



# Maryland State Police Licensing Division Bulletin



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## Maryland Licensed Firearms Dealers – Automation of 77R Processing

As many/all of you are aware, the Firearm Safety Act of 2013 (FSA) significantly modified and expanded the regulation of firearms and ammunition in the State of Maryland (the State) and made significant changes to related mental health restrictions on the possession of firearms. It also put in place: a new license type, the Handgun Qualification License (HQL); a requirement for firearms applications submission, via electronic means; and the MSP administration of a handgun instructor licensing program.

Following deployment of the HQL system on September 30, 2013, the MSP began developing a web accessible Licensing Portal where citizens will submit, and Maryland's firearms dealers will be able to access, an electronic 77R application (the 77Re) to purchase a regulated firearm. The goals of the Licensing Portal project are to:

(1) deploy a web 'dashboard' that provides citizens the ability to submit and track multiple application types, (2) give firearms dealers the ability to access and submit electronically, to the MSP, 77Re applications on behalf of their customers, and (3) provide the MSP Licensing Division the ability to receive, process and report electronically on multiple application types, via a single, paperless system.

While the MSP envisions the Portal supplying multiple license/application types, the first application being developed is the 77Re. When the 77Re is ready for public use, the 77Re and the Licensing Portal will be able to support the myriad of ways the form is used – dealer facilitated sales (including dealer discount, collector series, business purpose, law enforcement), secondary sales, inheritance, estate sales and gifts, to name a few. The Portal will also support and require electronic payment for the 77Re, eliminating the need for the MSP to invoice dealers and for dealers to mail MSP payment, via check.

Development of the Portal is being done with significant involvement and input from Maryland's firearms dealers. The MSP has invited more than a dozen firearms dealers to participate in regular Dealer Forums, to discuss project vision, get a first look at newly-developed functionality and to solicit feedback, suggestions and requests for system enhancements. During the months of October and November, of 2015, the Licensing Division also held multiple Dealer Seminars across the State, during which the Licensing Portal development, to date, was demonstrated for attendees, and many questions were addressed.

We anticipate the Licensing Portal being live and available to the public by the summer of 2016, after which development of additional license/application types will begin, with the eventual goal of the Licensing Portal being a 'one stop shop' for all licensing and permitting administered by the MSP Licensing Division.