastener that must be opened to access the contents.

3. For the purposes of subsection (h)(4)A. of this section, ammunition held in stripper-clips or in en-bloc clips is not considered ammunition that is loaded into a magazine or speed loader.

B. “Unloaded” means, with respect to a firearm employing a percussion cap, flintlock, or other obsolete ignition system, when the weapon is uncapped or when the priming charge is removed from the pan.

(i) Subsection (h)(4) of this section does not affect the authority of a person who has been issued a concealed handgun license that is valid at the time in question to have one or more magazines or speed loaders containing ammunition anywhere in a vehicle, without being transported as described in those divisions, so long as no ammunition is in a firearm, other than a handgun, in the vehicle other than as permitted under any other provision of this chapter. A person who has been issued a concealed handgun license that is valid at the time in question may have one or more magazines or speed loaders containing ammunition anywhere in a vehicle without further restriction, as long as no ammunition is in a firearm, other than a handgun, in the vehicle other than as permitted under any provision of this chapter.

(ORC 2923.16)”

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEDINA, OHIO:

SEC. 1: That Section 549.011 of the Codified Ordinances is hereby established to read as follows:

“549.011 CONCEALED HANDGUN LICENSE – EXEMPTIONS

- (a) As used in this section:
- (1) “Restricted firearm” means a firearm that is dangerous ordnance or that is a firearm that any law of this state prohibits the subject person from possessing, having, or carrying.
 - (2) “Qualifying adult” means a person who is all of the following:
 - A. Twenty-one years of age or older;
 - B. Not legally prohibited from possessing or receiving a

- firearm under 18 U.S.C. 922(g)(1) to (9) or under Ohio R.C. 2923.13 or any other Revised Code provision;
- C. Satisfies all of the criteria listed in divisions (D)(1)(a) to (j), (m), (p), (q), and (s) of Ohio R.C. 2923.125.
- (b) Notwithstanding any other Revised Code section to the contrary:
- (1) A person who is a qualifying adult shall not be required to obtain a concealed handgun license in order to carry in this state, under authority of subsection (b)(2) of this section, a concealed handgun that is not a restricted firearm.
- (2) Regardless of whether the person has been issued a concealed handgun license, subject to the limitation specified in subsections (b)(3) and (d) of this section, a person who is a qualifying adult may carry a concealed handgun that is not a restricted firearm anywhere in this state in which a person who has been issued a concealed handgun license may carry a concealed handgun.
- (3) The right of a person who is a qualifying adult to carry a concealed handgun that is not a restricted firearm that is granted under subsections (b)(1) and (2) of this section is the same right as is granted to a person who has been issued a concealed handgun license, and a qualifying adult who is granted the right is subject to the same restrictions as apply to a person who has been issued a concealed handgun license.
- (c) For purposes of any provision of Ohio R.C. 1547.69, 2923.12, or 2923.124 to 2923.1213, or any other section of the Revised Code, that refers to a concealed handgun license or a concealed handgun licensee, except when the context clearly indicates otherwise, all of the following apply:
- (1) A person who is a qualifying adult and is carrying or has, concealed on the person's person or ready at hand, a handgun that is not a restricted firearm shall be deemed to have been issued a valid concealed handgun license.
- (2) If the provision refers to a person having been issued a concealed handgun license or having been issued a concealed handgun license that is valid at a particular point in time, the provision shall be construed as automatically including a person who is a qualifying adult and who is carrying or has, concealed on the person's person or ready at hand, a handgun that is not a restricted firearm, as if the person had been issued a concealed handgun license or had been issued a concealed handgun license that is valid at the particular point in time.
- (3) If the provision in specified circumstances requires a concealed handgun license to engage in specified conduct, or prohibits a concealed handgun licensee from engaging in specified conduct, the provision shall be construed as applying in the same circumstances to a person who is a qualifying adult in the same manner as if the person was a concealed handgun licensee.
- (4) If the application of a provision to a person depends on whether the person is or is not a concealed handgun licensee, the provision shall be applied to a person who is a qualifying adult in the same manner as if the

person was a concealed handgun licensee.

