



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND PUBLIC PROTECTION**  
**DIVISION OF STATE POLICE**  
**Special Licensing & Firearms Unit**



**FAQS REGARDING P.A. 13-3**  
**As Amended by P.A. 13-220**

**1. Q: When did the law banning Assault Weapons and Large Capacity Magazines actually take effect?**

A: The Act was signed by Governor Malloy on April 4, 2013. Under the Act, as amended, the new assault weapon and large capacity magazine bans took effect on April 5, 2013.

**2. Q: I purchased an assault weapon and/or large capacity magazines prior to April 4, 2013, but they were not delivered until after April 4, 2013. May I legally take possession of them now?**

A: Yes, you are in "constructive possession" provided that:

- Pursuant to a lawful purchase (i) a contract for sale was made between the parties prior to or on April 4, 2013 for the purchase of the assault weapon, or (ii) full or partial payment for the assault weapon was made by the purchaser to the seller of the assault weapon prior to or on April 4, 2013, and (iii) you can present a writing sufficient to indicate (i) or (ii); or
- Actual possession or constructive possession is established by a written statement made under penalty of false statement on such form prescribed by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection.
- If you purchased an assault weapon with large capacity magazines on a 14 day wait list and your dealer obtained a STN number prior to or on April 4, 2013 and the 14 days did not expire until after April 4, 2013, your dealer may lawfully transfer the weapon to you, with any accompanying large capacity magazines despite the fact that the transfer is after the effective date of the Act.



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**3. Q: What, exactly, is a Large Capacity Magazine?**

A: A "Large capacity magazine" is any firearm magazine, belt, drum, feed strip or similar device that has the capacity of, or can readily be restored or converted to accept , more than ten rounds of ammunition, but does not include:

- A feeding device that has been permanently altered so that it cannot accommodate more than ten rounds of ammunition,
- A .22 caliber tube ammunition feeding device,
- A tubular magazine that is contained in a lever action firearm, or
- A magazine that is permanently inoperable."

**4. Q: What does "lawfully possess" mean as it relates to Large Capacity Magazines?**

A: The same rules apply to Large Capacity magazines as apply to assault weapons:

- You were in lawful actual possession prior to or on April 4, 2013; or
- You were in lawful "constructive possession" as defined in Question 2 above on or prior to April 4, 2013.

**5. Q: Who may purchase Assault Weapons and/or Large Capacity Magazines after the effective date of the Act?**

A: (1): The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, police departments, the Department of Corrections, the Division of Criminal Justice, the department of Motor Vehicles, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection; or



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(2): A sworn and duly certified member of an organized police department or the Division of State Police, a chief inspector or inspector in the Division of Criminal Justice, a salaried inspector of motor vehicles designated by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, a conservation officer appointed by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection pursuant to section 26-5 of the general statutes, or a constable who is certified by the Police Officer Standards and Training Council and appointed by the chief executive authority of a town, city or borough to perform criminal law enforcement duties, for use by such sworn member, inspector, officer or constable in the discharge of such sworn member's, inspector's, officer's or constable's official duties or when off duty; or

(3): A member of the military or naval forces of this state or the United States; or

(4): A nuclear facility licensed by the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission for the purpose of providing security services at such facility, or any contractor, or subcontractor of such facility for the purpose of providing security services at such facility; or

(5): A person who is sworn and acts as a policeman on behalf of an armored car service pursuant to section 29-20 of the general statutes, in the discharge of such person's official duties; or

(6): A federally licensed firearms manufacturer engaged in the manufacture of Large Capacity Magazines for sale out of state; or

**6. Q: As a private citizen, am I allowed to keep possession of my Large Capacity Magazines?**

A: Yes, but only under these following conditions:



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- You lawfully possessed the large capacity magazines prior to the effective date of the Act;
- You declare the large capacity magazine on or before January 1, 2014. Each LCM does not have to be declared separately, merely by number of same make, and caliber (e.g. 10, Glock, .40 S&W).
- At home, where you may fill them to capacity;
- At a licensed firing range, shooting range or licensed gun club, where you may fill them to capacity;
- At your place of business or other property owned by you, so long as the LCM contains no more than ten bullets;
- When being lawfully transported between these places or to a licensed gun dealer, so long as the LCM contains no more than ten bullets (see Q 13 regarding transport);
- In a pistol while in public pursuant to a valid carry permit so long as the LCM contains no more than ten bullets and the LCM does not extend more than one inch beyond the bottom of the pistol grip. The bullet in the chamber of the gun does not count toward the ten bullets in the magazine limit.

