



# County of Santa Cruz

---

---

Sheriff-Coroner

701 Ocean Street, Suite 340, Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
(831) 454-2985 FAX: (831) 454-2353

**Phil Wowak**  
Sheriff-Coroner

June 13, 2014

Dear Applicant:

Your application for a license to carry a concealed weapon (CCW) is currently under review. We are writing to update you on the Sheriff's current position regarding the "good cause" requirement for issuance of a CCW license.

Recently, the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit issued a legal opinion that, if finalized, would arguably prohibit Sheriffs from refusing to issue CCW licenses based on a lack of "good cause" if the only grounds for the license is self-defense or generalized personal safety concerns (*Peruta, et al., v. County of San Diego, et al.*). However, because of a recent motion filed by the California Attorney General to intervene in the *Peruta* case, the opinion is not yet final and is therefore not yet law. It is unclear at this point whether the *Peruta* opinion will be finalized in its current form or subject to further appeal, or how long the process will take.

Based on current law, the Sheriff does not consider self-defense or generalized personal safety concerns to constitute sufficient "good cause" for the issuance of a license. If and when the *Peruta* opinion becomes final, the Sheriff will follow the law as the Sheriff understands it.

Because you have applied for a CCW license during this interim period and the Sheriff cannot predict how long it will be before the *Peruta* opinion is finalized, the Sheriff is providing you with the following choices as to how you would like your application review to proceed.

Accordingly, we request that you check one of the boxes on the enclosed CCW Applicant Response Form, sign it, and return a copy to the Sheriff's Office so we can include it with your file. If we do not receive a signed copy of this form back from you reflecting your choice on how to proceed within 30 days, we will assume that you are abandoning your CCW license application, and we will close your file. Thank you for your patience on this issue during this interim period.

Sincerely,

Phil Wowak  
Sheriff-Coroner



# County of Santa Cruz

---

---

Sheriff-Coroner

701 Ocean Street, Suite 340, Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
(831) 454-2985 FAX: (831) 454-2353

**Phil Wowak**  
Sheriff-Coroner

## CCW Applicant Response Form

I request that the Sheriff's Office review my application under the Sheriff's interpretation of current law authorizing the Sheriff to require "good cause" for the issuance of a CCW license. I request that the Sheriff's designee contact me for a supplemental interview to allow me to provide sufficient evidence of good cause per the Sheriff's current policy.

I request that the Sheriff's Office hold my application in abeyance until the *Peruta* decision is finalized. If, after the *Peruta* decision is finalized, I decide to withdraw my CCW license application or wish to provide updated information to demonstrate "good cause" for the issuance of a CCW license, I will contact the Sheriff's Office. I understand that if I do not contact the Sheriff's Office, my application will be reviewed under the Sheriff's interpretation of the law as it exists *after* the *Peruta* decision is finalized.

I hereby abandon my pending application for a CCW license, without prejudice to filing a new application in the future.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Applicant

Please return completed form to the following:

Santa Cruz County Sheriff-Coroner Office  
701 Ocean Street Room 340  
Santa Cruz, Ca. 95060  
c/o Sergeant Mitch Medina

Inquiries should be directed to Sergeant Mitch Medina  
831-454-2332  
mitchell.medina@santacruzcounty.us