

**ORDINANCE NO. 502
(AS AMENDED THROUGH 502.1)
AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO.
502 RELATING TO USE AND DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS BY MINORS**

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Riverside, State of California, do ordain as follows:

Section 1. The word "firearm" as used herein includes the following: cannon, gun, pistol, revolver, automatic pistol, rifle, shotgun, air gun, pellet gun and any other weapon designed to discharge one or more projectiles propelled by the expansion of gas.

Section 2. It shall be unlawful for any person under the age of 18 years to shoot or discharge a firearm in the unincorporated territory of the County of Riverside unless such person (a) holds and has in his possession a permit issued by the County of Riverside as hereinafter provided, or (b) is in the company of a parent, guardian or other adult person having responsibility for his conduct, or (c) holds and has in his possession a current valid hunting license issued pursuant to law.

Section 3. The permit required hereunder shall be issued by the Sheriff, subject to the limitations of this ordinance, to any person who presents a certificate of competency, as provided in this ordinance.

Section 4. The Sheriff shall provide for a course of instruction in the safe handling of firearms, and for this purpose may cooperate with any reputable association or organization having as one of its objectives the promotions of safety in the handling of firearms.

The Sheriff may designate any person found by him to be competent to give instructions in the handling of firearms. A person so appointed shall give such course of instruction and upon the successful completion thereof shall issue to the person instructed a certificate of competency in the safe handling of firearms.

Section 5. The Sheriff may revoke a permit issued by him whenever the holder has violated any law or ordinance relating to the possession, use or discharge of a firearm or has demonstrated his unfitness to exercise the privilege granted there under, and may refuse on like grounds to issue such permit. Every revoked permit shall be promptly surrendered to the Sheriff.

Section 6. The provisions of this ordinance shall not apply to the following persons:

- a. Any peace officer or member of the armed services while acting in the lawful discharge of his duties;

- b. Any person using a firearm in the lawful defense of himself, another person or property;
- c. Any person discharging a firearm or causing a firearm to be discharged, under adult supervision, at an established firing, shooting or target range, a properly constructed indoor or outdoor home range on private property.

Section 7. It shall be unlawful for any person to violate any provision of this ordinance. Any person violating any provision of this ordinance shall be deemed guilty of an infraction or misdemeanor as hereinafter specified. Such person shall be deemed guilty of a separate offense for each and every day or portion thereof during which any violation of any of the provisions of this ordinance is committed, continued, or permitted

Any person so convicted shall be: (1) guilty of an infraction offense and punished by a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for a first violation; (2) guilty of an infraction offense and punished by a fine not exceeding two hundred dollars (\$200.00) for a second violation. The third and any additional violations shall constitute a misdemeanor offense and shall be punishable by a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or six (6) months in jail, or both. Notwithstanding the above, a first offense may be charged and prosecuted as a misdemeanor. Payment of any penalty herein shall not relieve a person from the responsibility for correcting the violation.

Adopted: 502 02/08/1965 (Eff: 03/09/1965)

Amended: 502.1 Item 3.4 of 05/02/1989 (Eff: 06/01/1989)