



LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS SAFETY ACT (LEOSA) FACTS



WHAT IS LEOSA

LEOSA is a federal law establishing a federal concealed carry right for active and retired qualified law enforcement officers.¹ The law acknowledges that law enforcement must be prepared to respond anytime public safety is at risk.² It was expanded by the U.S. Congress twice to create a force multiplier to better protect the public.

WHAT IS A QUALIFIED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER UNDER FEDERAL LAW

The LEOSA statute is clear.³ It provides a standard federal criteria officers must fall under to carry. The law requires an officer have **over 10 years in service, good standing, an identification issued by their agency which they must carry, and an annual qualification with their firearm.**

NEW JERSEY'S PREEMPTION OF LEOSA:

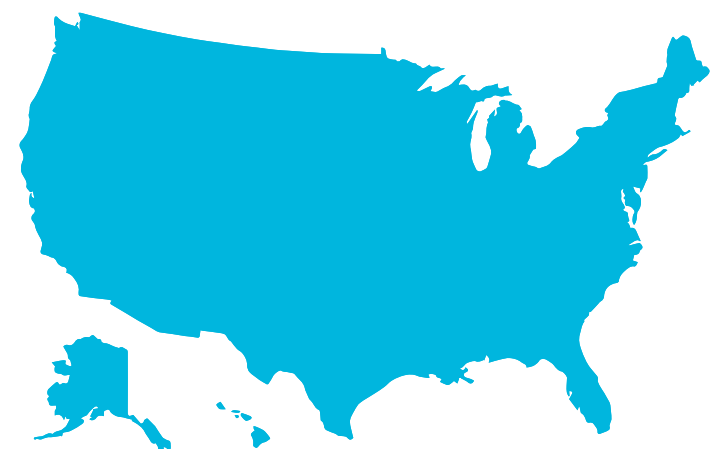
Article VI, Clause 2 of the U.S. Constitution gives Federal law supremacy over conflicting state laws, yet New Jersey statute⁴ has created conflicting rules for qualifying law enforcement under LEOSA by:

- Requiring an additional permit through a state application process
- Creating a 75-year-old age limit
- Creating a new qualification standard
- Banning certain ammunition

Even after meeting this preemptive criteria, New Jersey can still arbitrarily deny a qualified law enforcement officer their LEOSA permit.

WHAT LEOSA LEAVES TO STATES

States are permitted to regulate LEOSA concealed carry in "state office buildings or other state property" and "private property." LEOSA also does not supersede the Gun Free School Zone Act. This federal law was passed to provide opportunities to enhance public safety, **New Jersey has attempted to override federal law and is making the state less safe as a result.**



1. 18 U.S.C. 926
2. Public Law No. 108-277, H.R. 218 in 108th Congress
3. 18 U.S.C. 926 B, C
4. Title 2C