



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND PUBLIC PROTECTION**  
**DIVISION OF STATE POLICE**  
**Special Licensing & Firearms Unit**



TO: Connecticut NRA Basics of Pistol Shooting Instructors  
FROM: Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection ("DESPP")  
DATE: March 18, 2024  
RE: NRA Instructors -- New Legislative Requirements

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The NRA Basics of Pistol Shooting, which includes a live fire component, has previously been an accepted instructional method to satisfy General Statutes § 29-28 when applying for a pistol permit. However, Public Act 23-53, which was effective on October 1, 2023, has created new requirements for the training portion of the pistol permit application process and will affect anyone applying on or after July 1, 2024. Public Act 23-53 not only puts a two-year expiration date on training certificates, but it also mandates instruction on state law requirements pertaining to: 1) safe storage in the home and in vehicles; 2) lawful use of firearms; and 3) lawful carrying of firearms in public.

The NRA Basics of Pistol Shooting, which met the previous standard to obtain a pistol permit, will continue to be accepted after July 1, 2024. However, in order to satisfy Public Act 23-53, additional training will be required. To that end, DESPP will provide a standardized lesson plan addressing the new mandated requirements, which must be taught in conjunction with the NRA Basics of Pistol Shooting course. Along with that plan, DESPP will also provide an addendum, which must be signed by both the instructor and the student, acknowledging that the additional training was taught. That addendum must accompany the applicants' NRA Basics of Pistol Shooting Certificate of Completion in their application to the local issuing authorities. The local issuing authorities will be instructed not to accept an application without this signed addendum after July 1, 2024.

DESPP will post the lesson plan as well as the addendum on our website as soon as they are completed. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we navigate through these new mandates designed to make the citizens of Connecticut more cognizant of firearm laws and safe practices.

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