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**NORTH DAKOTA**  
**N.D. CENT. CODE**

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**Title 12.1. Criminal Code**

**Chapter 12.1-25. Riot**

**12.1-25-02. Arming rioters.**

1. A person is guilty of a class C felony if he:
- a. Knowingly supplies a firearm, dangerous weapon, or destructive device for use in a riot;
  - b. Teaches another to prepare or use a firearm, dangerous weapon, or destructive device with intent that any such thing be used in a riot; or
  - c. While engaging in a riot, is knowingly armed with a firearm, dangerous weapon, or destructive device.
2. "Riot" has the meaning prescribed in section 12.1-25-01.

**Chapter 12.1-32 - Penalties and Sentencing**

**12.1-32-07. Supervision of probationer - Conditions of probation - Revocation. ...**

3. The court shall provide as an explicit condition of every probation that the defendant may not possess a firearm, destructive device, or other dangerous weapon while the defendant is on probation. Except when the offense is a misdemeanor offense under Section 12.1-17-01, 12.1-17-01.1, 12.1-17-05, or 12.1-17-07.1, or chapter 14-07.1, the court may waive this condition of probation if the defendant has pled guilty to, or has been found guilty of, a misdemeanor or infraction offense, the misdemeanor or infraction is the defendant's first offense, and the court has made a specific finding on the record before imposition of a sentence or a probation that there is good cause to waive the condition. The court may not waive this condition of probation if the court places the defendant under the supervision and management of the department of corrections and rehabilitation. The court shall provide as an explicit condition of probation that the defendant may not willfully defraud a urine test administered as a condition of probation. Unless waived on the record by the court, the court shall also provide as a condition of probation that the defendant undergo various agreed-to community constraints and conditions as intermediate measures of the department of corrections and rehabilitation to avoid revocation, which may include:

- a. Community service;
- b. Day reporting;
- c. Curfew;
- d. Home confinement;
- e. House arrest;
- f. Electronic monitoring;
- g. Residential halfway house;
- h. Intensive supervision program; or
- i. participation in the twenty-four seven sobriety program.

**Title 62.1. Weapons**

**Chapter 62.1-01. Definitions - General Provisions**

**62.1-01-01. General definitions.** As used in this title, unless the context otherwise requires:

1. "Dangerous weapon" includes any switchblade or gravity knife, machete, scimitar, stiletto, sword, dagger, or knife with a blade of five inches or more; any throwing star, nunchaku, or other martial arts weapon; any billy, black-jack, sap, bludgeon, cudgel, metal knuckles, or sand club; any slungshot; any bow and arrow, cross-bow, or spear; any stun gun; any weapon that will expel, or is readily capable of expelling, a projectile by the action of a spring, compressed air, or compressed gas including any such weapon, loaded or unloaded, commonly referred to as a BB gun, air rifle, or CO2 gun; and any projector of a bomb or any object containing or capable of producing and emitting any noxious liquid, gas, or substance.

2. "Direct supervision of an adult" means that an adult is present in such close proximity so as to be capable of observing and directing the actions of the individual supervised.

3. "Firearm" or "weapon" means any device which will expel, or is readily capable of expelling, a projectile by the action of an explosive and includes any such device, loaded or unloaded, commonly referred to as a pistol, revolver, rifle, gun, machine gun, shotgun, bazooka, or cannon.

4. "Gaming site" means any room or premises licensed by the attorney general or by a city or county governing body to conduct legal gaming operations.

5. "Government building" means a building which is owned, possessed, or used by or leased to the state of North Dakota, or any of its political subdivisions.

6. "Handgun" means any firearm that is not designed to be fired from the shoulder, which has a barrel less than sixteen inches [40.64 centimeters] long, and which is capable of firing, by the energy of an explosive in a fixed metallic cartridge, an exposed projectile through a rifled bore. The term includes the Thompson contender forty-five caliber single-shot center-fire with a pistol grip or similar firearm, if in compliance with the National Firearms Act [26 U.S.C. 5801-5872].

7. "Law enforcement officer" means a public servant authorized by law or by a government agency or branch to enforce the law and to conduct or engage in investigations or prosecutions for violations of law.

