

Information Notes
Application for Exemption from Obligation of Importers to Mark Firearms
under section 26B of the Firearms and Ammunition Ordinance, Cap. 238

A. Notes for Applicants

- Applicant must be a holder of a Dealer's Licence authorised to or any person having legitimate reason to import firearms into Hong Kong.
- Application for exemption from obligation of importers to mark firearms under section 26B of the Firearms and Ammunition Ordinance, Cap. 238 ("**Ordinance**") is generally applicable to the following firearms and related purposes:
 1. firearms that have been deactivated and were manufactured during or before the year 1899;
 2. firearms intended for temporary import into Hong Kong for the purpose of local exhibition / sport events or competitions / TV or film shooting which would be exported thereafter;
 3. firearms intended to be imported into Hong Kong after a temporary export for the purpose of overseas exhibition / sport events or competitions / TV or film shooting, and that there is no change of ownership of the firearms within the period covering its temporary export and import; and
 4. firearms of which exemption from the obligation under section 26B of the Ordinance may be justified for other reasons.
- When considering an application for an exemption from the obligation of importers to mark firearms, the Commissioner of Police ("**Commissioner**") shall, in addition to any other matters which he may reasonably take into consideration, have regard to -
 1. whether there is good reason for the applicant to be exempted from complying with the marking requirements under section 26B of the Ordinance;
 2. whether the firearm is temporarily imported into Hong Kong solely for the specified purposes and would be exported thereafter or imported into Hong Kong after temporary export for the specified purposes, and that there is no change of ownership of the firearm within the period covering its temporary export and import; and
 3. whether it is objectionable, for reasons of public safety and security, to grant an exemption to the applicant.

B. Application Procedures

- Application for exemption and documents required for application may be submitted in person, by fax or mail or online. For details on the online submission, please refer to "Step 1 – Notes for Applicants" of the online application form via <https://www.licensing.police.gov.hk/licensing>.
- In addition to online submission, applicants may also submit their applications in person, by fax or by mail. All application form (paper form) shall be completed in Chinese or English (block letters) with a black or blue pen. The application form can be downloaded from the Hong Kong Police website at "Information" > "Licences and Permits" > "Arms Licensing" at https://www.police.gov.hk/ppp_en/11_useful_info/licences/arms.html.
- Documents required for application include:
 - Type 1 – Firearms that have been deactivated and were manufactured during or before the year 1899
 - i. a copy of the Dealer's Licence (if applicable);
 - ii. a copy of the applicant's Hong Kong Identity Card;
 - iii. document showing the source and year of manufacture of the deactivated firearm(s);
 - iv. a copy of the import licence issued by the Trade and Industry Department to verify the end-use of the firearm(s);
 - v. a copy of the application for a licence for possession under section 30 of the Ordinance to verify the reason for conveying the firearms;
 - vi. photo(s) of the firearms under application; and
 - vii. document issued by the Commissioner that the deactivated firearm has been examined by the Police Forensic Firearms Examination Division and certified to be deactivated and suitable for personal collection.
 - Type 2 – Firearms intended for temporary import into Hong Kong for the purpose of local exhibition / sport events or competitions / TV or film shooting which would be exported thereafter
 - i. a copy of the Dealer's Licence (if applicable);
 - ii. a copy of the applicant's Hong Kong Identity Card;
 - iii. a copy of Certificate of Incorporation or Certificate of Registration of the organization / company holding the exhibition / sports event or competitions / TV or film shooting, as appropriate;
 - iv. proof of qualification to use the firearms and ammunition;
 - v. copies of import and export licences issued by the Trade and Industry Department to verify end-use of the firearm;
 - vi. a copy of the application for a licence for possession under section 30 of the Ordinance to verify the reason for conveying the firearms;
 - vii. written confirmation from the source providing the firearms, with the quantities of the firearms and

- ammunition to be used; and
- viii. written confirmation from the owner of the venue where the firearms and ammunition will be used.

➤ Type 3 – Firearms intended to be imported into Hong Kong after a temporary export for the purpose of overseas exhibition / sport events or competitions / TV or film shooting, and that there is no change of ownership of the firearm within the period covering its temporary export and import

- i. a copy of the Dealer's Licence (if applicable);
- ii. a copy of the applicant's Hong Kong Identity Card;
- iii. proof of qualification to use the firearms;
- iv. copies of the export and import licences issued by the Trade and Industry Department to verify end-use of the firearms;
- v. a copy of the application for a licence for possession under section 30 of the Ordinance to verify the reason for conveying the firearms;
- vi. written confirmation from the source providing the firearms, with the quantities of the firearms and ammunition to be used; and
- vii. written confirmation from the owner of the venue where the firearms and ammunition will be used.

➤ Type 4 – Firearms of which exemption from the obligation under section 26B of the Ordinance may be justified for other reasons

- i. a copy of the applicant's Hong Kong Identity Card / Identity Document; and
- ii. proof and reasons for demonstrating that exemption from the obligation under section 26B of the Ordinance may be justified; and
- iii. any supplementary document(s) required by the Police Licensing Office.