(5) If the provision pertains to the imposition of a penalty or sanction for specified conduct and the penalty or sanction applicable to a person who engages in conduct depends on whether the person is or is not a concealed handgun licensee, the provision shall be applied to a person who is a qualifying adult in the same manner as if the person was a concealed handgun licensee.

- (d) The concealed handgun license expiration provisions of Ohio R.C. 2923.125 and 2923.1213, and the concealed handgun license suspension and revocation provisions of Ohio R.C. 2923.128, do not apply with respect to a person who is a qualifying adult unless the person has been issued a concealed handgun license. If a person is a qualifying adult and the person thereafter comes within any category of persons specified in 18 U.S.C. 922(g)(1) to (9) or in Ohio R.C. 2923.13 or any other Revised Code provision so that the person as a result is legally prohibited under the applicable provision from possessing or receiving a firearm, both of the following apply automatically and immediately upon the person coming within that category:

(1) Subsection (b) of this section and the authority and right to carry a concealed handgun that are described in that subsection do not apply to the person.

(2) The person no longer is deemed to have been issued a concealed handgun license as described in subsection (c)(1) of this section, and the provisions of subsections (c)(1) to (5) of this section no longer apply to the person in the same manner as if the person had been issued, possessed, or produced a valid concealed handgun license or was a concealed handgun licensee.”

SEC. 2: That Section 549.02 of the Codified Ordinances is hereby amended to read as follows:

“549.02 CARRYING CONCEALED WEAPONS.

(a) No person shall knowingly carry or have, concealed on the person’s person or concealed ready at hand, any of the following:

- (1) A deadly weapon other than a handgun;
- (2) A handgun other than a dangerous ordnance;
- (3) A dangerous ordnance.

(b) No person who has been issued a concealed handgun license, shall do any of the following:

(1) If the person is stopped for a law enforcement purpose and is carrying a concealed handgun, before or at the time a law enforcement officer asks if the person is carrying a concealed handgun, knowingly fail to disclose that the person then is carrying a concealed

handgun, provided that it is not a violation of this section if the person fails to disclose that fact to an officer during the stop and the person already has notified another officer of that fact during the same stop;

(2) If the person is stopped for a law enforcement purpose and is carrying a concealed handgun, knowingly fail to keep the person's hands in plain sight at any time after any law enforcement officer begins approaching the person while stopped and before the law enforcement officer leaves, unless the failure is pursuant to and in accordance with directions given by a law enforcement officer;

(3) If the person is stopped for a law enforcement purpose, if the person is carrying a concealed handgun, and if the person is approached by any law enforcement officer while stopped, knowingly remove or attempt to remove the loaded handgun from the holster, pocket, or other place in which the person is carrying it, knowingly grasp or hold the loaded handgun, or knowingly have contact with the loaded handgun by touching it with the person's hands or fingers at any time after the law enforcement officer begins approaching and before the law enforcement officer leaves, unless the person removes, attempts to remove, grasps, holds, or has contact with the loaded handgun pursuant to and in accordance with directions given by the law enforcement officer.

(4) If the person is stopped for a law enforcement purpose and is carrying a concealed handgun, knowingly disregard or fail to comply with any lawful order of any law enforcement officer given while the person is stopped, including, but not limited to, a specific order to the person to keep the person's hands in plain sight.

(c) (1) This section does not apply to any of the following:

A. An officer, agent or employee of this or any other state or the United States, or to a law enforcement officer, who is authorized to carry concealed weapons or dangerous ordnance, or is authorized to carry handguns and is acting within the scope of the officer's, agent's or employee's duties;

B. Any person who is employed in this State, who is authorized to carry concealed weapons or dangerous ordnance or is authorized to carry handguns, and who is subject to and in compliance with the requirements of Ohio R.C. 109.801 unless the appointing authority of the person has expressly specified that the exemption provided in subsection (c)(1)B. hereof does not apply to the person.

