If you are have a Minnesota Permit to Carry and wish to:

PLEASE NOTE: VARIOUS JUDGES INCLUDING DISTRICT 9 HAVE ISSUED ORDERS IN APPARENT VIOLATION OF STATE LAW THAT ANYONE CARRYING A WEAPON IN A COUNTY COURTHOUSE WILL BE HELD IN CONTEMPT OF COURT AND PUNISHED.

SEE MN ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE RESPONSE ON NEXT PAGE.

Carry in a Minnesota county courthouse complex

Minnesota law regarding notifying a sheriff if you intend to carry in the county courthouse complex is **MN Statute 609.66 Subdivision 1g.(b)(2).** It reads: persons who carry pistols according to the terms of a permit issued under section 624.714 and who so notify the sheriff or the commissioner of public safety, as appropriate;

Carry in a Minnesota school

Minnesota law regarding getting written permission to carry in a school is **MN Statute 609.66 Subdivision 1d.(f)(8).** It reads: possession of dangerous weapons, BB guns, or replica firearms with written permission of the principal or other person having general control and supervision of the school or the director of a child care center; or

Links:
https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=609.66
http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/hrd/pubs/firearmsMN.pdf

STATE OF MINNESOTA

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

LORI SWANSON
ATTORNEY GENERAL

102 STATE CAPITOL
ST. PAUL, MN 55155
TELEPHONE: (651) 296-6196

July 30, 2015

Mr. Justin Dragosani-Brantingham
P.O. Box 74
Warroad, Minnesota 56763

Dear Mr. Dragosani-Brantingham:

I thank you for your correspondence received on July 21, 2015.

You express your concern about the Ninth Judicial District court judges banning firearms in the county courthouse complexes. You question whether such prohibitions violate Minnesota Statutes section 609.66. You are also concerned that there may be signs banning the carrying of firearms at the Minnesota State Fair. You ask for any assistance this Office can provide.

While I cannot give you legal advice, I can tell you the following, which I hope will be helpful.

First, as you point out, Minnesota Statutes section 609.66, subdivision 1g provides that a permit holder cannot be prosecuted for possessing a pistol in a courthouse if the permit holder notifies the county sheriff. The statute does not address the authority of a judge to otherwise limit the possession of firearms in a courthouse. I enclose a copy of the statute for your review.

Second, this Office does not have authority over district court judges. Judges are members of the judicial branch which is headed by the Chief Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court. You may wish to share your concerns about the Ninth Judicial District Judges' Order with the Chief Justice. Contact information is as follows:

Chief Justice Lori Skjerven Gildea
Minnesota Supreme Court
305 Minnesota Judicial Center
25 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd
St. Paul, MN 55155
Telephone: (651) 297-7650

Third, this Office does not have any authority over county courthouses. The judicial branch for a particular district has the authority to control operations for the courthouses within that district. You may also wish to contact the Court Administrator or the Chief Judge of the Ninth Judicial District about your concerns. They can be reached as follows:

Theresa McDonnell
Roseau County Court Administrator
Roseau County Courthouse
606 Fifth Avenue SW
Room 20
Roseau, MN 56751
Telephone: (218) 463-2541

Chief Judge Paul T. Benshoof
Ninth Judicial District
Beltrami County Judicial Center
600 Minnesota Avenue NW
Suite 108
Bemidji, MN 56601-3037
Telephone: (218) 333-4120

Fourth, under Minnesota Statutes section 37.01, operation of the Minnesota State Fairgrounds is controlled by the Minnesota State Agricultural Society. The Minnesota State Agricultural Society is managed and controlled by the Board of Managers under Minnesota Statutes section 37.04. I enclose copies of those statutes for your reference. You may wish to share your concerns with the Board of Managers President Allen Paulson and Wally Wichmann, the Representative on the Board from your district. They may be contacted as follows:

Allen Paulson, President
Agricultural Society Board of Managers
Minnesota State Fairgrounds
1265 Snelling Avenue North
St. Paul, MN 55108-3003
Telephone: (651) 288-4412

Wally Wichmann, Representative
Agricultural Society Board of Managers
Seventh Regional District
1560 110th Street
Balaton, MN 56115

I thank you again for your correspondence.

Sincerely,

Laura Flanders

LAURA FLANDERS
Legal Assistant

Enclosures: Minnesota Statutes section 609.66
Minnesota Statutes section 37.01
Minnesota Statutes section 37.04