



PAULDING COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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For Immediate Release

Firearm Laws on the Silver Comet Trail

(Paulding County, GA) In the days since the attack on Tina Waddell which occurred on the Silver Comet Trail on July 29, 2014, there has been much discussion regarding whether or not citizens can legally carry a firearm on the Silver Comet Trail. Social Media sites have had people spreading misinformation back and forth. After speaking with County Attorney Jayson Phillips and reviewing the Official Code of Georgia Annotated (OCGA), Sheriff Gary Gulledge decided it was time for everyone to know what the law actually says.

In short, any citizen who has a valid *Georgia Weapons Carry License* is allowed to carry a firearm on the Silver Comet Trail. The below listed code section OCGA 16-11-126 applies to the Silver Comet Trail:

(g) Notwithstanding Code Sections 12-3-10, 27-3-1.1, 27-3-6, and 16-12-122 through 16-12-127, any person with a valid weapons carry license may carry a weapon in all parks, historic sites, or recreational areas, as such term is defined in Code Section 12-3-10, including all publicly owned buildings located in such parks, historic sites, and recreational areas, in wildlife management areas, and on public transportation; provided, however, that a person shall not carry a handgun into a place where it is prohibited by federal law.

If a person **does not** have a valid *Georgia Weapons Carry License* then they are **not eligible** to carry a firearm on the Silver Comet Trail and are essentially in violation of Georgia law. If anyone has any questions regarding the firearm laws in Georgia, please contact the Paulding County Sheriff's Office at (770) 443-3010. If you are interested in obtaining a *Georgia Weapons Carry License* you can contact the Paulding County Probate Court at (770) 443-7541.