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Mayor Emanuel Introduces Revision to City's Handgun Ordinance

CHICAGO - Mayor Rahm Emanuel today introduced an ordinance that would revise the City's Responsible Handgun Ordinance by repealing the prohibition on issuing a Chicago Firearms Permit (CFP) to persons convicted of misdemeanor Unlawful Use of a Weapon (UW).

The proposed revision follows a ruling in US District Court that found a section of the 2010 ordinance barring anyone convicted of unlawful use of a weapon that is a firearm was unconstitutional.

"Maintaining common-sense handgun restrictions is an issue of public safety," said Mayor Emanuel. "The proposed changes would address the concerns raised by the court while continuing to keep guns out of the hands of violent felons."

The proposed revision would comply with the recent court decision by establishing different criteria for issuing a CFP for persons convicted of a violent crime that is either a felony or a misdemeanor. If approved, the ordinance would permanently ban persons convicted of violent felonies from being eligible to receive a CFP, while placing a five-year ban on persons convicted of a violent misdemeanor offense. The current ban for anyone convicted of two or more offenses of driving under the influence of alcohol or other drugs will remain in place.

"We will continue to vigorously defend the City's handgun ordinance in order to protect Chicago residents from the scourge of handgun violence," added Mayor Emanuel.

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