

NRA MEMBERS' COUNCILS OF CALIFORNIA

QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE FOR OBTAINING A "REAL ID" DOCUMENT FROM CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

BACKGROUND:

Beginning October 1, 2020, the federal government will require your driver license or identification (ID) card to be REAL ID compliant if you wish to use it as identification to board a domestic flight or enter military bases and most federal facilities.

The California DMV began offering a federal compliant REAL ID driver license or ID card as an option to customers on January 22, 2018.

If you have a valid U.S. passport, passport card, military ID, or another form of Transportation Safety Administration (TSA) approved identification, these documents will still be accepted to board a domestic flight. <https://www.tsa.gov/travel/security-screening/identification>

The federal REAL ID Act of 2005 was passed in response to the events of 9/11. For more on the REAL ID Act, visit the Department of Homeland Security website <https://www.dhs.gov/real-id>

CURRENT SITUATION:

There are many opinions and stories regarding "Real ID" requirements and how they affect the ability to purchase a firearm. There are likely just as many "solutions" offered by those who hold those opinions and tell those stories.

SOLUTION:

Using a compliant identity document assures the firearm purchaser that their ID won't be rejected for failure to comply with "Real ID" requirements. The easiest remedy to any confusion that might exist regarding "Real ID" is to simply obtain a "Real ID" compliant document.

The process of obtaining a "Real ID" compliant document is not difficult and should not be too much of a hassle if the California resident follows the guidelines set forth by the California Department of Motor Vehicles.

THE PROCESS:

A DMV field office visit is required to apply for a REAL ID driver license or ID card. Here is what else you need to do to apply:

- Make an appointment (recommended) to visit a field office.
- Provide proof of identity, such as a certified U.S. birth certificate, valid U.S. passport, employment authorization document, permanent resident card or foreign passport with an approved form I-94. *Note:* laminated documents will not be accepted (except a permanent resident card that can be laminated)
- Show a California residency document that includes your physical California resident address. Documents addressed to a PO Box must include the physical resident address on documents (for example utility bills).
- Present proof of your Social Security number, such as a SSN card (not laminated), W-2 or paystub with your full SSN.

Note: Name change documents, such as a marriage certificate or divorce decree, may be required if your identity document name (birth certificate) is different than the name on your application.

Note: Much of this information is taken directly from the CA DMV website

<https://www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/dmv/detail/realid>

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