C. A person's transportation or storage of a firearm, other than a firearm described in divisions (G) to (M) of Ohio R.C. 2923.11 in a motor vehicle for any lawful purpose if the firearm is not on the actor's person;

D. A person's storage or possession of a firearm, other than a firearm described in divisions (G) to (M) of Ohio R.C. 2923.11 in the actor's own home for any lawful purpose.

(2) Subsection (a)(2) of this section does not apply to any person who has been issued a concealed handgun license that is valid at the time of the alleged carrying or possession of a

handgun or who, at the time of the alleged carrying or possession of a handgun, is an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States and is carrying a valid military identification card and documentation of successful completion of firearms training that meets or exceeds the training requirements described in Ohio R.C. 2923.125(G)(1), unless the person knowingly is in a place described in Ohio R.C. 2923.126(B).

(d) It is an affirmative defense to a charge under subsection (a)(1) of this section of carrying or having control of a weapon other than a handgun and other than a dangerous ordnance, that the actor was not otherwise prohibited by law from having the weapon, and that any of the following applies:

(1) The weapon was carried or kept ready at hand by the actor for defensive purposes, while the actor was engaged in or was going to or from the actor's lawful business or occupation, which business or occupation was of a character or was necessarily carried on in a manner or at a time or place as to render the actor particularly susceptible to criminal attack, such as would justify a prudent person in going armed.

(2) The weapon was carried or kept ready at hand by the actor for defensive purposes, while the actor was engaged in a lawful activity and had reasonable cause to fear a criminal attack upon the actor, a member of the actor's family, or the actor's home, such as would justify a prudent person in going armed.

(3) The weapon was carried or kept ready at hand by the actor for any lawful purpose and while in the actor's own home.

(e) (1) No person who is charged with a violation of this section shall be required to obtain a concealed handgun license as a condition for the dismissal of the charge.

(2) If a person is convicted of, was convicted of, pleads guilty to, or has pleaded guilty to a violation of subsection (b)(1) of this section as it existed prior to June 13, 2022, the person may file an application under Ohio R.C. 2953.35 requesting the expungement of the record of conviction.

(f) (1) Whoever violates this section is guilty of carrying concealed weapons. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection or subsections (f)(2), (5) and (6) of this section, carrying concealed weapons in violation of subsection (a) of this section is a misdemeanor of the first degree. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection or subsections (f)(2), (5) and (6) of this section, if the offender previously has been convicted of a violation of this section or of any offense of violence, if the weapon involved is a firearm that is either loaded or for which the offender has ammunition ready at hand, or if the weapon involved is dangerous ordnance, carrying concealed weapons in violation of subsection (a) of this section is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law. Except as otherwise provided in subsections (f)(2), (5) and (6) of this section, if the weapon involved is a firearm and the violation of this section is committed at premises for which a D permit has been issued under Chapter 4303, of the Revised Code or if the offense is committed aboard an aircraft, or with purpose to carry a concealed weapon aboard an aircraft, regardless of the weapon involved, carrying concealed weapons in

violation of subsection (a) of this section is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law.

(2) A person shall not be arrested for a violation of subsection (a)(2) of this section solely because the person does not promptly produce a valid concealed handgun license. If a person is arrested for a violation of subsection (a)(2) of this section and is convicted of or pleads guilty to the violation, the offender shall be punished as follows:

A. The offender shall be guilty of a minor misdemeanor if both of the following apply:

1. Within ten days after the arrest, the offender presents a concealed handgun license, which license was valid at the time of the arrest to the law enforcement agency that employs the arresting officer.

2. At the time of the arrest, the offender was not knowingly in a place described in division (B) of Ohio R.C. 2923.126.

B. The offender shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined five hundred dollars (\$500.00) if all of the following apply:

1. The offender previously had been issued a concealed handgun license and that license expired within the two years immediately preceding the arrest.

