

From: Todd.Thames@parks.ca.gov  
To: ...  
Subject: CCW in California State Parks  
Date: Mon, 4 Nov 2013 16:16:24 +0000

Your e-mail with regard to CCW holders, peace officers, and retired peace officers carrying concealed weapons in California State Parks was forwarded to me for response.

The carrying and possession of firearms in California State Parks is generally prohibited, and is only allowed per Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Section 4313 as follows:

4313. Weapons and Traps. (California Code of Regulations)

(a) No person shall carry, possess or discharge across, in or into any portion of any unit any weapon, firearm, spear, bow and arrow, trap, net, or device capable of injuring, or killing any person or animal, or capturing any animal, or damaging any public or private property, except in underwater parks or designated archery ranges where the Department of Parks and Recreation finds that it is in its best interests.

(b) Nothing herein contained shall be construed in derogation of the use of weapons permitted by law or regulation and to be used for hunting in any unit, or portion thereof, open to hunting.

(c) Firearms not having a cartridge in any portion of the mechanism, other unloaded weapons or devices such as traps, nets, and bows and arrows may be possessed within temporary lodging or mechanical mode of conveyance when such implements are rendered temporarily inoperable or are packed, cased, or stored in a manner that will prevent their ready use.

Exceptions to this regulation are granted in the California Penal Code Section 25900 pertaining to law enforcement and retired law enforcement personnel and PC Section 26010 for citizens with Carry Concealed Weapon permits. CCR 4313 is regulatory, whereas the California Penal Code is Statutory. Regulations give way to activities specifically granted in Statute. However, any restrictions placed on the CCW by the issuing agency would also be applicable in California State Parks. For example, if the CCW is only valid in the CCW holder's City of residence or County, it would not be valid in a State Park Unit located outside the City or County of the holder.

I hope this information has provided clarification for you.

Todd Thames, Superintendent  
Law Enforcement & Emergency Services Division  
California State Parks