**7. Q: As a private citizen, will I ever be able to legally transfer ownership of my Large Capacity Magazines?**

A: Yes. Under the Act, you may transfer your LCMs to any police department and you may legally sell them to a licensed dealer or to anyone outside the state. You may also transfer your lawfully declared LCMs by bequest or intestate succession (i.e. you died without a will), or, upon the death of a testator or settlor: (A) To a trust, or (B) from a trust to a beneficiary. Any other transfer is a Class D felony.

**8. Q: As a sworn officer, do I have to declare the large capacity magazines and/or my privately owned assault weapon used in the performance of my official duties? May I retain them after I retire?**



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A: No, you do not have to register your assault weapon or declare your large capacity magazines. However, within ninety (90) days after your retirement or separation from service, you must register your assault weapon and declare the large capacity magazines to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection.

- 9. Q: If I registered my assault weapon under the 1994 Act, will I have to re-register it under the new Act?**

A: If you registered the weapon in 1994, and you still possess your 1994 Certificate of Registration, you will not have to re-register under the new Act.

- 10. Q: I have a parts kit for an assault weapon which I have not assembled, and have no immediate intention to assemble them. Do I still have to register an assault weapon?**

A: Yes. Under the Act, if you possess any combination of parts from which an assault weapon could readily be assembled, you must register it by January 1, 2014. You would register it by utilizing the serial number which appears on the lower receiver.

- 11. Q: I have a rifle which is a semi-automatic center fire and has a curved portion of the stock directly behind the trigger guard which extends very slightly below it. It has none of the other banned features. Is this stock considered a pistol grip which would require me to register it as an assault weapon?**

A: No. The type of stock you are describing is considered a "palm swell" and not a pistol grip. However, if the stock has a thumb hole, it qualifies as an assault weapon and must be registered by January 1, 2014.

- 12. Q: I purchased a semi-automatic center fire rifle which has no assault weapon qualifiers, but it was modified by the previous**



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**owner to accept 30 rounds in its fixed magazine. Do I have to register it under the new Act?**

A: Yes. Any semi-automatic center fire rifle that has a fixed magazine that holds more than ten rounds must be registered by January 1, 2014.

**13. Q: As a civilian, how can I lawfully transport my assault weapons and large capacity magazines to and from the places where I may legally possess them?**

A: With a Certificate of Registration, an assault weapon may be lawfully transported by car in the following manner: it must be unloaded and placed in the trunk of your vehicle or in a separate case or container in an area of the interior of the vehicle which is not readily accessible to either the operator or any passengers. When being transported outside a car, the assault weapon must be unloaded and unconcealed.

Large capacity magazines that have been declared may be transported loaded with up to ten bullets but must be transported either 1) in the same manner as assault weapons or 2) in a pistol pursuant to a carry permit, provided the magazine does not extend more than one inch below the pistol grip.

**14. Q: I bought a .22 caliber rimfire rifle which has many of the assault weapon features named in the new Act. Do I have to register it?**

A: Yes. Under the amended Act, any semiautomatic .22 rimfire rifle, capable of accepting a detachable magazine and which possess two or more of the military features listed in 53-202a prior to April 4, 2013 (including a bayonet lug) is an assault weapon.

Centerfire rifles with detachable magazines with only one of the military features listed in Sec. 53-202a, as amended, are considered assault



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weapons requiring registration on or before January 1, 2014. A bayonet lug is no longer considered a military feature for a centerfire rifle.

**15. Q: Will my children (or others) be able to possess my assault weapons after I die?**

A: Yes. A person who is the executor (if a will was made) or administrator (if no will exists) of an estate that includes assault weapons may transfer possession of such weapon. As of January 1, 2014, assault weapons that are transferred in this manner must be accompanied by a certificate of registration issued prior to that date so long as the person receiving the assault weapon is otherwise qualified to own such firearm.

**16. Q: Are revolver handguns covered in the new Act?**

A: No. The amended Act only addresses registration restrictions on some semi-automatic pistols.

**17. Q: I own a semi-automatic pistol. It has a threaded barrel. Do I have to register it under P.A. 13-3?**

A: Yes. It must be registered by January 1, 2014. This is also true if the handgun has:

- a shroud that encircles the barrel (this does not mean a standard slide);
- a second hand grip;
- a fixed magazine that accepts more than ten rounds;
- an ability to accept a detachable magazine that attaches at some location outside of the pistol grip.

**18. Q: I own a .22 lr pistol designed for world class precision target shooting. The magazine holds only eight rounds, but the magazine**



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**loads in front of the trigger guard. Do I have to register this firearm? Will I ever be able to buy another?**

A: Yes, you do. Notwithstanding the specialized nature of your pistol, any semi-automatic handgun whose detachable ammunition magazine attaches at some location outside of the pistol grip is an assault weapon. Despite their designation as assault weapons, you will be able to purchase pistols designated by the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection as specifically designed for target shooting events at the Olympic games provided you sign a form indicating that the pistol will be used by you primarily for target shooting practice and events.

