

To All Maryland Federal Firearms Licensees (FFL),

The purpose of this communication is to provide guidance to all Maryland FFLs regarding the correct entity to contact when processing firearm transfers within the state of Maryland.

Effective January 1, 2020, all Maryland FFLs will contact the Maryland State Police Licensing Division for **all** handgun transfers. This will include the processing of pre-pawn, pawn redemption, and “Other” background checks. “Other” includes frames and receivers, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives provided guidance that “Other” shall not be transferred across state lines to persons under the age of 21. As such, “Other” must be processed similar to handguns for the purpose of a Brady-mandated background check. The following is a list of transaction types, which will be processed by the Maryland State Police Licensing Division:

Sale of a Handgun	Rental of a Handgun
Sale of Other (Frame, Receiver, etc.)	Private Sale of Handgun
Pre-Pawn of a Handgun	Private sale Other (Frame, Receiver, etc.)
Pre-Pawn of Other (Frame, Receiver, etc.)	Private Sale Returned to Seller Handgun
Redemption of Handgun	Private Sale Returned to Seller Other (Frame, Receiver, etc.)
Redemption of Other (Frame, Receiver, etc.)	

All Maryland FFLs will continue to contact the FBI Criminal Justice Information Services Division’s National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) Section for all long gun transfers as historically directed.

The FFLs must continue to conduct a background check prior to the transfer of firearms to ensure eligibility of individuals according to state and federal laws. This communication is merely providing direction to the FFLs in Maryland to ensure the correct entity is contacted when initiating a firearm background check.

The following list of transaction types can only be conducted by FFLs who are Maryland Regulated Firearm Dealers. These transactions will be conducted within the Maryland State Police Licensing Portal ([State Police Licensing Division](#)):

- Sale of a Handgun
- Sale of Other (Frame, Receiver, etc.)
- Rental of a Handgun

- Private Sale of Handgun
- Private sale Other (Frame, Receiver, etc.)
- Private Sale Returned to Seller Handgun
- Private Sale Returned to Seller Other (Frame, Receiver, etc.)

A NICS request for the following transaction types can be initiated by visiting the NICS Request for Pawn / Redemption page located on the Maryland State Police Licensing Division website or by clicking the link below:

[NICS Request for Pawn / Redemption](#)

- Pre-Pawn of a Handgun
- Pre-Pawn of Other (Frame, Receiver, etc.)
- Redemption of Handgun
- Redemption of Other (Frame, Receiver, etc.)

The NICS Request for Pawn / Redemption page is password protected. All registered type 02 FFLs will be notified and provided the password to access the request form. For questions and additional information, please contact:

Maryland State Police Licensing Division

Phone: 410-653-4621

Webpage: **[MSP Licensing Division NICS Request for Pawn / Redemption](#)**

To initiate a long gun-related background check in the state of Maryland, please contact:

NICS Section

Phone: 1-877-FBI-NICS (324-6427) or via the NICS E-Check at

www.nicsezcheckfbi.gov

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the NICS Business Relations Team via e-mail at NICSLiaison@fbi.gov.