2. Within forty-five days after the arrest, the offender presents any type of concealed handgun license to the law enforcement agency that employed the arresting officer, and the offender waives in writing the offender's right to a speedy trial on the charge of the violation that is provided in Ohio R.C. 2945.71.

3. At the time of the commission of the offense, the offender was not knowingly in a place described in division (B) of Ohio R.C. 2923.126.

C. If subsections (f)(2)A. and B. and (f)(5) of this section do not apply, the offender shall be punished under subsection (f)(1) or (6) of this section.

(3) Carrying concealed weapons in violation of subsection (b)(1) of this section is a misdemeanor of the second degree.

(4) Carrying concealed weapons in violation of subsection (b)(2) or (b)(3) hereof is a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the offender has previously been convicted or pleaded guilty to a violation of subsection (b)(2) or (b)(3) hereof or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, carrying concealed weapons is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate state law. In addition to any other penalty or sanction imposed for a violation of subsection (b)(2) or (b)(3) hereof, the offender's concealed handgun license shall be suspended pursuant to Ohio R.C. 2923.128(A)(2).

(5) If a person being arrested for a violation of subsection (a)(2) of this section is an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States and is carrying a valid military identification card and documentation of successful completion of firearms training that meets or exceeds the training requirements described in division (G)(1) of Ohio R.C. 2923.125, and if at

the time of the violation the person was not knowingly in a place described in division (B) of Ohio R.C. 2923.126, the officer shall not arrest the person for a violation of that division. If the person is not able to promptly produce a valid military identification card and documentation of successful completion of firearms training that meets or exceeds the training requirements described in division (G)(1) of Ohio R.C. 2923.125 and if the person is not in a place described in division (B) of Ohio R.C. 2923.126, the officer shall issue a citation and the offender shall be assessed a civil penalty of not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00). The citation shall be automatically dismissed and the civil penalty shall not be assessed if both of the following apply:

A. Within ten days after the issuance of the citation, the offender presents a valid military identification card and documentation of successful completion of firearms training that meets or exceeds the training requirements described in division (G)(1) of Ohio R.C. 2923.125, which were both valid at the time of the issuance of the citation to the law enforcement agency that employs the citing officer.

B. At the time of the citation, the offender was not knowingly in a place described in division (B) of Ohio R.C. 2923.126.

(6) If a person being arrested for a violation of subsection (a)(2) of this section is knowingly in a place described in division (B)(5) of Ohio R.C. 2923.126, and is not authorized to carry a handgun or have a handgun concealed on the person's person or concealed ready at hand under that division, the penalty shall be as follows:

A. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, if the person produces a valid concealed handgun license within ten days after the arrest and has not previously been convicted or pleaded guilty to a violation of subsection (a)(2) of this section, the person is guilty of a minor misdemeanor;

B. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, if the person has previously been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a violation of subsection (a)(2) of this section, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree;

C. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, if the person has previously been convicted of or pleaded guilty to two violations of subsection (a)(2) of this section, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree;

D. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, if the person has previously been convicted of or pleaded guilty to three or more violations of subsection (a)(2) of this section, or convicted of or pleaded guilty to any offense of violence, if the weapon involved is a firearm that is either loaded or for which the offender has ammunition ready at hand, or if the weapon involved is a dangerous ordnance, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree.

(g) If a law enforcement officer stops a person to question the person regarding a possible violation of this section, for a traffic stop, or for any other law enforcement purpose, if the person surrenders a firearm to the officer, either voluntarily or pursuant to a request or demand of the officer, and if the officer does not charge the person with a violation of this section or arrest the person for any offense, the person is not otherwise prohibited by law from possessing the

firearm, and the firearm is not contraband, the officer shall return the firearm to the person at the termination of the stop. If a court orders a law enforcement officer to return a firearm to a person pursuant to the requirement set forth in this subsection, division (B) of Ohio R.C. 2923.163 applies.

