



Commissioner Adam H. Putnam

*Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services*

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## **Commissioner Adam H. Putnam Expands Concealed Weapon License Partnership to Charlotte County Tax Collector**

**CHARLOTTE COUNTY, Fla.**— Local residents in and around Charlotte County can go to the Charlotte County Tax Collector to apply for or renew a state concealed weapon license beginning today. Charlotte County Tax Collector Vickie Potts is the 16th county tax collector in Florida whose office is now part of this partnership, the first of its kind in the country.

“This first-of-its-kind partnership with county tax collectors throughout Florida offers residents more choices and greater convenience when applying for or renewing their concealed weapon licenses,” said Commissioner of Agriculture Adam H. Putnam. “I thank Charlotte County Tax Collector Vickie Potts for working hard to provide a more convenient and efficient experience for Floridians seeking a concealed weapon license.”

This partnership allows tax collectors to receive applications, take fingerprints and photographs and send the information to the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to process the request for a concealed weapon license.

“It is exciting to join with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services in this unique partnership,” said Vickie Potts, Charlotte County Tax Collector. “This is another example of our office partnering with the state to provide convenient and efficient service to residents in and around Charlotte County.”

The 16 tax collectors participating in both the application and renewal process for concealed weapon licenses include the following counties: Walton, Hillsborough, Martin, St. Johns, Brevard, Marion, Lee, Pinellas, Pasco, Highlands, Okaloosa, Indian River, Nassau, Hardee, Seminole and Charlotte.

Legislation sponsored last year by Sen. Wilton Simpson in the Senate and Rep. James Grant in the House of Representatives allowed tax collectors to begin accepting applications. The convenience of applying at a tax collector’s office will not affect the

integrity of the concealed weapon license program. Since the partnership with tax collectors began, more than 15,000 concealed weapon license applications have been accepted by tax collector offices. There are currently more than 1.4 million concealed weapon licenses.

Consumers can still apply for or renew a concealed weapons license via mail or at one of the department's eight regional offices in the following locations: Fort Walton, Tallahassee, Jacksonville, Orlando, Punta Gorda, Tampa, West Palm Beach and Miami-Dade.

Additionally, in July 2015, Commissioner Putnam announced that the department is expediting concealed weapon license applications for all active military members and veterans. To date, more than 7,500 active military members and veterans have received expedited concealed weapon licenses.

Anyone who has moved since the issuance of their concealed weapon license should update his or her address online at [FreshFromFlorida.com](http://FreshFromFlorida.com)

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