



MARYLAND STATE POLICE

Maryland Department of State Police / Licensing Division
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ADVISORY

LD-FRU-20-002

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BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS & 8TH DAY RELEASE OF FIREARMS

On the morning of June 21, 2020, the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) experienced a catastrophic hardware failure within their data center. This failure has caused an interruption in the Maryland State Police Licensing Division's (MDSPLD) ability to complete background investigations, specifically, for regulated firearm purchase applications (77Rs), handgun qualification license applications (HQLs) and MD wear and carry permit applications (handgun permits). While all of these applications are affected to some degree, 77R applications are experiencing an immediate impact.

Beginning on Tuesday, June 23rd, 77R applications submitted 8 days prior will have complied with the mandatory 7-day waiting period as per MD Public Safety Article, § 5-123(a) and will be eligible for transfer to the applicant. This notification is to advise Regulated Firearm Dealers (RFDs) that the DPSCS is working diligently to correct the issue as quickly as possible, however, this hardware failure has the potential to span multiple days.

The MDSPLD encourages RFDs not to transfer these firearms until background checks have been completed; however, should the RFD elect to exercise their statutory option to release the firearm on the 8th day, the RFD shall follow the below procedure:

1. The RFD will access their Licensing Portal;
2. locate the application to be released within the "SUBMITTED APPLICATIONS" section;
3. print a copy of the application;
4. verify that all information in "Section 4" is accurate;
5. both the RFD and the applicant will sign and complete "Section 6";
6. scan and send the completed copy of the 77R to msp.firearmsregistration@maryland.gov.

For further information, please visit our website at www.mdsp.maryland.gov, and click on "Licensing Division." Should you have any further questions, please contact the Firearms Registration Unit, via the Livehelp feature from within your Licensing Portal or via email at msp.firearmsregistration@maryland.gov.

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