

New York City Special Theatrical Permit (for Rifles, Shotgun, and Assault Weapons)

Rental and use of rifles, shotguns, and so-called “assault weapon” longarms within the New York City requires a “Special Theatrical Permit” issued by the Firearms Control Section of the Police Department.

Exemption is made for New York State residents with legal proof of residence outside New York City proper, provided that the weapons will be transported and used outside New York City. All others must obtain this Special Theatrical Permit.

The process of obtaining the permit is straightforward and requires about an hour’s time to obtain in person. Permits are valid for 1 year, and do not bestow any purchasing authority or allow the personal possession of longarms. Permits are issued for longarms that are to be used during the course of a television, movie, stage or similar theatrical production or by a professional photographer in the pursuance of their profession.

Permits are obtained at the Rifle and Shotgun Section of the Police Department at 120-55 Queens Boulevard, Room B-11, Kew Gardens, Queens 11424 [(718) 520-9300].

Requirements are:

1. All applicants must be citizens of the United States.
2. All applicants must be over twenty-one (21) years of age.
3. All applicants must submit proof of identification, (Birth Certificate or U.S. Passport) and proof of address (Gas, Electric, or Telephone Bill).
4. All applicants must submit a Postal Money Order in the amount of \$140.
5. All applicants must submit four (4) recent color passport type photos.
6. All applicants must submit a Notarized Statement on their production company or corporation stationary indicating:
 - a. How the weapons are going to be utilized
 - b. The type and number of weapons to be utilized
 - c. The length of time that the weapons will be utilized
 - d. The applicant is the person responsible for the registration and security of the weapons in question.

It is strongly recommended that you call the Firearms Control Section at the above noted number since the requirements and policies do change from time-to-time.