



**Thirty-eight reputable individuals from northwest LA attended our March 12<sup>th</sup> class and after threatening weather reports of rain and a slight shifting of the schedule, everyone shot the course of fire with only a few getting hit by raindrops. Twenty of those 38 were attending for renewal purposes. We cannot express our thanks and appreciation to those that were present to renew their CCH license and for those attending the first time. It makes us proud to have taken a part in having fine, reputable law abiding folks like you to have the permit and carry concealed. We hope that you never have to use it but if you do, it will save your life or the life of someone close to you. We also know that carrying concealed does add that inner feeling of security for you and your family. That is why we stress so hard in our classes for you to have a gun that you will actually carry concealed. For those bigger firearms, carry open, legally of course. Special thanks go out to the higher echelon at DWCC for the use of that great training area and range.**

### **NEXT CLASSES MAY 21, 2016**

**The next Basic Carrying Concealed Handgun (CCH) & Advanced Carrying Concealed Weapon (CCW) Class is scheduled in May on the 21<sup>st</sup>. If you know of anyone that wants to attend the Basic or Advanced class, let them know that they need to go ahead and register. We had more than 30 in the March 12<sup>th</sup> class and expect to have just as many or more in our third class of 2016. The fee for either course (Basic or Advanced) is \$75 and we offer to Churches, Institutions, Educational agencies or any other organization \$60 per person and if over 10, \$50 per person. To be**

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eligible to attend the Advanced class, you must be currently a CCH permit holder (from any state) or have attended one of our classes and awaiting on your permit. Those that attend our Advanced CCW course are eager to come back. Spread the word about the upcoming May 21<sup>st</sup> classes.

### INTERESTING TOPIC

Did you know that in this 2016 Legislative Session that convened on March 14<sup>th</sup> that there are 12 bills filed that are directly related to carrying concealed? There are 27 bills filed that are directly related to firearms in general. We are not going to list all those bills as anyone can go to [www.legis.la.gov/legis/BillSearch.aspx?sid=LAST&e=P1](http://www.legis.la.gov/legis/BillSearch.aspx?sid=LAST&e=P1) and follow any bill that has been filed, but we will talk about a couple of those bills filed directly related to carrying concealed.

A Republican Representative from Baton Rouge by the name of Ivey has been busy on his computer typing bills since he is the writer of eight of those 27 bills filed. Two of those eight caught our attention and don't think both will fly out of the House, however one might get by.

One bill he filed, HB4, reads, "Provides that right to keep and bear arms includes the right to carry a concealed handgun without a permit." Although all of these 27 bills were read and referred to the Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice with the exception of the three Senate Bills filed (they were also read but referred to the Committee on Judiciary B) on March 14<sup>th</sup>, we don't think this HB4 bill will make it back to the floor.

Now that is just our thoughts and not the gospel but we say that because if that "can of worms" is opened, you may as well see bills filed in the future where if a person is 16 years of age or older they can start driving without getting a license. There is nothing wrong with the way permits are issued now.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment clearly states the "right to keep and bear arms" it doesn't mention anything about carrying concealed and we like the current process of obtaining a permit to carry concealed. There is currently no law in LA that prohibits "open carry".

If a person can legally possess a firearm, 21 yrs of age or older and there is no ordinance prohibiting firearms in that area, they can walk around all day long with a sidearm strapped to their side or a long gun (rifle). Oh sure they would draw attention but they wouldn't be in violation of the state law.

But we do need to have lawful control on carrying concealed. We hope most of you agree.

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Another bill Ivey has is HB6 that states; “Excludes carrying a concealed handgun from the crime of illegal carrying of weapons for certain persons”. Now we hope Representative Ivey doesn’t get his feelings hurt on this Bill not making it to the floor also. Current law prohibits anyone from carrying concealed unless they have a permit to do so. Rep. Ivey is hoping his Bill passes so that any one of lawful age (21 yrs or older) and can possess a firearm legally can carry concealed without getting arrested for Illegal Carrying of a Firearm. Again, we believe the current process of getting a permit to carry concealed is fine. They needed Rep. Ivey about 228 years ago when the Constitution and the Bill of Rights were written.

There is one bill we liked and hope makes its way back to the floor and it deals with getting further training on carrying concealed **a being issued an** “enhanced CCH permit”. The current process of getting further training to carry in Church is already in place however after one completes that training they are issued a certificate and they take this certificate back to the Church Administrator or Pastor and get permission to carry in Church.

This “enhanced CCH permit” would also allow the holder to carry concealed in places a basic CCH permit holder could not. We like this one as the holder would have a permit indicating he has obtained further training. This bill, HB 315, was also written by Rep. Ivey and he will most likely not get his feelings hurt on this one.

### ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY

As other CCH agencies are now doing, we have also started allowing anyone who is currently active duty military free tuition to our Basic CCH Classes. Although any one in that status may not need the class, if they have fulfilled the training requirement while with the military, those that do not and are wanting to attend the class to apply for a LA CC permit, they will be our guest and can attend the class without paying registration fees. We are grateful for our country’s active military personnel. We ask all of you to never pass up an opportunity to thank a Veteran or our active military individuals but also thank those that are your local public safety and law enforcement personnel for their sacrifice.

### **STAY SAFE AND HAVE A WARM REMAINING MARCH!**

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