**19. Q: What is the status as to the transfer of assault weapons that were pawned or placed on consignment and not redeemed on or before April 4, 2013?**

A: Not later than October 1, 2013, any licensed gun dealer, pawnbroker licensed under section 21-400 or consignment shop owner, as defined in section 21-39a, may transfer possession of an assault weapon to any person who (1) legally possessed the assault weapon prior to or on April 4, 2013, (2) placed the assault weapon in the possession of such dealer, pawnbroker or operator prior to or on April 4, 2013 pursuant to an agreement between such person and such dealer, pawnbroker or operator for the sale of the assault weapon to a third person, and (3) is eligible to possess a firearm on the date of such transfer.

**20. Q: I own a 12 gauge pump shotgun with an eight round under barrel magazine. It has a fixed stock, but it does have a pistol grip. Do I have to register it?**

A: No, P.A. 13-3, as amended by P.A. 13-220, applies only to all IZHMAISH Saiga 12 shotguns and semi-automatic shotguns possessing two of the following:





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- a fixed magazine holding more than ten rounds;
- a folding or telescoping stock;
- a pistol grip, including thumb hole stocks;
- the ability to accept a detachable magazine regardless of magazine capacity; or
- a shotgun with a revolving cylinder.

**21. Q: Which persons are exempt from the requirement for Certificates for Long Gun Purchases and Ammunition purchases?**

A: All those sworn personnel listed in the answer to Question 5 are exempt.

**22. Q: I have a valid CT Carry Permit. After April 1, 2014, when the Long Gun Eligibility Certificate becomes effective, will I need one in order to purchase a rifle or shotgun?**

A: No. Those possessing a valid Carry Permit or Eligibility Permit on or after April 4, 2014, will not be required to have a Long Gun Certificate in order to purchase a rifle or shotgun.

**23. Q: I do not have a Carry Permit or Eligibility Certificate and don't plan to obtain either. What will I have to do in order to obtain a Long Gun Certificate?**

A: You will be required to complete a DESPP certified course of training. Both the NRA Rifle Certification course and the Hunter Safety course are being considered as a model for this training. Keep checking this Department's web page for updates on this issue.

**24. Q: When the Ammunition Certificate requirement becomes effective on October 1, 2013, who will be exempt from the requirement to obtain such certificate in order to purchase ammunition.**



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A: Holders of valid CT Carry Permits, Eligibility Permits and Long Gun Certificates may purchase ammunition and magazines under those licenses. Exemptions apply for transfers between federally licensed manufacturers, dealers and importers. All those sworn personnel listed in the answer to Question 5 are also exempt.

**25. Q: As a private citizen, what do the various permits and certificates permit me to purchase**

- CT Permit to Carry Pistols and Revolvers: (1)Purchase any type of handgun or revolver, (2)rifles and shotguns without a 14 day wait period, (3)ammunition and (4)magazines limited to a ten round capacity.
- CT Eligibility Certificate: Does not permit carry, but allows purchase of (1) pistols and revolvers, (2)rifles and shotguns without a 14 day waiting period, (3)ammunition and (4)magazines limited to a ten round capacity.
- Long Gun Eligibility Permit: Purchase of (1) any type of rifles and shotguns without a 14 day waiting period, (2) ammunition and (3) magazines limited to a 10 round capacity.
- Ammunition Certificate: Purchase (1) ammunition and (2)magazines limited to a ten round capacity.

**26. Q: What are the effective dates of the various portions of the Act?**

- Assault weapons ban was effective as of April 5, 2013 and weapons must be registered on the appropriate forms with this Department not later than January 1, 2014. There is no fee for this.



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- Large Capacity magazine ban was effective as of April 5, 2013. LCMs must be declared on the appropriate forms with this Department not later than January 1, 2014. There is no fee for this.
- Long Gun Eligibility Certificates, which will require completion of a specified course of instruction (not yet specified) prior to application, will be required to purchase a rifle or shotgun, absent a CT Carry Permit, or Eligibility Certificate on or after April 1, 2014. Applications for these Certificates will be available by July 1, 2013. Fingerprint cards along with appropriate fees for fingerprints (\$15.00 processing fee, \$16.50 Federal background check and \$50.00 State background check) will have to be submitted with the application. There will be a \$35.00 fee for this application. Each Long Gun Eligibility Certificate is good for five years when renewal will be required.
- On or after October 1, 2013, only holders of a valid CT Carry Permit, Eligibility Certificate, Long Gun Eligibility Certificate or Ammunition Certificate will be able to lawfully purchase ammunition and/or magazines. Applications for Ammunition Certificates will be available by July 1, 2013. Application must be made on a form approved by this Department. There will be a \$35.00 fee for this application. Each Ammunition Certificate is good for five years when renewal will be required.

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