New Requirements from 1 July 2004

Temporary Importation of Firearms into South Africa

Dear Member:

Further our release of 25 June with regard to the above, the current situation is the following:

With the implementation of the new Regulations to the Firearms Control Act of 2000 yesterday, 1 July 2004, there are changes to the process for clients involving the temporary import of firearms for hunting purposes into South Africa as well as for in-transit permits. Please make sure that you read and take note of the following important information.

Foreign Hunting Clients are regarded as very important to South Africa and can be reassured that the South African Police Service (SAPS) will act as reasonably as possible in the implementation of the new requirements of the Firearm Control Act and Regulations from yesterday, 1 July 2004, having a transitional period where the old Act will be phased out and the new Act implemented. During this period the requirements of the old Act (as have been in force for the past several years) will be adhered to, together with completion of the applicable sections of the new SAP520 Application Form (available on arrival), as well as finger prints of the index finger for identification purposes.

With the change over, and it being the busiest time of the hunting season, clients need to be aware that the processing time may take longer than normal but to please have patience as the Police are working to streamline the process.

At the same time, PHASA is busy working with the SAPS to ascertain the requirements that will be phased in under the new Regulations and once we have these confirmed we will email them as well as post them on the PHASA website. In the meantime, as noted above, the old requirements still apply and we will appreciate your advising your concerned clients of the situation.

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