



Maryland State Police
Licensing Division
ADVISORY
LD-FRS-13-004 (C)



January 8, 2014

2013 FIREARM'S SAFETY ACT: ASSAULT WEAPONS AND COPYCAT WEAPONS

The Maryland State Police Licensing Division has received a number inquiries regarding the sale and transfer of assault weapons and/or copycat weapons as it relates to the passage of the 2013 Firearm's Safety Act that goes into effect on October 1, 2013. In an attempt to provide further guidance, the below questions have been answered.

Can I sell an assault weapon to a Maryland resident if the firearm is ordered from a distributor/manufacturer prior to October 1, 2013?

Yes, CR 4-303(b)(3) provides that, "A person who . . . has a purchase order for that resident , or completed an application to purchase an assault long gun or a copycat weapon before October 1, 2013 may: (i) possess and transport the assault long gun or copycat weapon . . . " Accordingly, a firearm's dealer may sell, and a citizen may purchase and possess, an assault long gun or copycat weapon if a purchase order was issued on behalf of that citizen for the weapon before October 1, 2013, even when the dealer receives the weapon after October 1, 2013.

Can I still sell my inventory of Assault Weapons after October 1, 2013? To whom can I sell to after October 1, 2013?

A Maryland citizen cannot purchase (possess) an assault weapon after October 1, 2013, unless the Maryland citizen has a purchase order for that resident , or completed application to purchase an assault long gun or copycat weapon before October 1, 2013." CR 4-303(b) (3).

A dealer can continue to acquire and sell assault long guns and copycat weapons after October 1, 2013 for sale outside of Maryland or to government personnel and railroad police officers within Maryland. CR 4-302, as amended, states, "This subtitle does not apply to . . . (3) Possession, importation, manufacture, receipt for manufacture, shipment for manufacture, storage, purchases, sales and transport to or by a licensed firearm's dealer or manufacturer who is: (i) providing or servicing an assault weapon . . . for a law enforcement unit or for personnel exempted under item (1) of this section; or (ii) acting to sell or transfer an assault weapon . . . to a licensed firearm's dealer in another state or to an individual purchaser in another state through a licensed firearm's dealer"

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After October 1, 2013, an AR-15 HBar/Heavy Barrel will still not be regulated, however, could an AR-15 HBar/Heavy Barrel or any semi-automatic center fire be considered a copycat weapon?

The Colt AR-15 H-BAR is excluded from the definition of "assault long gun." However, a Colt AR-15 H-BAR or any semi-automatic center fire rifle that meets the definition set forth in CR 4-301(e) ("(i) A semi-automatic center fire rifle that can accept a detachable magazine and has any two of the following: 1. a folding stock; 2. a grenade launcher; or 3. a flash suppressor; (ii) A semi-automatic center fire rifle that has a fixed magazine with the capacity to accept more than ten rounds; (iii) A semi-automatic center fire rifle that has an overall length of less than 29 inches.") would be a "copycat weapon."