



# REGULATORY

**ALERT**

IMPORTANT INFORMATION - READ IMMEDIATELY

## Regulatory Alert No. 562

**Attn: Marketers/Suppliers**

**December 18, 2015**

### **Texas' New Open Carry Law Goes Into Effect January 1, 2016 New Signage Required for both Concealed Carry and Open Carry**

The new Texas Open Carry handgun law goes into effect January 1, 2016.

How does this new law impact Texas Food & Fuel Association members? Customers, employees, and members of the public may now come into a place of business openly carrying a handgun.

There are two exceptions the business owner may use if the business owner does not want people openly carrying handguns on the premises. These provisions are very similar to the already in place concealed carry rules that involve proper signage or a clear verbal communication that open carry of handguns is not permitted.

1. The business owner may post a sign prohibiting the open carry of handguns on the property.
2. The business owner, manager, or employee may verbally communicate that the open carry of handguns is prohibited on the premises.

In addition to the new open carry changes, there have been changes made to the Concealed Carry signage and anyone using the previous signs must change to the language in the new signs.

All handgun related signs must be posted in both English and Spanish. The text must be at least one inch in height with block font and in contrasting colors. Signs must be placed in a conspicuous location near all entrances.

**PDF copies of all four concealed and open carry signs with the updated language are available by clicking the following link:**  
<http://files.ctctcdn.com/70d5d2cc001/9c2f1cf5-af5b-4dc0-a59c-5368e7f1fb29.pdf>

For information regarding signage placement and language visit the DPS website: <http://dps.texas.gov/RSD/CHL/faqs/> - #40 and #41 in the FAQ's.

As with the concealed handgun law, the decision whether to allow or not allow people to openly carry handguns is up to the business owner. If you wish to prohibit the open carry of handguns on your property then you must post the sign with the correct language and the correct size.

Texas Food & Fuel Association Staff is available for any questions or concerns on these issues.

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If you have any questions, please contact Matt Burgin, Director of Government Relations at  
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