



Sheriff Eric Flowers

Indian River County Sheriff's Office

As we receive questions about recent case law relating to openly carrying firearms in Florida, the following points are offered for clarification as of September 12, 2025:

-Based on a recent ruling from the First District Court of Appeal, deputies will not be enforcing Florida Statute 790.053, as it relates to openly carrying a firearm in public.

-This stance is being taken to help ensure the Constitutional rights of those in our jurisdiction.

-Importantly, private business owners, including those businesses open to the public, may choose to prohibit visitors to their property from carrying firearms and retain the right to ask them to leave or face the possibility of arrest for trespassing.

-While additional changes in firearms laws may be forthcoming, at this time, the sheriff's office will not enforce Florida Statute 790.053, as it relates to openly carrying a firearm in public.

-Other firearm statutes remain in effect. PLEASE NOTE: IT REMAINS A FELONY and WILL result in arrest for anyone who violates Florida Statute 790.115, prohibiting the possession of a firearm or other weapon on school property, at a school-sponsored event, on a school bus, or school bus stop.



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