Maryland Licensed Firearms Dealers – Automation of 77R Update
LD-FRU-16-002A

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 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 October 1, 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.

Beginning this week, members of the Maryland State Police, Licensing Division will be distributing posters & a starter pack of customer handouts to all the licensed firearms dealers in the State. The purpose of these documents is to assist the dealers in informing the public of the upcoming changes to the firearms registration process. We anticipate the Licensing Portal being live and available to the public/dealers by the fall of 2016.

The Licensing Division has created a unique email address to answers questions for the dealers and public. The Division may be reached at msp.automation@maryland.gov or 410-653-4500. If additional posters and cards are needed, they may be found and downloaded from the Maryland State Police, Licensing Division’s website.