(h) For purposes of this section, “deadly weapon” or “weapon” does not include any knife, razor, or cutting instrument if the instrument was not used as a weapon.
(ORC 2923.12)”

SEC. 3: That Section 549.04 of the Codified Ordinances is hereby amended to read as follows:

“549.04 IMPROPERLY HANDLING FIREARMS IN A MOTOR VEHICLE.

(a) No person shall knowingly transport or have a loaded firearm in a motor vehicle in such a manner that the firearm is accessible to the operator or any passenger without leaving the vehicle.

(b) No person shall knowingly transport or have a firearm in a motor vehicle, unless the person may lawfully possess that firearm under applicable law of this state or the United States, the firearm is unloaded, and the firearm is carried in one of the following ways:

- (1) In a closed package, box or case;
- (2) In a compartment which can be reached only by leaving the vehicle;
- (3) In plain sight and secured in a rack or holder made for the purpose;

(4) If the firearm is at least twenty-four inches in overall length as measured from the muzzle to the part of the stock furthest from the muzzle and if the barrel is at least eighteen inches in length, either in plain sight with the action open or the weapon stripped, or, if the firearm is of a type on which the action will not stay open or which cannot easily be stripped, in plain sight.

(c) No person shall knowingly transport or have a loaded handgun in a motor vehicle if, at the time of that transportation or possession, any of the following applies:

(1) The person is under the influence of alcohol, a drug of abuse, or a combination of them.

(2) The person’s whole blood, blood serum or plasma, breath, or urine contains a concentration of alcohol, a listed controlled substance, or a listed metabolite of a controlled substance prohibited for persons operating a vehicle, as specified in Ohio R.C. 4511.19(A), regardless of whether the person at the time of the transportation or possession as described in this subsection is the operator of or a passenger in the motor vehicle.

(d) No person who has been issued a concealed handgun license, or who is an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States and is carrying a valid military identification

card and documentation of successful completion of firearms training that meets or exceeds the training requirements described in division (G)(1) of Ohio R.C. 2923.125, who is the driver or an occupant of a motor vehicle that is stopped as a result of a traffic stop or a stop for another law enforcement purpose or is the driver or an occupant of a commercial motor vehicle that is stopped by an employee of the motor carrier enforcement unit for the purposes defined in Ohio R.C. 5503.34, and who is transporting or has a loaded handgun in the motor vehicle or commercial motor vehicle in any manner, shall do any of the following:

(1) Before or at the time a law enforcement officer asks if the person is carrying a concealed handgun, knowingly fail to disclose that the person then possesses or has a loaded handgun in the motor vehicle, provided that it is not a violation of this division if the person fails to disclose that fact to an officer during the stop and the person already has notified another officer of that fact during the same stop;

(2) Before or at the time an employee of the motor carrier enforcement unit asks if the person is carrying a concealed handgun, knowingly fail to disclose that the person then possesses or has a loaded handgun in the commercial motor vehicle, provided that it is not a violation of this division if the person fails to disclose that fact to an employee of the unit during the stop and the person already has notified another employee of the unit of that fact during the same stop;

(3) Knowingly fail to remain in the motor vehicle while stopped, or knowingly fail to keep the person's hands in plain sight at any time after any law enforcement officer begins approaching the person while stopped and before the law enforcement officer leaves, unless the failure is pursuant to and in accordance with directions given by a law enforcement officer.

(4) Knowingly have contact with the loaded handgun by touching it with the person's hands or fingers in the motor vehicle at any time after the law enforcement officer begins approaching and before the law enforcement officer leaves, unless the person has contact with the loaded handgun pursuant to and in accordance with directions given by the law enforcement officer.

(5) Knowingly disregard or fail to comply with any lawful order of any law enforcement officer given while the motor vehicle is stopped, including, but not limited to, a specific order to the person to keep the person's hands in plain sight.

