PLC 393 An Act Relating to Concealed Firearms Locked in Vehicles

What is the new law?

Effective 9/28/11 an employer cannot prevent an employee who has a permit to carry a concealed weapon from bringing the weapon to work so long as the employee keeps the weapon in the employee's locked vehicle and it is not visible.

What liability to do I have under the new law?

The law goes on to say that the "employer may not be held liable in any civil action for damages, injury or death resulting from or arising out of another person's actions involving a firearm or ammunition transported or stored pursuant to this section, including, but not limited to, the theft of a firearm from an employee's vehicle."

Can I ask if a staff applicant has a concealed weapon permit?

In Maine there is no prohibition against discriminating against a person permitted to carry a concealed weapon. So, you CAN ask on your application whether the applicant has a concealed weapon permit and decide not to hire someone who has such a permit.

What should I do to get ready for my next hiring season?

Camps should revise their staff personal property restrictions to reflect this exception. You still have the right to restrict all other firearms from being brought on your property by staff.

--from Jack Erler on behalf of Maine Summer Camps (MYCF) October 2011