

Youth Handgun Safety Act

The Youth Handgun Safety Act is part of the Gun Control Act of 1968 and regulates the possession of handguns by people under the age of 18 years.

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) has published a Youth Handgun Safety Act Notice which states:

- (1) The misuse of handguns is a leading contributor to juvenile violence and fatalities.
- (2) Safely storing and securing firearms away from children will help prevent the unlawful possession of handguns by juveniles, stop accidents, and save lives.
- (3) Federal law prohibits, except in certain limited circumstances, anyone under 18 years of age from knowingly possessing a handgun, or any person from selling, delivering, or otherwise transferring a handgun to a person under 18.
- (4) A knowing violation of the prohibition against selling, delivering, or otherwise transferring a handgun to a person under the age of 18 is, under certain circumstances, punishable by up to 10 years in prison.

The exact sections of this law can be found at the ATF web site at www.atf.treas.gov/pub/pub.htm under the heading of Firearms and Explosives Publications.