(e) (1) Subsections (a), (b) and (d) of this section do not apply to any of the following:

A. An officer, agent or employee of this or any other state or the United States, or a law enforcement officer, when authorized to carry or have loaded or accessible firearms in motor vehicles and acting within the scope of the officer's, agent's or employee's duties;

B. **Any person who is employed in this State, who is authorized to carry or have loaded or accessible firearms in motor vehicles, and who is subject to and in compliance with the requirements of Ohio R.C. 109.801, unless the appointing authority of the person has expressly specified that the exemption provided herein does not apply to the person.**

(2) Subsection (a) **and (b)** of this section does not apply to a person who transports or possesses a handgun in a motor vehicle if, at the time of that transportation or possession, both of the following apply:

A. The person transporting or possessing the handgun has been issued a concealed handgun license that is valid at the time in question or the person is an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States and is carrying a valid military identification card and documentation of successful completion of firearms training that meets or exceeds the training requirements described in Ohio R.C. 2923.125(G)(1).

B. The person transporting or possessing the handgun is not knowingly in a place described in division (B) of Ohio R.C. 2923.126.

(3) Subsection (a) **and (b)** of this section does not apply to a person if all of the following apply:

A. The person possesses a valid all-purpose vehicle permit issued under Ohio R.C. 1533.103 by the Chief of the Division of Wildlife.

B. The person is on or in an all-purpose vehicle as defined in Ohio R.C. 1531.01 on private or publicly owned lands or on or in a motor vehicle during the open hunting season for a wild quadruped or game bird.

C. The person is on or in an all-purpose vehicle as defined in Ohio R.C. 1531.01 or a motor vehicle that is parked on a road that is owned or administered by the Division of Wildlife.

(f) (1) The affirmative defenses authorized in Section [549.02\(d\)\(1\)](#) and (2) are affirmative defenses to a charge under subsection (a) that involves a firearm other than a handgun.

(2) It is an affirmative defense to a charge under subsections (a) **and (b)** of improperly handling firearms in a motor vehicle that the actor transported or had the firearm in the motor vehicle for any lawful purpose and while the motor vehicle was on the actor's own property, provided that the affirmative defense is not available unless the person, immediately prior to arriving at the actor's own property, did not transport or possess the firearm in a motor vehicle in a manner prohibited by subsections (a) **and (b)** while the motor vehicle was being operated on a street, highway, or other public or private property used by the public for vehicular traffic.

(g) (1) No person who is charged with a violation of subsection (a), **(b) or (c)**, shall be required to obtain a concealed handgun license as a condition for the dismissal of the charge.

(2) If a person is convicted of, was convicted of, pleads guilty to, or has pleaded guilty to a violation of subsection (d) of this section as it existed prior to September 30, 2011, and the conduct that was the basis of the violation no longer would be a violation of subsection (d) of this section on or after September 30, 2011, or if a person is convicted of, was convicted of, pleads guilty to, or has pleaded guilty to a violation of subsections **(d)(1) or (2)** of this section as **it existed prior to the effective date of this amendment**, the person may file an application under Ohio R.C. 2953.37 requesting the expungement of the record of conviction.

If a person is convicted of, was convicted of, pleads guilty to, or has pleaded guilty to a violation of subsection (a) or (b) of this section as the subsection existed prior to September 30, 2011, and if the conduct that was the basis of the violation no longer would be a violation of subsections (a) or (b) of this section on or after September 30, 2011, due to the application of subsection (e)(2) of this section as it exists on and after September 30, 2011, the person may file an application under Ohio R.C. 2953.37 requesting the expungement of the record of conviction.

(h) Whoever violates this section is guilty of improperly handling firearms in a motor vehicle. A violation of subsection (b) of this section is a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. **A violation of subsection (c) of this section is a felony of the fifth degree or, if the loaded handgun is concealed on the person's person, a felony of the fourth degree.** A violation of subsection (d)(1) or (2) of this section is a misdemeanor of the second degree. **A violation of subsection (d)(4) of this section is a felony of the fifth degree.** A violation of subsection (d)(3) or (5) of this section is a misdemeanor of the first degree or, if the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a violation of subsection (d)(3) or (5) of this section, a felony **of the fifth degree.** In addition to any other penalty or sanction imposed for a misdemeanor violation of subsection (d)(3) or (5) of this section, the offender's concealed handgun license shall be suspended pursuant to Ohio R.C. 2923.128(A)(2). **A violation of division (a) of this section is a felony of the fourth degree.**

