



# QUEENSLAND POLICE SERVICE

WEAPONS LICENSING BRANCH  
ADMINISTRATION DIVISION  
200 ROMA STREET, BRISBANE 4000  
GPO BOX 892, BRISBANE 4001

TELEPHONE (07) 3364 4416 FAX (07) 3364 4863



22 April 2005

## NEWSLETTER 01/05

### FINALISATION OF AMNESTY

Approximately 7000 weapons were registered and 2500 surrendered during the 2004 General Firearms Amnesty which concluded on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2004. The Amnesty was declared a success by the Minister for Police, Judy Spence and passes on her thanks to dealers for their participation.

### UNREGISTERED WEAPONS AFTER END OF AMNESTY – DEALERS RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

Dealers can still take possession of unregistered weapons provided they enter the details required by legislation in their register (i.e. refer to section 28 and 29 of the *Weapons Regulation 1996*)

If no person details are available the weapon is to be dealt with as found property and surrendered to police.

### PTA APPLICATIONS WITHOUT DISPOSER DETAILS

Persons submitting applications for Permit to Acquire with no disposer details are being contacted and requested to provide them.

This has been introduced due to a combination of changes to legislation affecting Category H applications and the finalisation of the recent General Firearms Amnesty.

Where a person has not provided disposer details a 'reasonable excuse' will be requested. Examples of a 'reasonable excuse' may include:

- (a) Shopping around at various dealers for a specific weapon type.
- (b) Attending an approved arms fair.

Where an applicant cannot provide disposer details they should indicate on their application why.

This new procedure has been initiated for a trial period and will be reviewed at a later time. The purpose of the new procedure is to ensure dealers are not placed into a position whereby they may broker an unregistered weapon.

### INTERSTATE PERMITS TO ACQUIRE (PTA'S)

Interstate PTA'S may be recognised by licensed Queensland weapon dealers however the weapon **can not** be disposed of immediately to that person on presentation of the PTA. The weapon must be disposed of to a local interstate dealer. The holder of the interstate PTA may then acquire the weapon from the local dealer. (This method is often referred to as 'dealer to dealer')

This process ensures all state firearm registries are suitably informed in a timely manner.

Vice-versa, the holder of a Queensland PTA would be recognised interstate however again, the weapon must be disposed of 'dealer to dealer'.

## **UPDATED FORMS**

There have been some recent changes to forms.

Form 4(E) Application for Transfer of Weapon(s):

Use this form for transfer of weapon/s between individual licences. As previously advised, this form would only ever be used if a business is a sole operator, with or without trading name, transferring to an individual licence. Dealers/Armourers licences issued in the name of a company or partnership where there is a nominee, wanting to transfer weapons to a personal licence will still be subject to the Permit to Acquire process.

## **CROSSBOW LEGISLATION**

If any dealer or armourer wishes to apply to have Category M endorsed on their licence(s) please be aware that the appropriate fee is **\$8.00 per licence** and a Form 4B is required to be completed and lodged at your local police station.

## **ANTIQUE FIREARMS – AMMUNITION NOT COMMERCIALY AVAILABLE**

*The Weapons Act 1990* defines an “antique firearm” as one manufactured before 1 January 1901 that is one of the following:

- (a) a muzzle loading firearm;
- (b) a cap and ball firearm
- (c) a firearm in relation to which an authorised officer decides under section 154 that ammunition is not commercially available.

The Commissioner of Police has appointed the Manager, Weapons Licensing Branch to approve “not commercially available” ammunition. Each case will be considerably researched on an individual basis, assessed and specifically approved.

Currently, licensed dealers can not approve ammunition as “not commercially available”.

For the purposes of the *Weapons Act 1990* “ammunition” is as defined in the *Explosives Act 1999*.

## **NEW INSPECTOR**

A second Inspector has been introduced within Weapons Licensing Branch (WLB). Inspector Geoffrey SMART started on 28/02/2005 to take up the role of ‘Team Leader’. Inspector Michael CROWLEY is still the manager of WLB.

If you have any further enquiries, please feel free to contact the staff of the Weapons Licensing Branch on 3364 4416 for assistance. Also for your convenience, these newsletters are available on the Queensland Police Service internet site [www.police.qld.gov.au](http://www.police.qld.gov.au), or alternatively, copies can be mailed.



**M J CROWLEY  
INSPECTOR  
MANAGER  
WEAPONS LICENSING BRANCH**