

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments

27A.

(a) (1) ~~In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.~~

(2) ~~"Ammunition" means any cartridge, shell, or other device containing explosive or incendiary material designed and intended for use in a firearm.~~

(3) ~~"Bulletproof body armor" means any material or object that is designed to cover or be worn on any part of the body to prevent, deflect, or slow down the penetration of ammunition.~~

(4) ~~"Crime of violence" has the meaning stated in § 643B(a) of this article.~~

(5) ~~"Firearm" includes:~~

(i) ~~A handgun, antique firearm, rifle, shotgun, short barreled shotgun, or short barreled rifle, as defined in § 36F of this article;~~

(ii) ~~A machine gun, as defined in § 372 of this article;~~

(iii) ~~A regulated firearm as defined in § 441 of this article; and~~

(iv) ~~An assault pistol, as defined in § 36H-1 of this article.~~

(6) ~~"SECRETARY" MEANS THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE POLICE OR THE SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE.~~

(B) ~~EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, ANY PERSON WHO PURCHASES, OWNS, OR POSSESSES BULLETPROOF BODY ARMOR IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR AND UPON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO A FINE OF NOT MORE THAN \$5,000 OR IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT MORE THAN 5 YEARS OR BOTH.~~

(C) ~~THE PROVISIONS OF SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION DO NOT APPLY TO:~~

(1) ~~PERSONNEL OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT OR ANY AGENCY OR DEPARTMENT OF THE UNITED STATES, MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES OR OF THE NATIONAL GUARD, OR LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL OF THIS STATE OR ANY LOCAL AGENCY IN THE STATE;~~

(2) ~~LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL OF SOME OTHER STATE OR SUBDIVISION OF ANOTHER STATE TEMPORARILY IN THIS STATE ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS;~~

(3) ~~ANY PERSON TO WHOM A PERMIT TO CARRY A WEAPON HAS BEEN ISSUED UNDER SECTION 36E OF THIS ARTICLE;~~

(4) ~~AN EMPLOYEE OF THE DIVISION OF CORRECTION, THE PATUXENT INSTITUTION, THE DIVISION OF PRETRIAL DETENTION AND SERVICES, THE DIVISION OF PAROLE AND PROBATION, ANY COUNTY JAIL OR DETENTION CENTER, OR ANY BOOKING FACILITY WHILE ACTING WITHIN THE COURSE AND SCOPE OF THEIR EMPLOYMENT;~~