

## ***Transporting Firearms in Iowa***

There is no provision in Iowa law that provides for honoring permits to carry issued in other states; and there is no reciprocity provision.

You may still transport firearms in Iowa without a permit under existing Iowa and federal law. Under *Iowa Code* §724.4, you can either carry or transport an unloaded pistol or revolver in a vehicle inside a closed and fastened container or securely wrapped package which is too large to be concealed on the person, or you can transport an unloaded pistol or revolver inside a cargo or luggage compartment where it will not be readily accessible to any person riding in the vehicle. In other words, if you have a cargo or luggage compartment which is not accessible by anyone in the vehicle, such as a trunk, the handgun simply has to be unloaded.

The requirement for a closed and fastened container for transporting rifles and shotguns is addressed in a separate section, 483A.36 (see below).

The applicable federal law [18 U.S.C. §926A] requires the firearm to be unloaded, and neither the firearm nor any ammunition being transported can be readily accessible or directly accessible from the passenger compartment of such transporting vehicle, or in the case of a vehicle without a compartment separate from the driver's compartment the firearm or ammunition shall be contained in a locked container other than the glove compartment or console. This applies to all types of firearms and ammunition. To comply with this section of federal law while transporting a firearm in a van or SUV, you would need the firearm and/or ammunition to be in a locked container apart from the glove compartment or console. This statute overrides firearms transportation laws in all states between the home state and the state of destination; it also requires compliance with applicable statutes in the departure point and the destination.

### *Iowa Code*

#### 724.4 Carrying weapons.

f. A person who for any lawful purpose carries or transports an unloaded pistol or revolver in a vehicle inside a closed and fastened container or securely wrapped package which is too large to be concealed on the person or inside a cargo or luggage compartment where the pistol or revolver will not be readily accessible to any person riding in the vehicle or common carrier.

### *Iowa Code*

#### 483A.36 Manner of conveyance.

No person, except as permitted by law, shall have or carry a gun in or on a vehicle on a public highway, unless the gun is taken down or totally contained in a securely fastened case, and its barrels and magazines are unloaded.

### *United States Code*

#### 18 U.S.C. § 926A. Interstate transportation of firearms

Notwithstanding any other provision of any law or any rule or regulation of a State or any political subdivision thereof, any person who is not otherwise prohibited by this chapter from transporting, shipping, or receiving a firearm shall be entitled to transport a firearm for any lawful purpose from any place where he may lawfully possess and carry such firearm to any other place where he may lawfully possess and carry such firearm if, during such transportation the firearm is unloaded, and neither the firearm nor any ammunition being transported is readily accessible or is directly accessible from the passenger compartment of such transporting vehicle: Provided, That in the case of a vehicle without a compartment separate from the driver's compartment the firearm or ammunition shall be contained in a locked container other than the glove compartment or console.

(Added Pub.L. 99-360, § 1(a), July 8, 1986, 100 Stat. 766.)