

CHAPTER 24.

WEAPONS.

- § 24-1. Carrying dangerous weapon to place of religious worship or on Sunday.
- § 24-2. Discharging firearms.
- § 24-3. Discharging, etc., slingshots, air guns, etc.
- § 24-4. Discharging arrows, etc., from bow or cross-bow.
- § 24-5. Carrying concealed weapons.
- § 24-6. Sale, etc., of blackjacks, etc.
- § 24-7. Selling pistols, etc., to minors under eighteen years of age.
- § 24-8. Sale, etc., of toy firearms.

Sec. 24-1. Carrying dangerous weapon to place of religious worship or on Sunday.

If any person, within the municipality, shall carry any gun, pistol, Bowie knife, dagger or other dangerous weapon, without good and sufficient reason, to a place of worship while a meeting for religious purposes is being held at such place, he shall be fined not less than twenty dollars. (For similar state law, see Code of Va., § 18.1-241.)

Sec. 24-2. Discharging firearms.

No person, except in case of urgent necessity, shall shoot any gun, pistol or other firearms within the municipality without the approval of the municipal mayor. (For state law as to authority of municipal corporation to regulate or prohibit the discharge of firearms, see Code of Va., § 15.1-865. For state law as to discharge of firearms in town, street or in place of public business or public gathering, see Code of Va., § 18.1-69.)

Sec. 24-3. Discharging, etc., slingshots, air guns, etc.

It shall be unlawful for any person in the municipality to discharge or use any slingshot, sling, gravel shooter, air gun, bow, cross-bow or similar implement. (As to throwing stones, etc., in or into streets, see § 20-11 of this Code.)

Sec. 24-4. Discharging arrows, etc., from bow or cross-bow.

No person shall, in any street in the municipality, discharge arrows, nails or bullets from a bow or cross-bow.

Sec. 24-5. Carrying concealed weapons.

If any person in the municipality carry about his person, hidden from common observation, any pistol, dirk, Bowie knife, switch-blade knife, razor, slung shot, metal knucks or any weapon of like kind, he shall upon conviction thereof be fined not

less than twenty dollars nor more than one hundred dollars and, in the discretion of the court, may, in addition thereto, be committed to jail for not more than twelve months, and such pistol, dirk, Bowie knife, switch-blade knife, razor, slung shot, metal knucks or weapon of like kind shall, by order of the court, be forfeited to the state and may be seized by any officer as forfeited, and such as may be needed for police officers and conservators of the peace shall be devoted to that purpose, and the remainder shall be destroyed by the officer having them in charge.

This section shall not apply to any police officers, sergeants, sheriffs, conservators of the peace other than notaries public, or to carriers of the United States mail in the rural districts, or to any collecting officer while in the discharge of his official duty. No person shall be punished under this section who has been granted permission to carry concealed weapons in accordance with state law. (For similar state law, see Code of Va., § 18.1-269. For attorney general's opinion as to seizure of weapons, see opinion dated January 6, 1954.)

Sec. 24-6. Sale, etc., of blackjacks, etc.

If any person in the municipality shall sell or barter, or exhibit for sale or for barter, or give or furnish, or cause to be sold, bartered, given or furnished, or have in his possession, or under his control, with the intent of selling, bartering, giving or furnishing any blackjack, brass or metal knucks, or like weapon, such person shall be fined not less than twenty-five dollars nor more than one hundred dollars. The having in one's possession of any such weapon shall be prima facie evidence, except in the case of a conservator of the peace, of his intent to sell, barter, give or furnish the same. (For similar state law, see Code of Va., § 18.1-271.)

Sec. 24-7. Selling pistols, etc., to minors under eighteen years of age.

If any person shall sell, barter, give or furnish, or cause to be sold, bartered, given or furnished to any minor under eighteen years of age a pistol, dirk, switch-blade knife or Bowie knife, having good cause to believe him to be a minor under eighteen years of age, such person shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and fined not less than two dollars and fifty cents nor more than one hundred dollars. (For similar state law, see Code of Va., § 18.1-344.)

Sec. 24-8. Sale, etc., of toy firearms.

No person in the municipality shall sell, barter, exchange, furnish or dispose of by purchase, gift or in any other manner any toy gun, pistol, rifle or other toy firearm, if the same shall, by means of powder or other explosive, discharge blank or ball charges. Any person violating the provisions of this section shall

be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not less than fifty dollars nor more than one hundred dollars, or confined in jail for a period not less than thirty nor more than ninety days, or both. Each sale of any of the articles hereinbefore specified to any person shall constitute a separate offense.

Nothing in this section shall be construed as preventing the sale of what are commonly known as cap pistols. (For similar state law, see Code of Va., § 18.1-247.)