

Summary of a phone discussion with the Brazoria County Sheriff's Office on October 29, 2019:

There are no laws, regulations or ordinances prohibiting discharging firearms on private property in the unincorporated parts of Brazoria County providing the activity stays on your property. There are obvious safety considerations to follow especially inside our neighborhood. The sheriff warned that it becomes a serious legal matter if your projectile crosses your property line and referred to code below:

Texas Penal Code § 22.05. Deadly Conduct

(a) A person commits an offense if he recklessly engages in conduct that places another in imminent danger of serious bodily injury.

(b) A person commits an offense if he knowingly discharges a firearm at or in the direction of:

(1) one or more individuals; or

(2) a habitation, building, or vehicle and is reckless as to whether the habitation, building, or vehicle is occupied.

(c) Recklessness and danger are presumed if the actor knowingly pointed a firearm at or in the direction of another whether or not the actor believed the firearm to be loaded.

(d) For purposes of this section, "building," "habitation," and "vehicle" have the meanings assigned those terms by Section 30.01 .

(e) An offense under Subsection (a) is a Class A misdemeanor. An offense under Subsection (b) is a felony of the third degree.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Code § 62.0121. Discharge of Firearm Across Property Line

(a) In this section, "firearm" has the meaning assigned by Section 62.014(a) .

(b) A person commits an offense if:

(1) the person, while hunting or engaging in recreational shooting, knowingly discharges a firearm; and

(2) the projectile from the firearm travels across a property line.

(c) It is a defense to prosecution under this section that the person:

(1) owns the property on both sides of each property line crossed by the projectile; or

(2) has a written agreement with any person who owns property on either side of each property line crossed by the projectile that allows the person to discharge a firearm on, over, or across the property or property line.

(d) The written agreement required under Subsection (c)(2) must:

- (1) contain the name of the person allowed to hunt or engage in recreational shooting in a manner described by Subsection (b);
- (2) identify the property on either side of the property line crossed by the projectile; and
- (3) be signed by any person who owns the property on either side of the line crossed by the projectile.

(e) An offense under this section is a Class C Parks and Wildlife Code misdemeanor.

(f) If conduct constituting an offense under this section constitutes an offense under a section of the Penal Code, the person may be prosecuted under either section or both sections.