



QUEENSLAND POLICE SERVICE

WEAPONS LICENSING BRANCH
ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
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3 August 2006

NEWSLETTER 01/06

YEARLY DEALERS ANNUAL RETURNS

The 2005-2006 annual returns should have been completed and received from all Firearms dealers and Theatrical Ordnance Suppliers. Thank you for all those that have provided an electronic copy either by e-mail to weaponslicensing@police.qld.gov.au or a re-writable compact disc or floppy disk.

These electronic submissions will enable faster processing of returns and ensure greater accuracy of information thereby reducing the number of return enquiries.

DEALER AND ARMOURER EMAIL ADDRESSES

Recently staff members of Weapons Licensing Branch contacted Dealers and Armourers to obtain current email addresses. This was undertaken to allow the Dealers Cell to contact you 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 a change to your e-mail address please contact the Dealers Cell on 3015-7783.

COMPLETION OF FORM 10'S

When acquiring weapon/s from licence holders please ensure that you gain as much information regarding the owner of the weapon/s. If the person handing in the weapon is not the registered owner enter their details in the middle section of the Form 10 and the registered owners name and licence number in the bottom section of the Form 10. By completing the Form 10 with this information you will enable the Dealers Cell to process Form 10's more efficiently.

Your attention is also drawn to Section 58 (5) of the *Weapons Regulation 1996* regarding the submission of Form 10's, Permits to Acquire and Notice of Disposals. Please ensure that all relevant paperwork is sent by **registered post** to the Weapons Licensing Branch within **14 days** of the transaction.

DESTRUCTION OF FIREARMS

Dealers Newsletter dated 8 November 2005 outlines the correct procedures for notifying destruction of Category A, B, C weapons.

To assist in the recording and to save your time in completing the required notifications, it has been approved that if you acquire and destroy the weapon on the same day only one Form 10 is required. If the weapon is acquired and destroyed on a later date you are required to complete two Form 10's, one notifying the acquisition of the weapon and another notifying the weapon as destroyed.

FORM 31'S

When completing Form 31's please ensure that the Armourers licence number is entered in the licence number section of the Form 31 and not the Dealers licence number. This will enable staff to process these forms more efficiently.

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 3015-7791 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.

PROPOSED CHANGE TO THE FORMAT OF THE PERMIT TO ACQUIRE (FORM 27)

It is proposed that changes will be made to the Permit to Acquire (Form 27). Staff of the Weapons Licensing Branch met with representatives from the Firearms Dealers Association (QLD) Inc. whom also had a number of suggestions to ensure that this form was now user friendly. The modifications to this form will ensure that the needs of the branch and that of the Dealers and Armourers will be met. It is anticipated that the new format will be introduced before the end of this year.

LEGISLATION AMENDMENTS – AUTHORISED OFFICER CAN REQUEST SERIAL NUMBER

Amendments to the *Weapons Act 1990* now allow an Authorised Officer to require the registered owner of a firearm to mark a serial number on the firearm.

All weapons recorded with a nil visible serial number will be dealt with in course of time. It is proposed that firearms held by dealers will be subject to initial action. The Authorised Officer must give the person a written notice requiring the weapon be marked and how it is to be marked. No compensation is payable because of the requirement.

The preferred marking method is the stamping of serial numbers onto a flat surface of the receiver, closest to the trigger guard using a 3mm stamp. Any other method will be subject to WLB approval. The legislation also provides the Authorised Officer the ability to approve an alternate method of marking a firearm upon written request.

In the interim period, should you or another licence holder request you, to mark a serial number on a weapon, a number can be provided by WLB to mark the weapon.

VALIDATION OF FIREARMS LICENCES – BLACK AND PROPELLANT POWDER

This office has been advised that the requirement for sellers of propellant powders to validate Weapons Act licences has been rescinded. Any enquiries in relation to this should be forwarded to the Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Water on 07 3896 3111. We would like to offer our thanks for your patience and assistance during this period.

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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M J CROWLEY', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

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