

MISDEMEANOR. STATE LAW PRESCRIBES A MAXIMUM PENALTY OF ELEVEN (11) MONTHS AND TWENTY-NINE (29) DAYS AND A FINE NOT TO EXCEED TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$2,500) FOR CARRYING WEAPONS ON OR IN PUBLIC RECREATIONAL PROPERTY.

House Bill 716 and Senate Bill 976 (Public Chapter No. 428) of the 106th General Assembly removed the following prohibitions in public parks –

Tennessee Code Annotated, § 39-17-1311, essentially made carrying weapons in municipally owned parks, playgrounds, civic centers, or other building facilities a Class A misdemeanor.

Public Chapter No. 428 of the 106th General Assembly permits municipal and county governments to prohibit, by resolution, the carrying of handguns while within a public park or other recreational area that is owned or operated by a county, a municipality, or their instrumentalities. The City of Portland desires to continue prohibiting the carrying of handguns in municipal parks, natural areas, historic parks, nature trails, campgrounds, forests, greenways, waterways, or other similar public places.

Any person authorized to carry a handgun under *Tennessee Code Annotated*, § 39-17-1351, is prohibited from possessing any handgun while within a public park (wildlife management area, natural area, historic park, nature trail, campground, forest, greenway, waterway, or other similar public place) that is owned or operated by the City of Portland or any of its instrumentalities. This prohibition of handguns within any municipal park applies to the entire park, notwithstanding the provisions of *T.C.A.* § 39-17-1311(b)(1)(I).