

TITLE XVI.
Police Regulations.

CHAPTER 164.

UNIFORM MACHINE GUN ACT.

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164.01 Definitions. (1) "Machine gun" applies to and includes a weapon of any description by whatever name known from which more than two shots or bullets may be discharged by a single function of the firing device.

(2) "Crime of violence" applies to and includes any of the following crimes or an attempt to commit any of the same, namely, murder, manslaughter, kidnaping, rape, mayhem, assault to do great bodily harm, robbery, burglary, housebreaking, breaking and entering, and larceny.

(3) "Person" applies to and includes firm, partnership, association or corporation.

164.02 Use of machine gun is separate crime. Possession or use of a machine gun in the perpetration or attempted perpetration of a crime of violence is hereby declared to be a crime punishable by imprisonment in the state penitentiary for a term of not less than 20 years.

164.03 Possession for aggressive purpose. Possession or use of a machine gun for offensive or aggressive purpose is hereby declared to be a crime punishable by imprisonment in the state penitentiary for a term of not less than 10 years.

164.04 Possession when presumed for aggressive purpose. Possession or use of a machine gun shall be presumed to be for offensive or aggressive purpose:

(1) When the machine gun is on premises not owned or rented, for bona fide permanent residence or business occupancy, by the person in whose possession the machine gun may be found; or

(2) When in the possession of, or used by, an unnaturalized foreign-born person, or a person, who has been convicted of a crime of violence in any court of record, state or federal, of the United States of America, its territories or insular possessions; or

(3) When the machine gun is of the kind described in section 164.08 and has not been registered as in said section required; or

(4) When empty or loaded pistol shells of 30 (.30 in. or 7.63 mm.) or larger caliber which have been used or are susceptible of use in the machine gun are found in the immediate vicinity thereof.

164.05 Presumptions from presence of gun. The presence of a machine gun in any room, boat, or vehicle shall be evidence of the possession or use of the machine gun by each person occupying the room, boat, or vehicle where the weapon is found.

164.06 Exceptions. Nothing contained in this chapter shall prohibit or interfere with the manufacture for, and sale of, machine guns to the military forces or the peace officers of the United States or of any political subdivision thereof, or the transportation required for that purpose; the possession of a machine gun for scientific purpose, or the possession of a machine gun not usable as a weapon and possessed as a curiosity, ornament, or keepsake; the possession of a machine gun other than one adapted to use pistol cartridges of 30 (.30 in. or 7.63 mm.) or larger caliber, for a purpose manifestly not aggressive or offensive.

164.07 Manufacturer to register machine guns. Every manufacturer shall keep a register of all machine guns manufactured or handled by him. This register shall show the model and serial number, date of manufacture, sale, loan, gift, delivery or receipt, of every machine gun, the name, address, and occupation of the person to whom the machine gun was sold, loaned, given or delivered, or from whom it was received; and the purpose for which it was acquired by the person to whom the machine gun was sold, loaned, given or delivered, or from whom received. Upon demand every manufacturer shall permit any marshal, sheriff or police officer to inspect his entire stock of machine guns, parts, and supplies therefor, and shall produce the register, herein required, for inspection. A violation of any provision of this section shall be punishable by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars or more than five hundred dollars.

164.08 Owner to register machine gun. Every machine gun now in this state adapted to use pistol cartridges of 30 (.30 in. or 7.63 mm.) or larger caliber shall be registered by the owner in the office of the secretary of state, on the effective date of this act [May 15, 1933], and annually thereafter. If acquired hereafter it shall be registered within 24 hours after its acquisition. Blanks for registration shall be prepared by the secretary of state, and furnished upon application. To comply with this section the application as filed must show the model and serial number of the gun, the name, address and occupation of the person in possession, and from whom and the purpose for which, the gun was acquired. The registration data shall not be subject to inspection by the public. Any person failing to register any gun as required by this section, shall be presumed to possess the same for offensive or aggressive purpose.

164.09 Warrant to search for machine gun. Warrant to search any house or place and seize any machine gun adapted to use pistol cartridges of 30 (.30 in. or 7.63 mm.) or larger caliber possessed in violation of this chapter, may issue in the same manner and under the same restrictions as provided by law for stolen property, and any court of record, upon application of the district attorney, shall have jurisdiction and power to order any machine gun, thus or otherwise legally seized, to be confiscated, and either destroyed or delivered to a peace officer of the state or a political subdivision thereof.

[164.10 Stats. 1949 repealed by 1951 c. 261 s. 10]

164.11 Uniformity of interpretation. This chapter shall be so interpreted and construed as to effectuate its general purpose to make uniform the law of those states which enact it.

164.20 Machine guns and other weapons; use in certain cases; penalty. (1) No person shall sell, possess, use or transport any machine gun or other full automatic firearm, nor shall any person sell, possess, use, or transport any bomb, hand grenade, projectile, shell or other container of any kind or character into which tear gas or any similar substance is used or placed for use to cause bodily discomfort, panic, or damage to property.

(2) Any person violating any of the provisions of this section shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for a term of not less than one year nor more than three years.

(3) The provisions of this section shall not apply to the sale, possession, use or transportation of any such weapons or containers to or by any national guardsman in line of duty, any civil enforcement officer of the state or of any city or county, or any person duly authorized by the chief of police of any city or the sheriff of any county to sell, possess, use or transport such weapons or containers; nor shall the restriction on transportation apply to common carriers.

[165.01 to 165.44 Stats. 1927 repealed by 1929 c. 129 s. 1]