

Article about Fort Lee firearms-permit issuance procedures

1 message

Mon, Feb 24, 2025 at 12:25 PM

To: mayor@fortleenj.org

Hi Mayor Sokolich,

I hope this email finds you well. I am sending this request for quote/comment to the permitting officer (Sally Fong) and the chief as well.

In response to reports from readers of our publication, we are writing an article about the process of submitting firearmsrelated applications in Fort Lee. We never publish one of these articles without giving a chance to have a voice to parties on both sides of the equation. Would you like to respond or comment in relation to what the article will be about?

The article is about the police department requiring additional, non-standard documentation, to be submitted after completing an application online in the FARS system for Permit to Carry a Handgun.

My understanding is that the entire process is also supposed to be completely online. However, readers have forwarded a list of non-standard documentation that is supposed to be mailed in a manila envelope.

- Driver's license
- Proof of employment
- Firearms ID Card
- Authorization release (would you kindly forward me a copy of this form, not quite sure what it is)
- Authority to Carry a Handgun Disclaimer (would you kindly forward me a copy of this form)
- Past address history (which I believe already gets submitted in FARS)

Are you aware of the NJ Attorney General's Directive 2016-4 which prohibits this practice? I have attached it for your review.

At the very least, I do believe Officer Fong is aware of the directive because I have asked what the "email Officer Fong for further instructions" step listed in a PDF on the town website is about and she does not seem to want to share that information with me until I first submit an application.

Are these items also required to be submitted for Firearms ID Cards and Pistol Purchase Permits?

Now that those in charge have been presented with the AG directive, will the town consider dropping these requirements and keeping the process uniform with other municipalities?

Thank you again for your time. I look forward to any comments or quotes you would like to provide for the article.

Regards,