(i) If a law enforcement officer stops a motor vehicle for a traffic stop or any other purpose, if any person in the motor vehicle surrenders a firearm to the officer, either voluntarily or pursuant to a request or demand of the officer, and if the officer does not charge the person with a violation of this section or arrest the person for any offense, the person is not otherwise prohibited by law from possessing the firearm, and the firearm is not contraband, the officer shall return the firearm to the person at the termination of the stop. If a court orders a law enforcement officer to return a firearm to a person pursuant to the requirement set forth in this subsection, division (B) of Ohio R.C. 2923.163 applies.

(j) As used in this section:

(1) "Commercial motor vehicle" has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 4506.25(A).

(2) "Motor carrier enforcement unit" means the motor carrier enforcement unit in the Department of Public Safety, Division of State Highway Patrol, that is created by Ohio R.C. 5503.34.

(3) "Motor vehicle", "street" and "highway" have the same meanings as in Ohio R.C. 4511.01.

(4) A. "Unloaded" means:

1. With respect to a firearm other than a firearm described in subsection (j)(4)B. of this section, that no ammunition is in the firearm in question, no magazine or speed loader containing ammunition is inserted into the firearm in question and one of the following applies:

a. There is no ammunition in a magazine or speed loader that is in the vehicle in question and that may be used with the firearm in question.

b. Any magazine or speed loader that contains ammunition and that may be used with the firearm in question is stored in a compartment within the vehicle in question that cannot be accessed without leaving the vehicle or is stored in a container that provides complete and separate enclosure.

2. For the purposes of subsection (j)(4)A.1.b. of this section, a “container that provides complete and separate enclosure” includes, but is not limited to, any of the following:

a. A package, box or case with multiple compartments, as long as the loaded magazine or speed loader and the firearm in question either are in separate compartments within the package, box, or case, or, if they are in the same compartment, the magazine or speed loader is contained within a separate enclosure in that compartment that does not contain the firearm and that closes using a snap, button, buckle, zipper, hook and loop closing mechanism, or other fastener that must be opened to access the contents or the firearm is contained within a separate enclosure of that nature in that compartment that does not contain the magazine or speed loader;

b. A pocket or other enclosure on the person of the person in question that closes using a snap, button, buckle, zipper, hook and loop closing mechanism, or other fastener that must be opened to access the contents.

3. For the purposes of subsection (j)(4)A. of this section, ammunition held in stripper-clips or in en-bloc clips is not considered ammunition that is loaded into a magazine or speed loader.

B. “Unloaded” means, with respect to a firearm employing a percussion cap, flintlock, or other obsolete ignition system, when the weapon is uncapped or when the priming charge is removed from the pan.

(k) Subsection (j)(4) of this section does not affect the authority of a person who has been issued a concealed handgun license that is valid at the time in question to have one or more magazines or speed loaders containing ammunition anywhere in a vehicle, without being transported as described in those divisions, so long as no ammunition is in a firearm, other than a handgun, in the vehicle other than as permitted under any other provision of this chapter **or Ohio R.C. Chapter 2923**. A person who has been issued a concealed handgun license that is valid at the time in question may have one or more magazines or speed loaders containing ammunition anywhere in a vehicle without further restriction, as long as no ammunition is in a firearm, other than a handgun, in the vehicle other than as permitted under any provision of this chapter **or Ohio R.C. Chapter 2923**.

(ORC 2923.16)”

SEC. 4: That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the passage of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of

this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with the law.

SEC. 5: That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect at the earliest period allowed by law.

PASSED: October 15, 2024

SIGNED: John M. Coyne, III
President of Council

ATTEST: Kathy Patton
Clerk of Council

APPROVED: October 16, 2024

SIGNED: Dennis Hanwell
Mayor