

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Criminal Law

Section ~~4-101 and~~ 12-102

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2002 Volume and 2003 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Criminal Law

~~4-101.~~

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

(2) ~~"Nunchaku" means a device constructed of two pieces of any substance, including wood, metal, or plastic, connected by any chain, rope, leather, or other flexible material not exceeding 24 inches in length.~~

(3) (i) ~~"Pepper mace" means an aerosol propelled combination of highly disabling irritant pepper based products.~~

(ii) ~~"Pepper mace" is also known as oleoresin capsicum (o.c.) spray.~~

(4) ~~"Star knife" means a device used as a throwing weapon, consisting of several sharp or pointed blades arrayed as radially disposed arms about a central disk.~~

(5) (i) ~~"Weapon" includes a dirk knife, bowie knife, switchblade knife, star knife, sandelub, metal knuckles, razor, and nunchaku.~~

(ii) ~~"Weapon" does not include:~~

1. ~~a handgun; or~~

2. ~~a penknife without a switchblade.~~

(b) ~~This section does not prohibit the following individuals from carrying a weapon:~~

(1) ~~an officer of the State, or of any county or municipal corporation of the State, who is entitled or required to carry the weapon as part of the officer's official equipment, or by any conservator of the peace, who is entitled or required to carry the weapon as part of the conservator's official equipment, or by any officer or conservator of the peace of another state who is temporarily in this State;~~

(2) ~~a special agent of a railroad;~~

(3) ~~a holder of a permit to carry a handgun issued under Title 5, Subtitle 3 of the Public Safety Article; or~~

(4) ~~an individual who carries the weapon as a reasonable precaution against apprehended danger, subject to the right of the court in an action arising~~