8. "Machine gun, submachine gun, or fully automatic rifle" means a firearm, mechanism, or instrument not requiring that the trigger be pressed for each shot, and having a reservoir, belt, or other means of storing and carrying ammunition which can be loaded into the firearm, mechanism, or instrument and fired therefrom at a rate of five or more shots to the second.

9. "Plain view" means the handgun is placed in such a location or carried in such a position as to be easily discernible by the ordinary observation of a passerby. In a motor vehicle, this includes being placed on the seat, dashboard, or in a gunrack as long as the handgun is not covered or is in any other way concealed from view.

10. "Rifle" means any firearm designed or redesigned, made or remade, and intended to be fired from the shoulder and using the energy of the explosive in a fixed metallic cartridge to fire only a single projectile through a rifled bore for each pull of the trigger.

11. "Secured" means the firearm is closed into the trunk or nonpassenger part of the vehicle; placed into a closed and secure carrying device; rendered inoperative by the use of a trigger, hammer, cylinder, slide, or barrel-locking device that renders the firearm incapable of firing until the device is unlocked and removed; or so disassembled or disabled as to be rendered incapable of firing.

12. "Short-barreled rifle" means a rifle having one or more barrels less than sixteen inches [40.64 centimeters] in length and any firearm made from a rifle, whether by alteration, modification, or otherwise, if the firearm, as modified, has an overall length of less than twenty-six inches.

13. "Short-barreled shotgun" means a shotgun having one or more barrels less than eighteen inches [45.72 centimeters] in length and any firearm made from a shotgun, whether by alteration, modification, or otherwise, if the firearm, as modified, has an overall length of less than twenty-six inches.

14. "Shotgun" means a firearm designed or redesigned, made or remade, and intended to be fired with one hand below or behind and one hand in front of the breach, which uses the energy of the explosive in a fixed shotgun shell to fire through a smooth or a rifled bore either a number of ball shot or a single projectile for each single pull of the trigger.

15. "Silencer" means any device for or attached to any firearm which will silence or deaden the sound or natural report of the firearm when it is discharged.

16. "Unloaded" means the chamber of the firearm does not contain a loaded shell. If the firearm is a revolver, then none of the chambers in the cylinder may contain a loaded shell. Handguns with a removable magazine or clip must have the magazine or clip removed from the firearm if the magazine or clip contains any loaded shells.

**62.1-01-02. Forfeiture of dangerous weapon or firearm by person arrested and convicted of crime.** Any firearm or dangerous weapon used or possessed while in the commission of a felony or a misdemeanor involving violence or intimidation must be seized and, upon conviction and by motion, forfeited to the jurisdiction in which the arrest was made or the jurisdiction in which the charge arose. Except as provided in chapter 29-01 for stolen property, the forfeited firearm or dangerous weapon may be, pursuant to court order, sold at public auction, sold or traded to other law enforcement agencies or authorized firearm dealers, retained for use, or destroyed.

**62.1-01-03. Limitation on authority of political subdivision regarding firearms.** No political subdivision, including home rule cities or counties, may enact any ordinance relating to

the purchase, sale, ownership, transfer of ownership, registration, or licensure of firearms and ammunition which is more restrictive than state law. All such existing ordinances are void.

## **Chapter 62.1-02. Possession of Weapons**

### **62.1-02-01. Persons who are not to possess firearms - Penalty.**

1. A person who has been convicted anywhere of a felony offense involving violence or intimidation in violation of chapters 12.1-16 through 12.1-25 or an equivalent felony offense of another state or the federal government is prohibited from owning a firearm or having one in possession or under control from the date of conviction and continuing for a period of ten years after the date of conviction or the date of release from incarceration, parole, or probation, whichever is latest.

2. A person who has been convicted anywhere of a felony offense of this or another state or the federal government not provided for in subsection 1 or who has been convicted of a class A misdemeanor offense involving violence or intimidation in violation of chapters 12.1-16 through 12.1-25 or an equivalent offense of another state or the federal government and the offense was committed while using or possessing a firearm, a dangerous weapon, or, as defined in subsections 7 and 8 of section 12.1-01-04, a destructive device or an explosive, is prohibited from owning a firearm or having one in possession or under control from the date of conviction and continuing for a period of five years after the date of conviction or the date of release from incarceration, parole, or probation, whichever is latest.

