

## **NEW PISTOL PURCHASE PERMIT APPLICATION PROCESS**

In order to maintain compliance with legislative-mandated gun permit application changes that became effective December 01, 2015, the Haywood County Sheriff's Office has implemented new procedures.

The new North Carolina General Statute 14-404 (e1) requires applicants for pistol purchase permits to sign a release of information authorizing the disclosure of any records concerning the mental health or capacity of the applicant. While this is a new requirement for pistol purchase permit applicants, N.C. G.S. 14-415.13 (concealed handgun permit section), has long contained a similar provision.

To apply for a pistol purchase permit at the Sheriff's Office, our citizens are asked to follow these procedures:

1. Come to the Sheriff's Office between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday to complete a pistol purchase permit application. As before, a valid North Carolina driver's license or state-issued identification card with current address is required.
2. Pay the state mandated \$5 non-refundable pistol purchase permit application fee for each permit sought.
3. Complete the Release of Court Orders Concerning Mental Health and Capacity for Pistol Purchase Permit application. A notary at the Sheriff's Office will notarize the document on-site at no charge to the applicant.
4. When the Clerk of Court and Sheriff's Office have completed the legislative-mandated background processes, the applicant will be notified by telephone or email to return to the Sheriff's Office between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, presenting the same identification used at the time of application.

All state law requirements for handgun permits still apply.

Because the release of court orders requires a notary signature and seal, the Sheriff's Office is temporarily suspending on-line pistol purchase permit applications.

The Haywood County Sheriff's Office is located at 1620 Brown Avenue, Waynesville. For additional information, please contact our office at (828) 452-6768.