



Post-Conviction Firearm Rights in California

I have a felony conviction: are my gun rights gone forever?

In general, if you have been convicted of a felony (or if you have an outstanding warrant for a felony), it is also a [felony](#) for you to own, purchase, receive, or have possession of a firearm in the state of California. This isn't just a temporary ban: it's a lifetime ban. This also means that even if you owned a firearm before the time of your conviction, it is illegal for you to keep that firearm, so it's essential that you surrender it in a [legally compliant way](#).

How can I get my gun rights back?

For some felonies — for example, ones that involve a dangerous weapon — it will never be possible to restore your [gun rights](#).

Other felonies can be reduced to misdemeanors in some cases. If you were convicted of a felony “wobbler” – a crime that could have been charged as a misdemeanor, **and** if you were not sentenced to prison, you can ask a judge to [reduce your conviction](#) to a misdemeanor. If the judge says yes, your gun rights may be restored. You can find a list of the most common wobblers [here](#).

Some felony cannabis convictions can be reduced to misdemeanors under [Prop. 64](#), California's marijuana legalization law. If you apply to the court for a Prop. 64 conviction, and it is granted, your firearms rights will be restored. You can find more information on Prop. 64 [here](#).

What if my felony conviction can't be reduced to a misdemeanor?

The only other way to restore your gun rights post-felony conviction is to get a full and unconditional pardon from the governor of California.

My felony was reduced to a misdemeanor under Prop. 47. Have my firearms rights been restored?

No. A reduction to a misdemeanor under [Prop. 47](#) does not restore firearms rights.



This flyer provides general information about your right to own/purchase firearms, and does not constitute legal advice. You should consult an attorney about your situation. Do not rely solely on this flyer.

I don't have a felony conviction. Are there limits on my gun rights?

Even if you don't have a felony conviction, there may be limits on your gun rights!

Some misdemeanors, for instance, result in a 10-year firearms ban: battery, assault, domestic violence, and possession/sale or transfer of weapons can all result in a 10-year ban, depending on the type and severity of the crime. People who are addicted to narcotics or people with certain mental illnesses are also banned from possessing firearms.

For a complete list of people who may not own or possess a firearm in the state of California, [click here](#).

My case has been expunged. Are my firearms rights restored?

No. If your firearms rights have been restricted, expungement does not affect them.

If you are at all uncertain about your right to buy or possess a firearm, please reach out to an attorney as soon as possible. **If you would like more information about your firearm rights, contact your local LSNC office, or call the Roots and Rebound hotline at (510) 279-4662.**



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