

BLACK POWDER USERS : FIREARMS CONTROL AMENDMENT ACT, 2006

(ACT NO. 28 OF 2006)

COMMENCEMENT DATE OF THE AMENDMENT ACT : 10 JANUARY 2011

MUZZEL-LOADING FIREARM - Replacement of an antique firearm with a muzzle-loading firearm Before the coming into operation of the Firearms Control Amendment Act, (Act no. 28 of 2006) on 10 January 2011, there was no formal requirement in respect of the possession of "Antique firearms" (referred to in the Amendment Act as a muzzle-loading firearm). All persons in possession of muzzle-loading firearms may remain in legal possession thereof for one year as from 10 January 2011.

Definition of a muzzle-loading firearm - Muzzle-loading firearm means a barreled device that can fire only a single shot, per barrel, and requires after each shot fired the individual reloading through the muzzle end of the barrel with separate components consisting of -

- (i) a measured charge of black powder or equivalent propellant;
- (ii) a wad; and
- (iii) a lead bullet, sabot or shot functioning as a projectile and ignited with a flint, match, wheel or percussion cap.

APPLICATION FOR COMPETENCY CERTIFICATE FOR A MUZZEL-LOADING FIREARM

- * Persons in possession of a muzzle-loading firearm must apply for a relevant competency certificate within a period of one year from the date of commencement of the Amendment Act which is 10 January 2011
- * SAPS 517 form must be completed
- * Applicants must approach their nearest police station for this purpose
- * Once the application has been lodged, the possession of a muzzle-loading firearm shall remain lawful until the application is finalized

FAILURE TO APPLY FOR A COMPETENCY CERTIFICATE FOR A MUZZEL-LOADING FIREARM

- * If a person fails to apply for a competency certificate within the one year period, possession of such a muzzle loading firearm will be invalid
 - * A person may be prosecuted and imprisoned for a maximum period of 15 years
- (No firearm licence is required for muzzle-loading firearms, only a competency certificate)***

GENERAL COMPETENCY CERTIFICATE

APPLICATION FOR THE RENEWAL OF COMPETENCY CERTIFICATE

- * Persons in possession of a competency certificate must renew their competency certificate within a period of 90 days from the date of commencement of the Amendment Act which is 10 January 2011
- * Applicants must approach their nearest police station for this purpose
- * Once the application has been lodged the current competency certificate shall remain valid until the application is finalized

FAILURE TO APPLY FOR A RENEWAL OF COMPETENCY CERTIFICATE

If a person fails to renew his or her competency certificate, non-compliance will be dealt with in terms of section 3(2) of the Amendment Act

Concurrent application(s) for a competency certificate and firearm licence

- * As from 10 January 2011, every person who wishes to apply for a firearm licence and a competency certificate must submit his/her application simultaneously as the validity period for both firearm licence and a competency certificate will run concurrently.
- * Both SAPS forms 571 and 271 must be completed and forwarded simultaneously