- For online applications, a confirmation e-mail from the Police Licensing Office will be sent to the applicant upon approval of the application, detailing the arrangement of payment and collection of the exemption document. The prescribed fee must be paid **within three months** from the date of the confirmation e-mail, failing which the approval will lapse automatically without further notice.
- For applications submitted in hard copy, applicants will be contacted on phone for the arrangement of payment and collection of the exemption document.
- Applicants may also make an appointment with the Police Licensing Office for making payment in person and collection of the exemption document on the same day.

C. Relevant Legislation

- Applicants are advised to read the Ordinance in particular Parts II and IV thereof and note that Firearms and Ammunition (Declaration of Arms) (Amendment) Regulation 2021 has come into operation on 1 November 2021. Firearm component parts specified in the Schedule to the Firearms and Ammunition (Declaration of Arms) Regulations (Cap. 238D), i.e. barrel, chamber, cylinder, frame, body, receiver, breech block, bolt or other mechanism for containing the pressure of discharge at the rear of a chamber, are within the definition of "arms" under the Ordinance.
- Applicants are also advised to read Parts III and IIIA of the Ordinance and the Firearms and Ammunition (Marking of Firearms) Regulation ("Regulation"), which have come into operation on 25 July 2025. Firearms manufactured within or imported into Hong Kong on or after the above effective date have to be properly marked in accordance with the Ordinance and the marking requirements specified under the Regulation.
- Any person who fails to comply with the marking requirements for firearms under section 26A or 26B of the Ordinance, or falsifies or without lawful authority alters, obliterates or removes a specified marking on firearms as defined in section 26D(3) of the Ordinance commits an offence, and is liable on conviction to imprisonment for a maximum of two years.
- The Ordinance and the Regulation are available at the Government Publications Centre and Hong Kong e-Legislation at <https://www.elegislation.gov.hk>.

D. Terms and Conditions of Exemption Granted under Section 26C of Cap. 238

- Exemption granted under section 26C of the Ordinance may be subject to terms and conditions the Commissioner considers appropriate.
- Any person who holds an exemption under section 26C of the Ordinance and who fails to comply with any term or condition of that exemption, commits an offence under section 23(2) of the Ordinance and is liable to a fine of \$10,000 and imprisonment for 6 months

E. Fees

- Exemption
 - Replacement of Exemption
- } Please refer to the "Licence Fees" at the Police's website
<https://www.police.gov.hk/info/doc/licensing/fees-en.pdf>

F. Method of Payment

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| Shroff Office 11/F., Arsenal House Police Headquarters 1 Arsenal Street Wanchai, Hong Kong | Office hours : Mondays – Fridays Saturdays/Sundays/Public Holidays | 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Closed |
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- Payment methods:
 - Cash;
 - Cheques, drafts or cashier's orders should be made payable to "The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region" or "The Government of the HKSAR" and crossed;
 - Octopus (add value service will not be provided);
 - EPS; or
 - Online payment as per the notification e-mail (i.e. FPS, JCB, Master, Visa, UnionPay, PPS) (online application only).

G. Provision of Personal Data

Purpose of collection

- The personal data provided by an applicant may be used by the Hong Kong Police Force to facilitate the processing of the application and / or for record purposes. Such personal data may also be used in the enforcement of related licence conditions in connection with arms and ammunition licences and / or exemption and / or authorisation and / or approval granted under the Ordinance as well as for the purpose of detection or prevention of crimes.
- The provision of personal data to the Police Licensing Office is voluntary. Applicants should note that an application may not be processed if insufficient information is provided in support of the application.

Classes of transferees

- The personal data provided in an application may be disclosed to other government bureaux, departments and other organisations for the purposes mentioned above.

Access to personal data

- An applicant may make a request for access to and / or correction to his personal data pursuant to sections 18 and 22 respectively and Principle 6 of Schedule 1 to the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance, Cap. 486. Subject to section 20 of Cap. 486, a copy of the applicant's personal data held by the Police Licensing Office may be supplied to the applicant subject to the payment of a fee.

Enquiries

- Enquiries concerning the personal data collected by the Police Licensing Office, including the making of request for access and corrections, should be addressed to Executive Officer (Licensing), Police Licensing Office, 12-13/F., Arsenal House, Police Headquarters, 1 Arsenal Street, Wanchai, Hong Kong (Telephone no.: 2860 6527 / Fax no.: 2200 4322).

H. Warning

- Under section 47(b) of the Ordinance, any person who makes any statement which he knows to be false or misleading, or recklessly makes any statement which is false, in a material particular for the purpose of procuring, whether for himself or another, the grant, renewal or amendment of a licence, or the grant of an exemption under section 4(3) or 26C commits an offence and is liable to imprisonment for 2 years.
- Under section 4(1) of the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance, Cap. 201, any person who solicits, offers or accepts any advantage including money and gifts in connection with the processing of any application commits an offence and is liable to a fine of \$500,000 and to imprisonment for 7 years.

I. Enquiries

- The address and office hours of the Police Licensing Office are listed below:

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| Police Licensing Office 12/F., Arsenal House Police Headquarters 1 Arsenal Street, Wanchai, Hong Kong | Office hours : Mondays – Fridays Saturdays/Sundays/Public Holidays | 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. 2 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. Closed |
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- Any enquiries on the application procedures may be directed to the Arms Licensing Section of Police Licensing Office by telephone, by fax, email or mail.

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| Telephone no. : | 2860 6538 |
| Fax no. : | 2200 4323 |
| Email : | arms-licensing@police.gov.hk |

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