



# QUEENSLAND POLICE SERVICE



WEAPONS LICENSING BRANCH  
ADMINISTRATION DIVISION  
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## NEWSLETTER 01/04

### RECENT AMENDMENTS

#### **Amendments to *Weapons Regulation 1996*:**

Amendments have been made to Section 85 of the *Weapons Regulation 1996* that commenced on 18 December 2003. These amendments allow persons who have held a concealable firearms licence for sport or target shooting or a collectors licence that has expired during the amnesty period to receive compensation for category H weapons or parts owned immediately before the amnesty period.

Section 86 of the *Weapons Regulation 1996* also provides that any personal representative of a person who died during the amnesty period and held a concealable firearms licence for sport or target shooting or a collectors licence can receive compensation for category H weapons or parts owned immediately before the amnesty period.

You should ensure that the weapons are being returned for the purpose of compensation by obtaining written advice from the customer confirming either an appointment with the Buy Back or, in country areas, surrender to a police station for on forwarding to the Handgun Buyback.

A Form 10 – Notice of Acquisition or Disposal is to be completed and forwarded in the usual manner with a notation 'Weapons returned to owner/representative for compensation'. This text can be recorded on the form below the weapon details. This process will assist in the efficient processing of these forms.

### HANDGUN BUYBACK

#### **Closure of Clayfield Office:**

Even though the Buyback has been extended until 30 June 2004, the Handgun Control Unit at Clayfield will close its doors to the public on 31 March 2004. All regional visits will also be completed by that date. The Handgun Control Unit will continue processing dealers' claims during March. Once Clayfield has closed, all attention will be focused on finalising dealers' claims.

### WEAPON TRANSACTIONS

#### **Completion of Form 10:**

It is essential for details to be provided in legible handwriting and that appropriate boxes are marked in relation to lodgement/disposal, longarm/concealable and the reason for which a weapon/s are being held for someone.

#### **Submission of Form 10:**

- A licensed dealer or licensed armourer must notify an authorised officer by way of Form 10 of each transaction involving a weapon/s within 14 days after the transaction happens. 'Transaction' means receipt, acquisition, sale or transfer.

#### **When to submit Form 10:**

- For each transaction involving a weapon/s; and
- On receipt of a weapon/s for the purpose of rendering/inspecting inoperable. The information provided on a Form 10 ensures that this branch records the receipt of the weapon/s from the registered owner. A Form 31 does not provide this information and is only advice that the weapon/s has been rendered/inspected permanently inoperable.

## **When a Form 10 is NOT required:**

- There is **no requirement** for dealers to forward a form 10 to the Weapons Licensing Branch if they dispose of a weapon/s to a person who is the holder of a Permit To Acquire. The Notice of Disposal is the correct advice form. This information is outlined in the front cover instructions of the Form 10 book. It has caused some confusion in the past by creating duplicated forms and unnecessary workload. This is also a costly exercise for dealers due to the use of additional forms that are an expense for the dealer.
- An exemption has been issued by the Commissioner of Police for registered weapon/s received by licensed dealers and armourers for the purposes of repair, servicing, warranty claim or evaluation. This exemption has been issued on the following conditions:

The licensed dealer or armourer first receiving a registered weapon/s for the purposes of repair, servicing, warranty claim or evaluation must immediately enter the details of the weapon/s into their register and complete a Form 10. If the weapon/s is transferred to another armourer or dealer, i.e. warranty repairs, no further Form 10 is required, however details of the transfer must be entered in the register.

It is presumed that the weapon/s received for repair will be returned to the registered owner therefore the weapon/s concerned will **not** be removed from the licence holder's weapons list. If for some reason you or another dealer/armourer retains the weapon/s, a subsequent Form 10 is required to be submitted in order for our records to reflect the correct details of the location of the weapon/s.

If the weapon/s is replaced under warranty, a Form 10 is to be completed and forwarded to the Authorised Officer, Weapons Licensing Branch within 14 days of the weapon/s being delivered. A letter should be attached to the Form 10 giving details of the weapon/s being replaced.

## **Weapons Left by Unknown Disposer:**

If a weapon/s has been left with a licensed dealer/armourer by an unknown person, the weapon/s is to be placed with the police. If the owner cannot be located, the dealer/armourer may claim the weapon/s 60 days after lodgement. This is the only procedure that permits a dealer/armourer to claim lawful ownership of the property.

## **Return of Weapons Held in Safekeeping to Registered Owner:**

Licensees may place their weapon/s in safekeeping with a dealer/armourer while their licence is being renewed. When the licence is renewed, they are to present their current licence card to the dealer in order to take possession of their weapon/s. The Weapons Licensing Branch will no longer be forwarding written advice to dealers/armourers advising that the weapon/s may be released. The weapon/s will be updated on to the registered owner's licence upon receipt of a Form 10.

## **Modification of Weapons:**

Due to legislative amendments that commenced 1 July 2003, it is now a requirement for licensed dealers/armourers to provide the following details on a Form 10 when modifying a calibre:

### **For Category A and B weapons:**

- Method of conversion; and
- If the dealer is not an armourer, details of the person that performed the conversion.

### **For Category C, D and H weapons:**

- Method of conversion;
- Any serial numbers on the items used for the conversion;
- If the dealer is not an armourer, details of the person that performed the conversion; and
- The location of the previous calibre parts.

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 will be available on the Weapons Licensing Branch Internet site.



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