3. A person who is or has ever been diagnosed and confined or committed to a hospital or other institution in this state or elsewhere by a court of competent jurisdiction, other than a person who has had the petition that provided the basis for the diagnosis, confinement, or commitment dismissed under section 25-03.1-17, 25-03.1-18, or 25-03.1-19, or equivalent statutes of another jurisdiction, as a mentally ill person as defined in section 25-03.1-02, or as a mentally deficient person as defined in section 25-01-01, is prohibited from purchasing a firearm or having one in possession or under control. This limitation does not apply to a person who has not suffered from the disability for the previous three years.

4. A person under the age of eighteen years may not possess a handgun except that such a person, while under the direct supervision of an adult, may possess a handgun for the purposes of firearm safety training, target shooting, or hunting.

A person who violates subsection 1 or 2 is guilty of a class c felony, and a person who violates subsection 3 or 4 is guilty of a class a misdemeanor. For the purposes of this section, "conviction" means a determination that the person committed one of the above-mentioned crimes upon a verdict of guilt, a plea of guilty, or a plea of nolo contendere even though:

1. The court suspended execution of sentence in accordance with subsection 3 of section 12.1-32-02;

2. The court deferred imposition of sentence in accordance with subsection 4 of section 12.1-32-02;

3. The court placed the person on probation;

4. The person's conviction has been reduced in accordance with subsection 9 of section 12.1-32-02 or section 12.1-32-07.1;

5. Sentence dispositions, sentence reductions, or offense determinations equivalent to this section were imposed or granted by a court, board, agency, or law of another state or the federal government; or

6. The person committed an offense equivalent to an offense described in subsection 1 or 2 when that person was subject to juvenile adjudication or proceedings and a determination of a court under chapter 27-20 or of a court of another state or the federal government was made that the person committed the delinquent act or offense.

**62.1-02-02. Sale of handgun regulated - Penalty.** No person may transfer a handgun to any person who the transferor knows or has reasonable cause to believe is a person prohibited by section 62.1-02-01 from possessing a firearm. Any person who violates this section is guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

**62.1-02-03. Possession or sale of short-barreled rifle or shotgun - Penalty - Application.** A person who possesses, obtains, receives, sells, or uses a short-barreled rifle or a short-barreled shotgun is guilty of a class C felony. This section does not apply to a law enforcement officer who possesses, obtains, receives, sells, or uses a short-barreled rifle or a short-barreled shotgun in the course of or in connection with the officer's official duties, to a member of the armed forces of the United States or national guard, organized reserves, state defense forces, or state guard organizations who possesses or uses a short-barreled rifle or short-barreled shotgun issued to the member by that organization and while on official duty, or to any person who complies with the National Firearms Act [26 U.S.C. 5801-5872].

**62.1-02-05. Possession of a firearm at a public gathering - Penalty - Application.**

1. A person who possesses a firearm at a public gathering is guilty of a class B misdemeanor. For the purpose of this section, "public gathering" includes athletic or sporting events, schools or school functions, churches or church functions, political rallies or functions, musical concerts, and individuals in publicly owned parks where hunting is not allowed by proclamation and publicly owned or operated buildings. The term "public gathering" does not apply to a state or federal park.

2. This section does not apply to law enforcement officers; members of the armed forces of the United States or national guard, organized reserves, state defense forces, or state guard organizations, when on duty; competitors participating in organized sport shooting events; gun and antique shows; participants using blank cartridge firearms at sporting or theatrical events; any firearms carried in a temporary residence or motor vehicle; students and instructors at hunter safety classes; or private security personnel while on duty. In addition, a municipal court judge licensed to practice law in this state, a district court judge, and a retired North Dakota law enforcement officer are exempt from the

prohibition and penalty in subsection 1 if the individual is otherwise licensed to carry a firearm under section 62.1-04-03 and maintains the same level of firearms proficiency as is required by the peace officers standards and training board for law enforcement officers. A local law enforcement agency shall issue a certificate of compliance under this section to an individual who is proficient.

3. This section does not prevent any political subdivision from enacting an ordinance which is less restrictive than this section relating to the possession of firearms at a public gathering. Such an ordinance supersedes this section within the jurisdiction of the political subdivision.

**62.1-02-07. Use of firearm by certain minors prohibited - Penalty.** Any parent, guardian, or other person having charge or custody of any minor under fifteen years of age who permits that minor to carry or use in public any firearm of any description loaded with powder and projectile, except when the minor is under the direct supervision of the parent, guardian, or other person authorized by the parent or guardian, is guilty of a class B misdemeanor.

