



PRESS RELEASE – Dec. 22, 2015

Police Department: 972-625-1887

New Open Carry law takes effect in January

THE COLONY, Texas — In accordance with [House Bill 910](#), Texans will be allowed to carry handguns in plain view starting Jan. 1, 2016. Individuals who obtain a License to Carry (LTC) or have a valid concealed handgun license (CHL) will be able to carry their weapon in plain view when properly secured in a belt or shoulder holster.

The Colony Police officers have been trained on the new laws so they are aware of what is legal and what constitutes a violation under the new open carry law. The Colony Police Department has also trained both its 911 dispatchers and officers on the new regulations to ensure they are able to answer questions from concerned residents.



LTC holders are prohibited from carrying inside certain locations such as worship centers, amusement parks, and, in accordance with the Texas Penal Code, a bar where the majority of money is obtained from the sale of alcohol, nursing homes, hospitals, schools, school buses, and professional sporting events. The law also expressly prohibits a handgun license holder from carrying in a government meeting, if the governmental body gives notice that doing so is prohibited.

Residents are urged to call 911 only when encountering a person who is in clear violation of House Bill 910. Violations may include but are not limited to:

- unlawful removal of the gun from a secured holster;
- when a gun holder seems intoxicated; and,
- when the gun holder is obviously committing a crime or acting in a reckless or suspicious manner.

Residents with questions, comments or concerns, may contact The Colony Police Sgt. Jay Goodson at 972-624-3925.

###