



NSW Police Force  
www.police.nsw.gov.au

# FIREARMS REGISTRY

## Firearms Registration

Registration

*Individuals requiring possession and use of a firearm for personal or business use must be aware of their responsibilities under the legislation with respect to licensing and registration of firearms.*

*This FACT Sheet provides information on the registration requirements for firearms in NSW.*

### **What firearms are exempt from registration in NSW?**

NSW Police officers, prison officers and members of the armed forces, while acting in the ordinary course of their duties, are not subject to the licensing and registration provisions of the *Firearms Act 1996*.

In addition, any antique firearms manufactured before 1900, as described in section 6A of the *Firearms Act 1996* or clause 116 of the *Firearms Regulation 2006*, are exempt from registration requirements in NSW.

### **How do I know that a firearm is registered?**

The Firearms Registry maintains a central register of all firearms registered to licence and permit holders in NSW.

When a firearm is registered, a registration certificate is issued to the owner by the Firearms Registry. The 'Firearm Registration Certificate' is proof that a firearm is registered.

Printed on the registration certificate is a full description of the firearm, including the serial and registration numbers as well as the name and firearms licence or permit number of the person who is the registered owner.

The reverse of the registration certificate 'Firearm Disposal Advice' should be completed by you and posted to the Firearms Registry when you dispose of your firearm.

### **How do I purchase a firearm?**

All transactions involving firearms must be through a licensed Firearms Dealer.

With the exception of specific circumstances, a licensed Firearms Dealer is required to witness the transaction and will return the section titled 'Notice of Purchase' to the Firearms Registry to finalise the transfer of Registration of the firearm. You will then be issued with a registration certificate in your name.

### **What do I need to have to purchase a firearm?**

Before you can purchase a firearm you must have:

- \* A current firearms licence or permit, and
- \* An issued Permit to Acquire a firearm (PTA).

### **How do I obtain a Permit to Acquire?**

There are two application forms, one for a Permit to Acquire a longarm and one for a Permit to Acquire a handgun.

You can request either of these PTA application forms from our Internet site via email, or you can phone the Firearms Registry to obtain your forms.

### **When will I receive my registration certificate?**

When the firearms dealer finalises the purchase of your firearm, the dealer will send the 'Notice of Purchase' to the Firearms Registry. Once received, the information on the register of firearms is updated with your name and address details and a registration certificate in printed and posted to you as the registered owner of the firearm.

### **What if I have lost my registration certificate?**

If you have lost your registration certificate and your firearms licence is still current you should contact the Firearms Registry to have a duplicate registration certificate issued to you. There is no charge for a duplicate registration certificate.

### **What if I sell my firearm?**

If you sell your firearm you must advise the Firearms Registry within 7 days.

With the exception of specific circumstances, a licensed Firearms Dealer is required to witness the transaction and will return the section 'Notice of Disposal' to the Firearms Registry to finalise the transfer of registration of the firearm. A registration certificate will then be issued to the new owner.

### **What if my firearm is lost or stolen?**

If your firearm is lost or stolen you must immediately report it to NSW Police and notify the Firearms Registry within 7 days with the particulars of the loss or theft. Notification should be in writing and include the circumstances and date the firearm was lost or stolen.

### **What requirements must be met for safekeeping of firearms?**

The firearms legislation requires that the Commissioner of Police is satisfied that the applicant is capable of complying with the safe storage requirements as prescribed in the *Firearms Act 1996* prior to obtaining a firearm. For detailed safe storage requirements, please see the Safe Storage page on our Internet Site.

### ***What other requirements must be met in relation to firearms?***

If you change the address where the firearms are being stored you must advise the Firearms Registry in writing within 14 days.

The notification should include the particulars of the arrangements that have been made to comply with the requirements of the Act and Regulation in relation to safe keeping and storage of firearms.

If the new safe storage address needs to be inspected you will be contacted by local Police.

### ***What if I move to NSW from another State?***

You must obtain a NSW firearms licence and register your firearms in NSW. See FACT Sheet 'Interstate Residents Moving to NSW'.

### ***What if my licence expires and I am still in possession of firearms?***

If your licence has expired you no longer have an authority to possess and use firearms and your firearms must be taken to police or a licensed Firearms Dealer for safe keeping until your new licence is issued.

### ***Can the registration of a firearm be cancelled?***

**Yes.** The registration on a firearm can be cancelled upon service of the written notice on the registered owner by Police.

### ***Why would the registration be cancelled?***

#### **Revocation or Refusal of a Licence**

A Notice of Revocation or Refusal on a re-application includes a statement cancelling the registration of any firearm registered to the owner upon service of these notices by Police. The firearms will be seized by Police upon service of the notice.

#### **Expired Licence**

Any firearms licence which has expired with firearms in possession will automatically generate a cancellation of registration notice for Police to serve and seize firearms.

### ***Can I request an Internal Review of the cancellation of registration?***

**Yes.** However, unless your firearms licence has been reissued for the same category as the firearms, the cancellation cannot be reversed at Internal Review.

**If your firearms licence has been reissued, the firearms registration will be automatically reinstated without the need for an Internal Review.**

### ***What if I am in possession of an unregistered firearm?***

If you are in possession of an unregistered firearm you **MUST** immediately:

- \* Surrender the firearm to NSW Police or
- \* Take it to a licensed Firearms Dealer who will arrange for the registration of the firearm.

The Firearms Dealer will be required to retain possession of the firearm until the person is able to produce a current firearms licence and issued Permit to Acquire, at which time the dealer will complete the 'Notice of Purchase' and send this to the Firearms Registry.

#### **Related Information:**

See FACT Sheets:

- 'Safe Storage Level One - Category A & B Requirements',
- 'Safe Storage Level Two - Category C, D & H Requirements',
- 'Transportation of Firearms',
- 'Ammunition Safe Storage, Purchase and Possession',
- 'Permit to Acquire - Longarm',
- 'Permit to Acquire - Handgun',
- 'Interstate Residents Moving to NSW'.

### **Where can I find more information?**

The information provided in the FACT Sheet is for general guidance only. Applicants and licensees should familiarise themselves with the *Firearms Act 1996* and the *Firearms Regulation 2006*, which are available on the NSW Legislation website - [www.legislation.nsw.gov.au](http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au).

## **Firearms Registry**

### **Address**

Locked Bag 1  
Murwillumbah NSW 2484

### **Telephone**

1300362562

### **Interstate**

02 66708590

### **Fax**

02 66709811

### **Email**

[firearmsenq@police.nsw.gov.au](mailto:firearmsenq@police.nsw.gov.au)

### **Website**

[www.police.nsw.gov.au/firearms](http://www.police.nsw.gov.au/firearms)



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