



QUEENSLAND POLICE SERVICE

WEAPONS LICENSING BRANCH
ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
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Dealers/Armourers Newsletter 01/2008

This newsletter contains information relevant to firearms dealers and armourers licence holders. The information included in this newsletter has been identified to assist both licence holders their employees to accurately meet legislative requirements.

EXTENSION OF WEAPONS ACT LICENCE EXPIRY DATES

To enhance client services throughout Queensland the Weapons Licensing Branch has obtained approval from the Commissioner of Police, Queensland Police Service, to implement the provisions of section 20(2) of the *Weapons Act 1990*.

What does this mean and when does it commence?

Over the next five years all licences (excluding 1 year limited licences and licences issued to an organisation or a body) will be extended to have the expiry date coincide with the licensee's next birthday.

Selected existing licences expiring on or after 1 October 2008 will be issued with a written notice, on secure, watermarked paper, advising that their licence has been extended to coincide with their next birthday.

***Please note:** It is a condition of the Commissioner's approval that the written notice, must be held with the licence card until the licence is later renewed or replaced. Both the notice and the licence card now form the licence for the purposes of licence production to a police office or a firearms dealer under the *Weapons Act 1990* and other legislation requirements (i.e. *Explosives Act 1999*).


Example:

Licence due to expire 11/11/08 and the licensee's birthday is 11/03/YY. Written notice has been sent to licensee extending the licence until 11/03/09, on which date the licence now expires and will be subject to the new renewal date. Once the expiry date on the licence is reached the written notice identifies the new expiry date for that licence.

A sample of a *Weapons Act 1990* licence card and written notice issued under *Section 20(2)* of the *Weapons Act 1990* are reproduced on the following page for your information.

Should you require anything further please do not hesitate to contact Weapons Licensing Branch via email weaponslicensing@police.qld.gov.au. or telephone (07) 3015 7777.

SAMPLE OF LICENCE EXTENSION NOTICE



QUEENSLAND POLICE SERVICE

WEAPONS ACT 1990

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 20(2)

Date

A. CITIZEN
ADDRESS HERE
SUBURB QLD POSTCODE

Dear Licensee

RE: Notice of extension of licence number 12345678-00 to birth date anniversary

Under the provisions of section 20(2) of the *Weapons Act 1990* (the Act) you are hereby given written notice that your licence number 12345678-00 is extended to and remains in force to a day that coincides with your next birthday after the current expiry of the licence.

Licence number 12345678-00 now expires on 11 March 2009 unless sooner surrendered, revoked or cancelled.

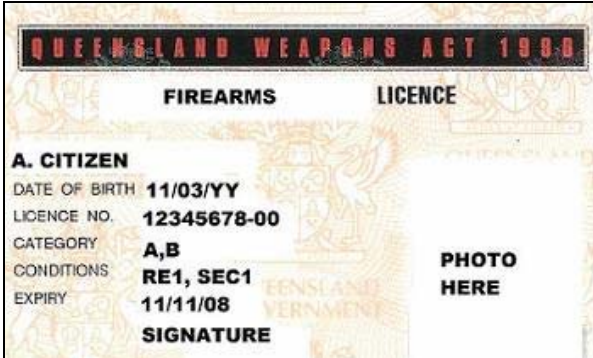
This extension is subject to the following conditions:

1. This notice is to be retained with licence number **12345678-00** until it is either renewed, surrendered, revoked or cancelled;
2. That licence number 12345678-00 and this written notice must be presented to a police officer under the provisions of section 25 of the *Police Powers and Responsibilities Act 2000* when required; and
3. That licence number 12345678-00 and this written notice must be presented to a firearms dealer or other person as required when presenting a licence under the provisions of the *Weapons Act 1990* or other legislation in Queensland or elsewhere.

M J CROWLEY
INSPECTOR 3752
AUTHORISED OFFICER

Issued without error or erasure

SAMPLE OF LICENCE UNDER THE *WEAPONS ACT 1990*



QUEENSLAND WEAPONS ACT 1990

FIREARMS LICENCE

A. CITIZEN

DATE OF BIRTH **11/03/YY**

LICENCE NO. **12345678-00**

CATEGORY **A,B**

CONDITIONS **RE1, SEC1**

EXPIRY **11/11/08**

SIGNATURE

PHOTO HERE

CHANGE OF DETAILS

Previously staff members of the Weapons Licensing Branch have contacted Dealers and Armourers to obtain current e-mail addresses. This was undertaken to allow the WLB staff to make contact more effectively rather than by written correspondence. E-mail correspondence will also prove beneficial in the finalisation of annual returns. If you have not provided or have changed your e-mail address, phone number or fax number please contact the WLB on 3015 7782 or send an e-mail to weaponslicensing@police.qld.gov.au.

