

**PREVENTION OF CRIME  
(OFFENSIVE WEAPONS) ACT**

**CHAPTER 11:09**

**Act  
23 of 1953**

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UNOFFICIAL VERSION

*L.R.O.*

UPDATED TO DECEMBER 31ST 2014

**Note on Subsidiary Legislation**

This Chapter contains no subsidiary legislation.

**CHAPTER 11:09**

**PREVENTION OF CRIME  
(OFFENSIVE WEAPONS) ACT**

**An Act to prohibit the carrying of offensive weapons in public places without lawful authority or reasonable excuse.** 23 of 1953.

[31ST DECEMBER 1953]

Commencement.

**1.** This Act may be cited as the Prevention of Crime (Offensive Weapons) Act. Short title.

**2.** In this Act— Interpretation.

“public place” includes any highway and any other premises or place to which at the material time the public have or are permitted to have access, whether on payment or otherwise;

“offensive weapon” means any article made or adapted for use for causing injury to the person, or intended by the person having it with him for such use by him.

**3.** (1) Any person who without lawful authority or reasonable excuse, the proof whereof shall lie on him, has with him in any public place any offensive weapon is liable— Prohibition of the carrying of offensive weapons without lawful authority or reasonable excuse.

(a) on summary conviction to a fine of one thousand dollars and to imprisonment for six months;

(b) on conviction on indictment to a fine of two thousand dollars and to imprisonment for two years.

(2) Where any person is convicted of an offence under subsection (1), the Court may make an order for the forfeiture or disposal of any weapon in respect of which the offence was committed.

(3) A constable may arrest without warrant any person whom he has reasonable cause to believe to be committing an offence under subsection (1), if the constable is not satisfied as to

that person's identity or place of residence or has reasonable cause to believe that it is necessary to arrest him in order to prevent the commission by him of any other offence in the course of committing which an offensive weapon might be used.

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(4) In order to remove doubts it is hereby declared that a person having with him in a public place a firearm which he is licensed to keep under the Firearms Act shall be deemed for the purposes of subsection (1) to have the same with him with lawful authority, and no prosecution under this Act shall be instituted against any such person.

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