**62.1-02-08. Illegal firearms, ammunition, or explosive materials business.**

1. A person is guilty of an offense if the person supplies a firearm, ammunition, or explosive material to, or procures or receives a firearm, ammunition, or explosive material for, a person prohibited by this title from receiving it if the transferor knows or has reasonable cause to believe that such person is prohibited by section 62.1-02-01 from receiving or possessing it.

2. The offense is a class C felony if the actor:

a. Was not licensed or otherwise authorized by law to handle, transfer, or engage in transactions with respect to the firearm, destructive device, or explosive material; or

b. Engaged in the forbidden transaction under circumstances manifesting the actor's readiness to supply or procure on other occasions in disregard of lawful restrictions.

Otherwise the offense is a class A misdemeanor.

## **Chapter 62.1-03. Handguns**

**62.1-03-02. Selling handgun to minors prohibited - Penalty.** Any person who sells, barter, hires, lends, or gives any handgun to any minor is guilty of a class A misdemeanor. This section does not prohibit a person from lending or giving a handgun to a minor if the minor will be using the handgun under the direct supervision of an adult and for the purpose of firearm safety training, target shooting, or hunting.

**62.1-03-03. Copy of federal license submitted to law enforcement officials.** A retail dealer licensed to sell handguns by the federal government shall send a copy of the license, within seven days after receiving it, to the chief of police of the city and the sheriff of the county in which the dealer is licensed to sell handguns.

**62.1-03-04. False information prohibited.** No person, in purchasing or otherwise securing delivery of a handgun or in applying for a license to carry the handgun concealed, may give false information or offer false evidence of the person's identity.

**62.1-03-05. Prohibited alterations in handgun.** No person may change, alter, remove, or obliterate any mark of identification on a handgun, such as the name of the maker, model, or

manufacturer's number or knowingly possess a handgun on which such alterations have been made. Possession of any handgun upon which any such identification mark has been changed, altered, removed, or obliterated creates a rebuttable presumption that the possessor made the alterations.

**62.1-03-06. General penalty.** Any person who violates any provision of this chapter, for which another penalty is not specifically provided, is guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

#### **Chapter 62.1-05. Machineguns, Automatic Rifles, Silencers, Bombs**

**62.1-05-01. Possession and sale of machine guns, automatic rifles, silencers, and bombs - Penalty - Forfeiture.** No person may purchase, sell, have, or possess a machine gun, fully automatic rifle, silencer, or bomb loaded with explosives or poisonous or dangerous gases, or any other federally licensed firearm or dangerous weapon unless that person has com-

plied with the National Firearms Act [26 U.S.C. 5801-5872].

Any federal licensee who purchases, sells, has, or possesses those items for the licensee's protection or for sale must forward a copy of the licensee's federal license along with the required weapons transfer form to the licensee's local county sheriff and to the chief of the bureau of criminal investigation within five days of the receipt of those forms.

A person who violates this section is guilty of a class C felony. Upon arrest of that person, the firearm or dangerous weapon must be seized. Upon conviction of the person and motion to the court in which the conviction occurred, the firearm or dangerous weapon must be forfeited to the jurisdiction in which the arrest was made. The firearm or dangerous weapon may be sold at public auction, retained for use, or destroyed pursuant to the court's order. If a qualified local program as defined under section 12.1-32-02.2 has paid a reward for information that resulted in forfeiture of the item and the item has been sold, the jurisdiction shall, after payment of expenses

for forfeiture and sale, repay the qualified local program for the reward that it has paid.

**62.1-05-02. Persons exempt from chapter.** This chapter does not apply to:

1. The authorized agent and a servant of a person who has a license to purchase, sell, have, or possess a machine gun, submachine gun, fully automatic rifle, silencer, or a bomb loaded with explosives or poisonous or dangerous gases.

2. Any officer or member of a duly authorized military organization while on official duty and using the firearm or dangerous weapon issued to the officer or member by that organization.

3. A North Dakota law enforcement officer.

4. Any federal officer authorized by the federal government to have or possess a machine gun, submachine gun, fully automatic rifle, silencer, or bomb loaded with explosives or poisonous or dangerous gases.

**[Current through 2009 Legislative Session]**