

# Good Cause Worksheet

What is the Sheriff looking for in a “good cause” statement?

A good cause statement is a set of circumstances that distinguishes you from other members of the general public and causes you to be placed in harm’s way. Include the details that talk about your specific situation rather than talking about random or general threats. Below we have a sentence by sentence way of organizing your exact situation or circumstances that apply to your life, work, hobby, or other activity that will help the sheriff’s clerks understand your need to carry a concealed firearm.

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## **Step 1** – Your “Because” Statement

Pick one of these 7 statements and make it into a specific statement about you using “because”.

1. Evidence that there has been or is likely to be an attempt on the part of a second party to do great bodily harm to the applicant. Check [www.crimemapping.com](http://www.crimemapping.com) to see what crimes have occurred near your home or business.
2. The nature of the business or occupation of the applicant is such that it is subject to personal risk and / or criminal attack, greater than the general population. (e.g. Healthcare, Industrial, Retail, Construction, etc.)
3. A task of the business or occupation of the applicant requires transportation of large sums of money or other valuables and alternative protective measures or security cannot be employed.
4. When a business or occupation is of a high-risk nature and requires the applicant's presence in a dangerous environment. (e.g. Liquor Store, Mini-Mart, Bank, Cash Only Business, Check Cashing or Hard Loan Business)
5. The occupation or business of the applicant is such that no means of protection, security, or risk avoidance can mitigate the risk, other than the carrying of a concealed firearm.
6. Personal protection is warranted to mitigate a threat to the applicant that the applicant is able to substantiate.
7. Good cause could include, but is not limited to, verifiable documented instances of threats to the personal safety of the applicant, his or her family, or employees. Threats to personal safety may be verbal or demonstrated through actual harm committed in the place of work, neighborhood or regular routes of travel for business. The applicant should articulate the threat as it applies personally to the applicant, his or her family, or employees. Non-specific, general concerns about personal safety are insufficient.

**Example #1:** I have evidence that there is likely to be an attempt to do great bodily harm on me by someone else **because** I have received threatening emails from my former brother-in-law who was in jail for assault.

**Example #2:** The nature of my occupation is such that it subjects me to personal risk and/or criminal attack, greater than the general population **because** as a General Contractor I transport expensive equipment and tools around the county.

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## **Step 2** – The “Who”, “What”, “Where”, “How”, and “When” Details

1. Who is a specific threat to you? (e.g. Burglars, robbers, terrorists, drug dealers, rapists, or a specific threat)
  2. What do they want? (e.g. take your valuables or harm you, or both)
  3. Where are you that leaves you vulnerable? (e.g. High Crime work location or commute, remote area with slow Law Enforcement or Medical Response, or limited cell phone coverage)
  4. How will they hurt or attack you? (e.g. ambush you while you are in a bad part of town with your valuables, follow you to or from work late at night, physically attack you while in a secluded area alone, carjacking, rape, robbery, kidnapping, physical limitation or disability that prevents you from running away or fighting back, etc.)
  5. When could you be attacked? (Do you work or travel early in the morning or late at night, alone? Camp, hike, run, walk the dogs, or go jogging in the park? Is there a specific time of day/night or day of the week when you have to travel with valuables? What is the frequency? Weekly? Daily?)
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**Step 3 – Tell Your True Story.** Using your own words, write a paragraph or two that is a story about something that you have experienced that leads you to believe what you require a CCW. Talk about something that actually happened that relates back to your “good cause”. If your “good cause” is you transport valuables, then write about a time when you were in fear of being attacked, robbed, or injured. Provide police reports if available.

**Example:** On a job sight or work location I was confronted by 3 men who were confrontational and trespassing on private property. I was alone because I work late at night. It was obvious to me they were not there for business reasons. I felt in fear for my safety and believe that I was in real danger of being attacked. Police report #18-976543

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#### **Step 4 – What is Your Experience Level?**

Your level of proficiency does not necessarily count as your “good cause”, but it is important to add a sentence or two to your “good cause” statement talking about your experience and training with firearms.

1. Have you had military training?
2. Do you have any certifications?
3. Have you graduated from any training classes?
4. How long have you been involved in the shooting sports?
5. Have you had any training in the ethics or legal aspects of using lethal force?

Include as much as you can, but do not exceed a couple of sentences about your experience. Remember, “Good Cause” has to do with your risk level compared to the general public and not how good you are with a firearm.

#### **Step 5 – Make a Request for Your Permit**

I am afraid that I will be killed or injured as a result of these activities. For these reasons, I am requesting that I be granted a concealed weapons permit.

For these reasons, I feel that my life is in jeopardy and require the concealed weapons permit to comply with the law and protect my life.

Because of this, I am afraid that I will be killed or injured. For all of these reasons, I respectfully request that I be granted a concealed weapons permit.

**Put your Statement together and put it into your own words. Include as much detail as you feel necessary, keeping in mind that specific events or threats may need to be supported with documentation including police reports.**