FORM 31's

Under the legislation only the holder's of an armourer's licence or person approved by the Commissioner can certify a firearm permanently inoperable. There have been a number of instances of Form 31's being issued under a dealers licence number. When completing Form 31's please ensure that the Armourers Licence Number is entered in the licence number section of the form and **not** the Dealers Licence Number. This will enable staff to process these forms more efficiently.

CONVERSION UNITS

A conversion unit for a particular category is considered a weapon under the *Weapons Act 1990*. When a conversion unit is sold to a licence holder for the purposes of sports/target shooting a Form 10 is required to be forwarded to Weapons Licensing Branch. While a Permit to Acquire is not required, the licence holder is required to provide a letter/certificate signed by a member of the governing body of the club which can be attached to the Form 10. The letter/certificate should state the applicant is a current member of the club and the applicant is required to use the weapon/conversion unit to engage in shooting activities.

MODIFICATION OF CAT D WEAPONS TO CAT C WEAPONS

The modification of a Category D weapon to a Category C weapon is restricted under the provisions of section 62 of the *Weapons Act 1990*. Prior to any such modification approval is to be obtained from the Weapons Licensing Branch. To obtain this approval it is necessary to provide details of how the firearm is to be modified, who is undertaking the modification and the reasons for the modification. If approval is granted the registration details on the Commissioner's firearms register will be noted.

INTERSTATE PERMITS TO ACQUIRE (PTA'S)

At the present time interstate Permits to Acquire are not recognised under Queensland legislation and cannot be accepted or brokered by Queensland firearms dealers. If the holder of a interstate Permit to Acquire wishes to acquire a weapon from a Queensland Dealer you will need to make arrangements to have the weapon delivered to a Dealer/Police Station in the State where the permit was issued. This matter has been raised as an issued and is being considered in the legislation review.

SUBMISSION OF FORM 10'S & NOTICE OF DISPOSALS'

All firearms dealers and armourer's are reminded that the legislation provides for strict timeframes for notifying an authorised officer of transactions. Notice of Disposals and Form 10's **MUST** be sent by **registered post** and reach the authorised officer within 14 days of the transaction. The maximum penalty for failing to comply with these requirements is 20 penalty units or 6 months imprisonment.

When completing Form 10's and/or Notice of Disposals it is essential that all details provided are provided in clearly legible handwriting and all details have been completed (ie. name, address, licence number, date). When completing Form 10's please ensure that you write or stamp your business details and circle your appropriate licence type.

BROKERAGE FEES – NOTICE OF DISPOSALS

The maximum fee for brokerage is still \$10.00 plus GST. This matter has been raised as an issue and is being considered in the legislation review.

RENOVATIONS/MOVING/PURCHASING NEW PREMISES

For Dealers or Armourers planning on renovating, moving or purchasing new premises it is recommended that you contact the Inspections Team, Weapons Licensing Branch, on 3015-7790 at the earliest opportunity to assist in determining the suitability of your proposed secure storage facility. This will ensure that you do not commit yourselves to construction that may not be compliant with the Weapons Act and Regulations.

Inspection programs continues with inspection teams from Weapons Licensing Branch visiting dealers, armourers and theatrical ordnance suppliers, as well as other licence and permit holders, to verify secure storage at their premises and monitor record keeping requirements.

If you are unsure if your security meets the requirements as per Section 30-38 of the *Weapons Regulation 1996* (the Regulation), please contact one of the Inspection Team officers on (07) 3015-7790 to discuss options.

PREVIOUS DEALERS/ARMOURERS NEWSLETTERS

Dealers/Armourers Newsletters contain important information for licensed dealers and armourers. Should you require any previous newsletters please consult the WLB page on the QPS Website or telephone WLB for a copy.

ANNUAL RETURNS

The desk top audit of dealers and theatrical ordnance suppliers' annual returns has commenced once again. If you are requested to provide further information it would be appreciated if you could provide this as soon as possible in order to have these matters finalised. This will assist both our office and your business as unresolved discrepancies will delay transactions and permits for your customers.

Thank you to those dealers who provided all their information which resulted in the finalisation of last year's annual return.

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